

University of Illinois iGEM 2010 Newsletter

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Dippin' Dots Fundraiser

During the last two weeks of July, we put one of our fundraising plans into motion, selling iGEM Dippin' Dots on the campus Quad. The Dippin'Dots were made in our lab break room by melting ice cream and sorbet and pouring it through a makeshift strainer into liquid nitrogen. We enjoyed experimenting with and mixing various flavors of sorbet and ice cream, including raspberry, lime, pineapple, vanilla, chocolate, and cookies

and cream. The chocolate-lime combination was a popular choice among many of our customers. As this fundraiser has proven to be profitable, we plan on holding Dippin'Dot sales once a week to raise money for lab supplies and traveling for the Jamboree in November. Keep an eye out for flyers around campus for information on our next iGEM Dippin' Dots sale or email Erin at ebor-cha2@illinois.edu for notification.



Before selling our iGEM Dippin' Dots we chalked the Quad to advertise.

Around The Lab: Wetlab Update

This month the Wetlab Team continued to make progress on all fronts of our project. We overcame some stumbling blocks and are moving forward with using PCR to amplify out the necessary genes from the genomes of E. coli and Salmonella. Biobrick construction has also begun, with many of the small RNAs for our decoder and metal binding proteins for gold and arsenic bioremediation being incorporated into plasmids.

Volleyball Tournament Rescheduled

Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, the volleyball tournament originally planned for July 17th had to be moved tentatively to September 24th. Registrations are still being accepted and we are considering free agency so individuals may participate without creating a team prior to the tournament.

Tools Team Update:

This month the Software team has been making progress on the plasmid design portion of the project. The team is satisfied with updates made to IMPtools and will be focusing their efforts on incorporating cell modeling along with the plasmid design to the overall project, BioMORTAR.

We're on Twitter and Facebook!

Thanks to all the support on Twitter, it's great to see so many people interested in our projects. Follow us on Twitter at UIUC_Software! You can also keep up to date on our progress and events on facebook by searching for the group "Help the 2010 UIUC iGEM team"



Upcoming Events: GAMES Camp

We are excited to participate in GAMES camp July 30th and August 13th during which we are scheduled to give presentations on synthetic biology and iGEM to middle school and high school girls interested in engineering and science. iGEM team members have put together a presentation and hands on project for the participants and are looking forward to introducing synthetic biology and iGEM to the campers.

We Need Your Support!

Financial support and supply donation is vital to completion of iGEM projects and the team's success. If you are interested in making a donation to the team please contact Co-Director Meagan Musselman at mus-selm1@illinois.edu or Melissa McKillip at mmckilli@igb.uiuc.edu. We appreciate any donation.

If you would like to stop receiving the monthly iGEM newsletter and be removed from the iGEM listserve please email either Erin Borchardt at eborcha2@illinois.edu or Anna Kropornicka at akropor2@illinois.edu

