

Bassem Al-Sady

Nov 12, 2013



Position

Principal Investigator

Research Project Title

Mechanisms of formation and maintenance of epigenetic elements

Bio

Undergrad: Biochemistry, Oxford University

Graduate work: University of California at Berkeley (Plant Biology)

Postdoctorate: University of California, San Francisco (Chromatin Biology)

I grew up in Nuernberg, Germany and then pursued my undergraduate studies in the UK. I became fascinated by the mechanisms plants use to sense their environment, and pursued a PhD in Plant Biology at Berkeley, to learn how plants rapidly translate a light signal into large scale transcriptional changes. This got me interested in nuclear events and specifically, how chromatin can adopt different states to allow or prevent transcription at a given site over multiple generations. A great case study of this is heterochromatin, a nucleic-acid protein composite that can silence large stretches of the chromosome over many generations, a structure that is the focus of study in the lab.

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