

Zahavah Rojer

they/them

PhD Candidate

zlr6@cornell.edu

Education

PhD (*in progress*)

August 2023 - *Present*

Hendry Lab, Cornell University

Department of Microbiology

B.S. *Magna cum laude*

August 2019 - May 2023

Department of Microbiology, Cornell University

Thesis: "This Flower Ain't Big Enough for the Both of Us: *In-vitro* Competition Between Different Strains of Nectar-Associated *Acinetobacter* spp."

Research Experience

Graduate Assistant Researcher

August 2023 - *Present*

Hendry Lab, Cornell University

Department of Microbiology

Undergraduate Research Assistant

August 2020 - May 2023

Hendry Lab, Cornell University

Department of Microbiology

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2023 - *Present*

Laboratory in Genetics and Genomics, Cornell University

Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Jan 2020 - May 2023

Laboratory in Genetics and Genomics, Cornell University

Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics

Laboratory Preparation Assistant

Jan 2023 - May 2023

Magical Mushrooms, Mischievous Molds, Cornell University

Department of Plant Pathology

Leadership

Treasurer Field of Microbiology Students, Cornell University
September 2024 - *Present*

Evaluations Chair Expanding Your Horizons, Cornell University
September 2024 - *Present*

Editor-in-Chief Kitsch Magazine, Cornell University
August 2022 - August 2023

Community Outreach & Volunteering

Workshop Leader Expanding Your Horizons, Cornell University
April 6, 2024 *Meals Made with Microbes* Workshop

Publications & Presentations

Oral Presentation Cornell Microbiology Department Seminar
January 22, 2026 “Insect-pathogenic fluorescent *Pseudomonas* impacts aphid behavior and fitness”

Oral Presentation Binghamton BGSO Symposium
January 16, 2026 “Insect-pathogenic fluorescent *Pseudomonas* impacts aphid behavior and fitness”
(Won Best Presentation in Species Interactions section)

Poster Presentation NEMPET Conference
June 27, 2025 “Fluorescent Deception: Insect-pathogenic fluorescent *Pseudomonas* can create an ecological trap for aphids”

Undergraduate Senior Thesis Department of Microbiology, Cornell University
May 2023 “This Flower Ain’t Big Enough for the Both of Us: *In-vitro* Competition Between Different Strains of Nectar-Associated *Acinetobacter* spp.”

Poster Presentation Cornell Institute of Host-Microbe Interactions and Disease
March 1, 2022 “*In-vitro* competition between nectar-associated *Acinetobacter* spp.”

Awards & Honors

Robert Mortlock Memorial Scholarship	NEMPET Conference
May 2025	\$590 scholarship
Ann S. and Robert R. Morley Student Research Fund	Cornell University
May 2022	\$1,000 award

Certifications & Training

Course Design Institute
Spring 2024 Center for Teaching Innovation, Cornell University
Developing Learning Outcomes / Developing a Syllabus
from Scratch / Designing Assessment of Student Learning

References

Dr. Tory Hendry Associate Professor, Microbiology	Cornell University th572@cornell.edu
Dr. Kristina Blake Senior Lecturer, Genetics	Cornell University kab69@cornell.edu
Dr. Heather Feaga Assistant Professor, Microbiology	Cornell University haf54@cornell.edu

Updated January 2026