is an RNA-binding protein associated with growth and virulence that is notable for its unusually long intron, a sequence in its gene that does not code for protein production [1]. Introns are therefore removed from pre-mRNA, the molecules made from DNA for protein production. My research tested a two-step hypothesis: first, that deleting the *SLR1* intron would increase Slr1 protein levels; second, that this increased Slr1 protein production would adversely affect growth. This prediction was based on research conducted on Yra1, an RNA-binding protein with a similarly long intron, present in both *C. albicans* and the related model organism *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* [2].

To test the significance of the intron to Slr1 protein production, I collaborated with lab-mate Foje-Geh Tendoh to construct *C. albicans* cells with and without the *SLR1* intron. In our designs of the *SLR1* DNA for the construction of these cells, we included DNA for green fluorescent protein (GFP), which allowed us to visualise the Slr1 proteins produced by our *C. albicans* cells. We first used the polymerase chain reaction and other molecular techniques to construct and verify GFP-tagged *SLR1* DNAs with and

References

1. Ariyachet, C., et al., *SR-like RNA-binding protein Slr1 affects Candida albicans filamentation and virulence.* Infection and immunity, 2013. **81**(4): p. 1267-1276.
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