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Subject: Summer Research Opportunity for Students

Hi all,

My name is Vivian Hu and I am a junior in the bioengineering department at Pitt. Last summer, I was a part of a synthetic biology research team at Pitt for the iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) competition, and we are currently recruiting members for the 2019 iGEM team. One of the faculty advisors is Dr. Alex Deiters from the chemistry department.

For the iGEM competition, multidisciplinary teams of students have the opportunity to carry out a genetic engineering research project - building, testing, and measuring a system of their own design. Students can come up with genetic engineering solutions to societal issues or research questions using synthetic biology principles. The students develop and implement their own research ideas, but are closely advised by a group of expert faculty mentors.

This program is a great opportunity for students looking for a creative research experience best geared for students interested in pursuing graduate school. I believe students could really benefit from this research opportunity and the iGEM program is looking to extend its outreach at Pitt.

You can read about our work for the 2018 competition here:

<https://www.engineering.pitt.edu/News/2019/iGEM-2019/>

Please let me know if you would be able to send an email or announcement to the undergraduate chemistry students for the 2019 team recruitment. Additionally, let me know if past members can give a brief 3-5 minute talk to your courses. This would be a great help. I can send you information to pass along.

Thank you,
Vivian Hu