

JARAH A. MEADOR, PH.D.



Jarah A. Meador received her B.S. (1997) and M.S. (1999) in Biology from [Texas State University](#) and her Ph.D. (2004) in Environmental and Molecular Carcinogenesis from [The University of Texas, Health Science Center at Houston](#) (UT-HSCH) where she was a two-time recipient of the John P. McGovern Award. She was also awarded a NASA Texas Space Grant Consortium Fellowship in 2003. Her graduate work involved the study of DNA damage and repair processes of marine plankton in response to various environmental stressors such as changes in ultraviolet radiation due to ozone depletion over Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

Jarah joined USRA's Division of Space Life Sciences in 2004 as a BFSB Postdoctoral Fellow and worked with Dr. Honglu Wu of NASA's Radiation Biodosimetry Laboratory at Johnson Space Center during her two-year appointment. Her research focused on space radiation, DNA damage and repair, nutrient conditions, and their combined effects on the health of astronauts.

During her NASA / USRA appointment, Dr. Meador was awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation's International Research Fellowship Program. The grant funded a three month research project entitled "Impacts of solar ultraviolet radiation and nutrient limitation on marine microorganisms" which she completed in collaboration with laboratories located in Grenoble and Banyuls sur-Mer, France.

After completing her two-year BFSB appointment, Dr. Meador accepted a Postdoctoral position with the [Columbia University's Center for Radiological Research](#). She is now working with Dr. Adayabalam Balajee exploring the response of human cells to low doses of ionizing radiation. More specifically, they are researching the signal transduction pathways that may be activated by exposure to low doses of radiation.