

9. VITA

Belhu B. Metaferia got his undergraduate (BSc) and (MSc) graduate degrees in chemistry from the Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) in December 1991. He came to the USA in January 1995 and attended MS program in chemistry at Hampton University. He then transferred to pursue a PhD program in chemistry at Virginia Tech in August 1997.

He joined the research group of Prof. David G. I. Kingston and was engaged in the synthesis of analogs of taxol (anti-cancer agent) which will be used for conformational studies. The education and experience in Kingston's laboratories sparked his interest to pursue in medicinal chemistry. Belhu will continue research projects on anti-AIDS and tuberculosis agents at NIH as a visiting fellow starting August 1, 2002.