



Allison Akagi graduated *summa cum laude* from Lewis & Clark College with a B.A. in chemistry and a minor in mathematics. She studied the degradation of phosphonothioates using organometallic catalysts with Dr. Louis Kuo. In 2008, Allison was appointed a Barry M. Goldwater scholar and was awarded the Richard T. Van Santen scholarship from the Portland chapter of the American Chemical Society. In 2009, she was inducted as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

In 2009, Allison became a Teach For America corps member and taught chemistry and biology to high school sophomores and freshmen while also earning her M.A. in teaching from National-Louis University. She then went on to study pheromone biosynthesis in the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* under the guidance of Paul Sternberg at the California Institute of Technology and earned her Ph.D. in chemistry in 2017.

Currently, Allison is a chemistry teacher and soccer coach at Mayfield Senior School, an all-girls independent school in Pasadena, California.