



11 June 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Request for Delivering a Synthetic Biology Talk at Your School

On behalf of the iGEM team 2013 of Chinese University of Hong Kong, I am writing to ask for an opportunity to deliver a talk about synthetic biology at your school.

iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) is a global synthetic biology competition consisting of different parts like building useful biological systems and promoting synthetic biology to the public, etc. Regarding the second part abovementioned, our team is holding talks in secondary schools, promoting both synthetic biology and this competition to secondary school students. Therefore, I am writing to invite your students as our audiences of talk.

The talk would last for one and a half hours. The language for it is decided upon your decision. It will begin with an informative sharing, followed by a role-play demonstration. The content of the talk includes applications, advantages and safety concerns of synthetic biology. We will also introduce the iGEM competition and our current project—Regulated PAHs Degradation with *E. coli*. Apart from the talk, we are also holding workshops in CUHK for students on some simple genetic engineering laboratory work such as gel electrophoresis. Students who are interested can register for the laboratory workshop after the talk; limited to 20 students, based on first-come, first-served basis.

We understand that there might not be enough time for you to arrange the event, and therefore it is flexible for you to choose any date in July. As for the venue, we will be very happy to hold the talk in CUHK instead of your school if you prefer so. If you prefer some other time, please inform us and we will try our best to arrange for it. As students have different background on biology, we can adjust the content of our talk accordingly.

As molecular genetics and biotechnology is covered in the syllabus of HKDSE Biology, it would be a great opportunity for senior students to learn more about the subject. In addition, synthetic biology and genetic engineering have become popular in society; it would be worthwhile for students from all disciplines to know more about it. We sincerely hope that you will grant us an opportunity to deliver the talk at your school.

Should you be interested in our talk, please kindly fill in the form attached and reply through email (cuiigem13@gmail.com). For enquiries, please also refer to the above email address, or call 56953460 for Ms. Melisa Junata or 59433188 for Ms. Jennifer Chang.

For your reference, please see the following websites for more about iGEM:


iGEM official website—What is iGEM? <http://igem.org/About>

Wiki page of CUHK team in 2012 http://2012.igem.org/Team:Hong_Kong-CUHK/HP

Wiki page of CUHK team in 2011 http://2011.igem.org/Team:Hong_Kong-CUHK

Wiki page of CUHK team in 2010 http://2010.igem.org/Team:Hong_Kong-CUHK

Yours sincerely,



Chan, King Ming (Professor)

Mentor, 2013 CUHK iGEM team