

Maria Stratigopoulou, Master's student

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Dear members of the selection committee,

I am writing in response to the announcement for the **3rd Summer School in Medical & Biosciences Research & Management, May 17 - 25, 2014 - Greece.**

My participation in the summer school would give me the chance to meet and interact with the true leaders of modern science. I would really appreciate the opportunity to be able to listen to their opinions about the current state and cutting-edge issues of different scientific fields in modern biosciences, medicine, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems. The exploration of biological issues and the multiple practical applications they have in society, such as the development of novel therapeutics and improvement of people's quality of life, are the major factors that led me to this decision.

Moreover, the participation to the summer school would allow me to broaden my knowledge and enhance my critical thinking on these fields, while granting me invaluable guidance and inspiration for the research I would like to conduct on innovative topics related to immunology, the interaction between immunity and tumour and the treatment of cancer. Additionally, the summer school will provide me with the opportunity to meet other young people from different fields and from all over the world and exchange knowledge, opinions and experiences.

It is my belief that my undergraduate studies in Biology at the University of Crete and my on-going post graduate studies in "Molecular Base of Human Disease" at the medical school of University of Crete, in combination with my research activities including my diploma thesis about "*The interaction of microRNA genetic loci with the nuclear lamins A+C and the study of the expression pattern of the proteins BACH1, SATB1 and HP1 in cells of the murine immune system*" have provided me with a solid background for attending the summer school. During my under-graduate studies I was also involved with research in the disciplines of: regulations of gene expression in the immune system, cancer biology and virology, via three different laboratory internships in biomedical research centres and companies. My theoretical knowledge has been enriched by the attendances of different conferences, seminars and summer school during the years of my studies.

These activities have also improved my ability to work in a team, study critically the current literature and prepare adequate presentations or written tasks. These abilities are crucial for participating successfully in the students' exams and presentations taking place during the summer school. For all these reasons in combinations with the values of diligence, discipline, communicativeness, self- motivation, sociability, transmissibility of ideas, acquired through my studies and research, I believe that I am the adequate student for participating in the summer school.

The enclosed Curriculum Vitae provide details about my studies, research experience and scientific background.

Thank you in advance for considering my application. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

**Maria Stratigopoulou**