



Katherine A. Beck, PhD

STAFF SCIENTIST

Dr. Katherine Beck assists Choate's life sciences clients by utilizing her background in organic chemistry and chemical biology to help with the preparation and prosecution of patent applications, as well as freedom-to-operate and patentability analyses.

Katherine received her PhD in organic chemistry at Columbia University. Her doctoral research, conducted with Professor Tomislav Rovis and in collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry, involved the development and application of first-in-class low-energy photoredox catalysis methodologies in pharmacophore synthesis with a library of novel osmium and iridium catalysts. Specifically, her dissertation describes new methods of imparting molecular diversity and dimensionality, enabling late-stage functionalization, and expanding the scope of functional group stability towards batch-scale applications.

Prior to her PhD, she worked as a Senior Research Support Associate in the group of Professor Kwanghun Chung at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While at MIT, she developed and assisted American and international collaborators on techniques and workflow for large-scale neurobiology and chemical engineering projects involving antibody and nucleic acid probe staining, high-throughput microscopy, and whole-organ preservation for molecular mapping.

Katherine received her undergraduate degrees from Cornell University in Chemistry and Psychology (Neuroscience concentration). There, she worked as a research assistant in the Computational Physiology Laboratory under Professor Thomas Cleland, where she gained experience with transgenic animal models, immunohistochemistry, and tissue preservation techniques.

Focus Areas

Intellectual Property

IP Counseling