

Jen Slater

Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR

Biology and Microbiology
Bachelor of Science, May 2004

**NASA Academy Research Project:
The Influences of Gravity and
Mechanical Forces at the Cellular Level**

Principal Investigators: Dr. Nancy Searby
and Dr. Eduardo Almeida



Education:

I will graduate from Oregon State University in June of 2004 with a B.S in Biology and a B.S in Microbiology. I will enter the pharmacy program this fall with the intention of gaining a Pharm.D/Ph.D.

Experience:

I first became interested in space science in a chatroom discussion. It focused on support and advice about different career choices and pathways for women in science. I corresponded with a woman who works with the space program. Her experiences and the way that she spoke about the program excited me. I wanted to get involved but I did not know how. I contacted one of the advisors of the Space Grant at OSU and he directed me to Dr. Terri Lomax. I worked with Dr. Lomax on a map-based cloning project in 2001. It involved isolating the gene that causes a reversed gravitropic response of a *Lycopersicon esculentum* mutant. In 2003, I participated with a study that evaluated the genetic expression of the moss, *Physcomitrella patens*, in space.

Extra-curricular Activities

I am involved with a number of non-profit agencies and participate in various activities such as lobbying at the state capital, education and outreach. In my free time I love spending time with my children camping or short day trips with my kids, like to the science museum or the zoo. I also like to read (an addiction that I have completely under

control...really) and have recently started gardening. I love to Karaoke but it has got to be in a big group.

