

## VITA

### **Darlene Michele Eberhardt**

The author was born on February 21, 1972 to Jerry and Mattie Eberhardt in Richmond, Virginia. Darlene has two brothers, Jerry Jr. and Eric. After graduating from John F. Kennedy High School in 1990, Darlene was offered a scholarship to play women's basketball at Delaware State University formerly Delaware State College. While at Delaware State, she ran cross-country and indoor/outdoor track and field. She won numerous awards while on the track team. After graduating from Delaware State University with a B.S. in Chemistry in 1995, she became a National Science Foundation Summer Intern and worked at DuPont-Merck Pharmaceuticals in Newark, DE. In the fall of 1995, she was awarded a National Science Foundation Scholarship to finish her Master's and Ph D through a joint program of Hampton University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. While at Hampton University, she finished her Master's degree in 1998. Darlene's thesis, under the direction of Dr. Grace Ndip and Dr. Richard Gandour (Virginia Tech) was entitled "Micellar Properties of Spermicidal and Microbicidal Quaternary Ammonium Salts". In the fall, Darlene entered Virginia Tech under the direction of Dr. Richard Gandour. While at Virginia Tech, she joined the Department of Clothing and Textiles. Darlene presented at numerous meetings and was featured in "Elements" (the Alumni Magazine of the Department of Chemistry at Virginia Tech). She also won the "Ebony Award" for outstanding graduate student from the Black Graduate Student Organization (BGSO). She was also BGSO Co-Rec football and basketball coach/player that won the Co-Rec basketball title in 2003. Darlene

obtained her Doctoral degree in Clothing and Textiles with a cognate in Chemistry in April 2004. Currently, she resides in Cary, North Carolina with her daughter D'Malyah Anzelle (DD), where she works as a Senior Scientific Consultant with Kelly Scientific Resources. She also serves as a basketball coach through Cary Parks and Recreation and has her own track and field club, Triangle Youth.