

Linfield University, Department of Chemistry
900 SE Baker St., Unit A468; McMinnville, OR 97128; United States
office: 503-883-2265
mbestwic@linfield.edu

September 2009 July 2013

Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pathology

July 2004 August 2009

University of Utah; Salt Lake City, Utah
Ph.D. in Biochemistry; Conferred December 2009

September 2001 June 2002

University of Washington; Seattle, Washington
M.S. in Analytical Chemistry

September 1997 March 2001

Southern Oregon University; Ashland, Oregon
American Chemical Society certified B.S. in Chemistry, *cum laude*

July 2019 - Present
Linfield University (formerly Linfield College), McMinnville, OR

Associate Professor, Chemistry Department
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Major Program Coordinator
Linfield University (formerly Linfield College), McMinnville, OR

Current Research Interests: My research interests focus on understanding biochemical processes within the cellular organelle mitochondria. Mitochondria are responsible for generating key molecules in energy metabolism, and many of the enzymes involved in this process are oxidation-reduction enzymes that require metals for their function. In particular, the terminal enzyme in the electron transport chain, cytochrome c oxidase, requires copper for its function. The utilization of copper for this process makes copper an essential metal, but too much cellular copper is toxic. A specific aim of my research is to understand these toxicity thresholds and sublethal effects.

July 2013 June 2014

Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemistry Department
Linfield College, McMinnville, OR

September 2009 July 2013

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pathology
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
Advisor: Gerald Shadel, Ph.D.

Research assessing the utilization and regulation of mitochondrial DNA gene promoters by specific transcription factors in mammalian systems related to mitochondrial dysfunction, disease and aging.

July 2004 August 2009

Research Assistant/PhD Candidate
University of Utah; Salt Lake City, UT



Previous Poster Presentations & Abstracts

M. L. Bestwick,

M. L. Bestwick

M. L. Bestwick

NSF ADVANCE ASCEND Fellow; 2020 *current*
Northwest Region Chemistry Alliance

Women in STEM Leadership Program; April – May 2022 *(virtual)*
Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science, Stony Brook University

American Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Workshops:
-a-thon; March 16, 2022 (virtual)

Teaching Science with Big Data; *June 20-25, 2021 (virtual)*

Supporting mental health and well-being of STEM students: Highlights from the National
Report; *April 7, 2021 (virtual)*

Best practices in online teaching in STEM; *July 10, 2020 (virtual)*

Steps Toward Equity in STEM; *June 2, 2020 (virtual)*

The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) Seminar on Science Pedagogy; July 15-19, 2019
(Oakland, CA); continued participation in STEM programing and assessment at Linfield, *July*
2019 – July 2021.

POGIL (Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning) Workshops