

# BioBytes Presentation Feedback



## 1. Had you ever heard of synthetic biology before our presentation? If so, did our pamphlet/presentation change your perception of synthetic biology?

No

No I never heard of it

No, I had not heard of synthetic biology

Yes and not really

No. yes, now I understand/know a little general description for it

No. yes, the presentation helped

Yes I had, Yes it did.

Yes, I had heard of synthetic biology. The presentation expanded on it and gave a real example of using it

No I had never heard of synthetic biology

No

No

Yes, it did change my perception in that I did not know there was so many uses for it

I had heard it being discussed but didn't know much about. And yes, the presentation was quite helpful.

No.

I have heard of it briefly, but this provided much more detail on what this field of science actually is and what it does.

No.

No.

No.

## 2. What was the most important thing you learned from our pamphlet/presentation? Did anything really surprise you?

The ability to introduce genes in to cells so as to complete a function that is not normal/natural to the cells.

I learned that I could do the igm competition in undergrad. It sounded fun

That synthetic biology has many uses, but most of the things were stuff that I already read or heard about

Application of research

I learned you could manipulate genes within an organism. The vast implication of synthetic biology surprised me.

I learned that I can be involve din lab science during undergrad without doing a 498/499 or summer studentship

The type of research I can do so soon.

The pace at which synthetic biology is growing and the importance of it in medical research

The fact that this field exists at all. That you don't need all your genes to survive  
It is possible to figure out/select needed genes for a genome. The bacteria in the asphalt experiment surprised me.

E. coli to fix road

I learned that gene replication is possible and that there's a lot more to E. coli than it being bacteria that makes you sick. I also learned that it is necessary to have the original genome in order to replicate.

Just the ability of what can be done.

That there are such complex projects available for undergrads to participate in.

That there is a program where undergrad students can do "real" science.

That this is a field that incorporates engineering and science.

The power that this can have in the world. That you can engineer pretty much anything to be biological.

### **3. Do you think it's useful for high school students to know about synthetic biology and/or iGEM? Why?**

Yes, so that they know the field exists, and to see if it sparks any interest in them

Yes, because it gives me more options about the future

Yes, it's a great opportunity

Yeah, raises awareness

Yes, just to know the opportunities there

Yes, because it gives them more knowledge about different scientific fields and provides them with different options.

Yes, it would encourage them to pursue science

Yes. It lets students know about future opportunities in science

Yes, this is an up and coming field which will soon be very prevalent in this school

Yes, so they can become aware of the options available to them - new careers and programs

Yes - the field isn't very well known, so by having more students would know about it, they might be more interested in getting involved in it

Yes, the program provides them an opportunity to experience lab work

I believe it is useful because it allows students to broaden their perspectives on science and to address ethical issues.

Yes, lets them know about more career options.

Yes, so that they can have time to prepare themselves for this project..

Yes, because it opens up different career paths.

Yes, knowing about the field allows for students to reason in advance about choosing a career that intrigues them.

Yes. Because education is good at any levels and it opens up doors even when they're young.

### **4. How could synthetic biology and our project be more effectively communicated to high school students? Was anything really confusing?**

By giving a cursory or brief introduction and basic knowledge

The way you did it was good

It was a good presentation

High school presentations during CALM classes? No not really

Nothing was confusing, presentation at school at bio class

It was good. Not confusing.

Nothing was confusing. It could be more effectively communicated through smaller words/more definitions

It was well explained

The presentation was very well presented. I believe that synthetic bio should be a much larger part of what is taught in the classroom

Increasing awareness – talks, posters. Only the details about their project (genes).

Explaining it in application terms, how it applies to the students in everyday life

More picture

It could be more effectively communicated by explaining more about what the significance of certain terms. i.e. students might forget the meaning of certain scientific terms.

No, it all made sense.

Dumbing down the language and talking less about your project and more about iGEM in general and its details.

It was very clear.

It was well communicated and clearly explained.

Maybe talk about syn bio that could be relative to teenagers. Nothing was too confusing.

**5. Does hearing about synthetic biology make you more interested in pursuing a career in synthetic biology or another field of science and technology? Being part of an iGEM team? Why?**

Somewhat, because it is a field that I have never heard of before

I'll consider it

Yes

Maybe. I don't know

Not specifically, but more interested in research

Yes, many opportunities and its exciting

Yes, because it was interesting

Yes, sounds very interesting

Sort of...it sounds interesting, unique opportunity

Sort of, because the field is unique and seems pretty interesting

I may take part iGEM team. Lab experience

It has allowed me to become more interested because I now have a new perspective on it especially because what I just learned has sparked my interest.

Not really.

Synthetic bio has re-pricked my interest and eventually being part of the iGEM is in my plans

No, I would only go into this program for the experience, not to go into synthetic biology.

Not really because I know that I am not going to research.

Yes. I'm really interested in both engineering and science so this may be a field I will consider in the future. I also may consider iGEM as it looks interesting.

No. Maybe, depending on the projects that there are because it does not really interest me.

**6. What would you like to create with synthetic biology?**

Engineer a cell that could be assimilated into the human body to repair or replace tissue

I don't know

Not sure

Something fun to play with

?

Synthetic organs

?

Disease sensing bacteria -> colour change

Create new treatments by introducing diseases to treat other diseases ☺

Environmentally friendly things!

Ecoli road

Something awesome! I actually don't know to be honest.

?

Plants.

?

Biofuel.

A bandaid that would regrow wounds.