

Shana J. Sturla Professional Biography

Shana Jocette Sturla was born in 1975 in Brooklyn, New York and graduated from Manalapan High School in New Jersey in 1992. As an undergraduate at the University of California at Berkeley, she worked in the laboratory of Professor Clayton H. Heathcock and graduated with a B.S. in chemistry in 1996.

Under the guidance of Professor Stephen L. Buchwald, she carried out her graduate research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a fellow of the Ford Foundation and of the American Chemical Society Division of Organic Chemistry. She received a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry and the Roche Award for Excellence in Organic Chemistry in 2001.

Her postdoctoral research was carried out in the laboratory of Professor Stephen S. Hecht at the University of Minnesota Cancer Center and concerned the chemistry and biology of tobacco-specific carcinogens. She received a National Institutes of Health-National Cancer Institute National Research Service Award in 2001 and from 2002-2004 was supported by the American Cancer Society-Bowman Cancer Research Fellowship.

In 2004, she began the position of Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota Department of Medicinal Chemistry and is a member of the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center. Research in Professor Sturla's lab unites contemporary research in bioorganic and medicinal chemistry with the study of carcinogenesis and toxicology. In this time, she has been awarded a National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute Career Development Award, an American Association for Cancer Research Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award, and a McKnight Land-Grant Professorship.