

SMRITI RAO

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development & Sustainability, Science & Technology Policy, Innovation, Biotechnology, Bioinformatics

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Sep 2006 – Oct 2008 Masters of Science, Food and Business Economics
Rutgers University-SEBS, New Jersey, USA
Participant of the Rutgers-Princeton Exchange Program
Recipient of Hamo Hachnasarian Scholarship 2007/08

Sep 1999 - Jul 2003 Bachelors of Engineering, Electronics Telecommunications
Visveshvaraya Technological University- SDMCET, Karnataka, India

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Rockefeller University, New York, USA

Research Assistant

Oct 2008 – Current

- Analyzing population databases and estimating demographic trends.

Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

Research Assistant

Sep 2007 – Sep 2008; Sep 2006 – Jun 2007

Worked on a wide range of projects in different capacities, samples include

- Assessing the economic impacts of governmental price controls (on bt cotton seeds), on future R&D and innovation in ag-biotech (private) sector.
- Assisted seafood-marketing studies conducted by Rutgers University in collaboration with NJ Department of Agriculture.
- Participated in a research study conducted in South Africa to examine fumonisin levels in bt corn.
- Involved in the development and maintenance of research databases on SBIR grants and recipients.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C, USA

Summer Intern

Jul 2007 – Aug 2007

- Assisted in reviewing the changes in the national regulatory processes for the approval of transgenic food and non-food crops in India
- Tracked the status of open/pending cases in the Indian Supreme Court that in anyway relate to transgenic crops, including public interest and antitrust litigations.
- Responsible for compiling and maintaining pertinent literature, using Reference Manager.

IBM Global Services (IGS), Bangalore, India

Software Engineer

Aug 2003-Apr 2005

- Involved in the enhancement of billing and pricing suite of applications for AT&T's US division.
- Worked on the development of key intranet web sites that enhanced both sales and post-sales processes for AT&T in the US.
- Responsible for the version control using Rational ClearCase/CVS and automated system testing using UNIX shell scripts and/or "IBM-Rational Robot".

Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, India

Project Intern

Jan 2003 – Jun 2003

- Designed, coded and tested 'Error Correcting Codes' in order to enhance data security over digital communication systems (C language).

PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS

- "*Price Controls and the Future of Bt Cotton in India*". Selected for presentation at 12th ICABR Conference on "The Future of Agricultural Biotechnology: Creative Destruction, Adoption, or Irrelevance?", Ravello, Italy; Jun 12-14, 2008.
- "*Watermarking techniques and implementation of codes on MATLAB*". Paper presented at the "National Symposium for Electronics and Communication Engineers", National Institute of Engineering, Mysore, India; Jun 6-8, 2002.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

S/W Packages: SAS, STATA, SPSS, Minitab, MATLAB, MS Excel, Word, PowerPoint

Databases: Oracle, DB2, MS Access

Languages: English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, French (beginner) and Spanish (learning).

ACTIVITIES

RUTGERS Center for Innovation Studies, NJ– Student Member

GO-GET, Udupi, INDIA – Co-Founder

(a not for profit organization to help students from low income families to go to college)

Franklin Township Public Library, Somerset, NJ - Volunteer