

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

*Dear Sir/Madame,*

*I am writing relatively with my application for the 4th WHBA Summer School on Medical & Biosciences Research & Management (May 2015) for which I am highly interested. I am a biologist and currently a postgraduate student in the international master "Molecular Biology-Biomedicine" at the University of Crete. Being one of the top 3 students selected for this programme I have the honor to be awarded a fellowship from the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology of the Foundation for Research and Technology (Heraklion, Crete).*

*During my undergraduate studies, I obtained an integrated academic knowledge of fundamental principles and established a strong foundation in all the subjects of biology, achieving one of the highest overall scores of academic performance in my university (8,1 out of 10). Very soon, I was able to distinguish my own penchant in Molecular Biology and thus I decided to dedicate my future studies in this discipline. I undertook my dissertation thesis at the department of Animal and Human Physiology and I participated with a poster in the 35th Annual Conference of the Hellenic Society for Biological Sciences in Nafplio (May 2013) where I presented my work. My keen interest in regards to Biomedical Sciences was further developed during my three-month internship in the laboratory of Pharmacology at the Medical School of Athens.*

*In order to obtain further laboratory experience I managed to acquire financial support by the NSRF 2007-2013 to work as a biologist in "IASO" Clinic, Athens (five-month training program). I had the chance to be part of the laboratory team in the Stem Cell Bank "Cryobanks" where I got familiar with techniques in isolation and preservation of stem cells from blood and umbilical cord tissue. Furthermore, I was a trainee in the Assisted Reproductive Unit of the same clinic, where I was able to observe the daily routine of embryologists, getting trained in the techniques of in vitro fertilization.*

*Apart from my laboratory experience, I have never stopped following the enormous progress of biomedical sciences. Via online courses and through my attendance in conferences around Greece I was able to advance my knowledge in biomedical research. Recently, I was selected to attend the "Science Lecture Series" supported by the Onassis Foundation in Heraklion, where I met students and scientists from all around the world with whom I had the opportunity to exchange ideas and scientific concerns.*

*It would be a privilege to be selected in this Summer School as I strongly believe that my passion and meticulous approach to biomedical research together with my so far experience and knowledge make me a strong candidate for this programme. I am confident that I will benefit from this opportunity by being informed about the recent approaches, trends and novelties in biomedical research,*

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*by communicating with eminent scientists and international students and of course by further developing my way of thinking around scientific phenomena.*

*Thank you for considering my application.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Ioannis Evangelakos*