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EUROPEAN iGEM JAMBOREE 2012

5-7 OCTOBER
VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM

PRESS INFO



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 iGEM Regional Jamboree Europe

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INTERNATIONAL GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MACHINE COMPETITION

EUROPEAN JAMBOREE 2012 - AMSTERDAM (NL)

PRESS

Before the Jamboree...

The International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition is an international contest dedicated to education, advancement of synthetic biology and the development of open community and collaboration world-wide. The iGEM competition has developed to a large community of more than 160 teams of undergraduate students and professors working in synthetic biology.

At the beginning of the summer, the participating student teams are given a kit of biological parts from the 'Registry of Standard Biological Parts'. Working at their own universities over the summer, they use these parts and develop new parts of their own design to build biological systems and operate them in living cells. This results in organisms that for example generate the odor of bananas, detect parasites or produce biofuels. The sky is the limit.

Because synthetic biology creates new benefits to modern society, the teams are stimulated to communicate their project to the public. The interdisciplinary design project and competition format is an exceptionally motivating and effective teaching method.

Since 2003, over 400 projects have been presented. To accommodate the spectacular growth in the number of participating teams, iGEM Headquarters (non-profit organization) have initiated regional iGEM competitions. Europe, Asia, East- West- and Latin-America will select the best teams for the upcoming iGEM World Championship in Cambridge, USA.

During the Jamboree...

After the success of last year, the European Jamboree will again be hosted in the Netherlands. VU University Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam, Delft University of Technology, the University of Groningen, Wageningen University and Eindhoven University of Technology are selected to organize the European Jamboree in Amsterdam in October 2012.



The European Regional Jamboree will be a three-day event where all European iGEM teams will present their work by a poster and oral presentation. For this event we expect about 500 students and 100 supervisors. The student projects are evaluated by a board of independent judges coming from academia and the industry all over Europe. The iGEM Jamboree attracts a large number of senior and young scientists: the current and future European leaders in the new field of Synthetic Biology.

Attend the Jamboree...

iGEM Europe welcomes selected journalists to cover the European Jamboree.

To become accredited, journalists should submit the accreditation form, which can be found in the press section of our website. Send the form before September 20th 2012 to igemeurope@biotecture.nl.

The iGEM Europe committee will determine the allocation of tickets. If accepted you will receive information about the possibilities for interviews and filming.

Stay up to date...

Follow us on twitter @iGEMEurope or facebook iGEM Regional Jamboree Europe.



What is Synthetic Biology?

Synthetic Biology is an emerging research area that combines molecular biology, engineering, nano-technology and information technology to create new biological functions and systems.

In the past decade, technologies like DNA synthesis and sequencing have become available as standard tools. On this basis, the synthetic biology community can design and implement new biological functions in bacteria.

Within the iGEM competition, a library of standardized biological parts is built up, the **BioBricks**. These parts are used to assemble new devices and functions that enable amazing biological machines. The library has grown significantly and teams have access to about 5000 BioBricks.



OVER 500 STUDENTS COLLABORATING
TO CREATE STANDARD INTERCHANGEABLE
BIOLOGICAL PARTS TO REVOLUTIONIZE THE
ENVIRONMENT, **MEDICINE**,
ENERGY AND MORE...