

Samuel C. Delk, PhD

Los Angeles, CA • samueldelk1@gmail.com • (559) 577-3223 • [linkedin.com/in/samueldelk](https://www.linkedin.com/in/samueldelk)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Ambitious Postdoctoral Fellow investigating cardiovascular disease (CVD) and systemic inflammation. 1st-author translational publications on CVD and cancer. Currently leading business development at a B2B tech startup in the media vertical. Nearly 2 years of M&A advisory in B2B tech and consumer products, leading market research, deal sourcing, and target outreach efforts. Academically stellar, graduating at top of class as an undergraduate. Strong quantitative skills after mathematics and chemistry minors, and 10 years in research. Held numerous teaching and leadership roles, developing outstanding interpersonal and communication skills. Eager to apply this diverse skillset to life sciences investing.

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) - Fielding School of Public Health Los Angeles, CA
PhD, Environmental & Molecular Toxicology. **GPA: 4.00/4.00** *Sept. 2019-Jun. 2025*
Dissertation: *Studies on the Role of Intestinal ApoA-I in HDL Physiology, Endotoxin Metabolism and Systemic Inflammation*
Advisors: Srinivasa T. Reddy, PhD; Alan M. Fogelman, MD (Department Chair)
Highlighted Coursework: Molecular Mechanisms of Human Disease I & II; Advanced Molecular Toxicology
Fellowship: **NIH T32 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship**, UCLA Vascular Biology Training Program (*May 2022-Jun. 2023*)

Fresno Pacific University – School of Natural Sciences Fresno, CA
BS, Biology, *summa cum laude*. **Minors: Mathematics, Chemistry. GPA: 3.95/4.00** *Aug. 2015-May 2019*
Highlighted Coursework: **Probability & Statistics**; Differential Equations; Linear Algebra; **Perspectives in Leadership**
Awards & Activities: **Harold Haak Academic Achievement Award** (sole recipient in graduating class of ~1,000 students); Awarded \$60,000+ in scholarships; Jr. & Sr. Highest Honors in Biology; Jazz Ensemble; Model United Nations

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

STEP Strategy Advisors Los Angeles, CA
M&A Advisory Intern *Dec. 2022-Jun. 2024; Jan. 2026-present*

- Leading project to source, screen, and contact potential LPs for \$1.6B AUM venture capital client
- Worked directly with EdTech client CEO to grow clientele and produce brief in preparation for Series A raise
- Led deal origination for \$1B+ AUM private equity client, profiling 1,000+ potential target acquisitions
- Built CRM-driven sourcing funnel (80,000 records), screening hits and preparing briefs to support investment decisions
- Executed hundreds of outbound cold calls to target executives, successfully arranging meetings for clients and partners
- Sourced and engaged key executives at industry conferences, building rapport to expand target acquisition pipeline

Stealth Startup San Francisco, CA
Business Development Lead *Aug. 2025-present (part-time)*

- Converted inbound lead to \$1.5M LOI— crafted and presented client-specific proposal, built financial model (costs, revenues, ROI), and produced final pitch deck
- Expand base of clients and partners through inbound and outbound funnels, fostering long-term relationships
- Support company operations by onboarding and monitoring closed clients to ensure integration and retention

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA - Department of Medicine Los Angeles, CA
Postdoctoral Fellow *Jul. 2025-present*

- Developed novel mouse model to study intestinal HDL-cholesterol's role in CVD and systemic inflammation
- Generated preclinical data for collaborative project advancing small molecule therapies for rheumatoid arthritis
- Established novel flow cytometry method for enterocyte isolation, improving purity by over 50% and adopted across the lab for multiple projects
- Manage multiple mouse colonies and complex projects under pressure, exhibiting outstanding attention to detail

UCLA – Environmental & Molecular Toxicology Interdepartmental Program Los Angeles, CA
Student Representative (elected) *Jun. 2023-Sept. 2024*

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- Organized seminars and social events for guest faculty and students, cultivating collaborative program environment
- Successfully advocated for student interests on admissions processes and program re-branding to faculty committee

Outreach Coordinator

Jun.2022-Sept.2024

- Designed and presented informational recruitment webinar to prospective undergraduate recruits
- Re-designed PhD program's website and created social media presence, gaining nearly 300 cross-platform followers

Fresno Pacific University - Academic Success Center

Fresno, CA

CRLA-Certified Science Tutor (Level III)

Aug. 2016-May 2019

- Conducted 200+ hours of in-person tutoring and study sessions for fellow undergraduates
 - Initiated tutor training program, developing materials and leading trainings for new tutors
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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (4 of 5)

- **Delk, S.C.,...Reddy, S.T. (2026).** HDL-Associated Enzymes in CVD & Inflammation. *Curr Opin Lipidol.* *IN REVIEW*
 - **Delk, S.C.,...Fogelman, A.F. (2025).** [The Intestine and Cardiovascular Disease](#). *Curr Opin Lipidol.* July 2025
 - **Delk, S.C.,...Reddy, S.T. (2025).** [Mechanisms and Applications of Apolipoproteins and Apolipoprotein Mimetic Peptides: Common Pathways in Cardiovascular Disease and Cancer](#). *Semin Cancer Biol (IF 12.1)*. May 2025
 - **Delk, S.C.,...Reddy, S.T. (2020).** [Apolipoprotein Mimetics in Cancer](#). *Semin Cancer Biol (IF 15.7)*. Nov. 2020
 - Article's citation metrics in 75th percentile of all NIH-funded publications
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SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

UCLA - Department of Medicine Research Day

Los Angeles, CA

Poster Presentation

Oct. 2025

UCLA – Molecular Toxicology Seminar Series

Los Angeles, CA

Annual Oral Presentation

2019-2025

American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

San Antonio, TX

Poster Presentation

Mar. 2024

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

UCLA - Physiology Outreach Program (POP)

Los Angeles, CA

Youth Mentor

Jul. 2023-Jul. 2025

- Mentored underrepresented high school students on summer research project, from data collection to presentation
- Advised mentees on college preparation, fostering interest in STEM & research careers

Fresno Pacific University – School of Natural Sciences

Fresno, CA

Research Associate

Aug.2015-May 2019

- Awarded annual scholarship to conduct research with 1-on-1 supervision and direction from faculty
- Presented posters on findings at university's Undergraduate Research Day (1st place, 2019; 2nd place, 2017)

Meharry Medical College

Nashville, TN

Summer Cancer Research Intern

May-Jul.2018

- Selected as 1 of 10 undergraduates for 10-week research immersion program, conducting *in vitro* prostate cancer assays
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SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skills: Public speaking; written communication; social intelligence; attentive listener; CRM; Advanced Excel & PowerPoint

Interests: Drumming (20+ years) and recording music; mountaineering (Yosemite's 5 tallest peaks in 5 days); trout fishing