

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 3

the
IBA Newsletter

Hello all!

Welcome back to school, IBA students! I hope that each of you had a wonderful and relaxing winter break.

As we begin the spring semester, remember to set academic, professional, and personal goals for yourself! Good luck on the first week of your new classes!

-Meaghan



What is included in the Newsletter?

This newsletter will include upcoming conference deadlines, social events, useful workshops, general information that could be pertinent to your field, program 'reminders,' and other relevant activities.

Save the Date!

Mandatory Policies and Procedure Meeting

1/24/13, 6:30 pm

Vincent, Lori, and I will be talking about IBA's new structure, curriculum, and policy changes. Dinner will be catered and students will be encouraged to ask questions. Also, we'll be taking new profile pictures for the website!



Training Opportunities and Conferences

Summer Research Opportunity at the University of Pennsylvania

Summer Undergraduate Fellowship in Sensor Technologies

A NSF Sponsored REU Program

Program Overview

- Summer research experience with a stipend of \$4,850
- Partial travel support will be provided.
- Opportunity to work on an interesting interdisciplinary topic
- Work under the mentorship of a faculty member and a graduate student
- Participate in workshops on giving effective presentations, writing reports, applying to graduate school, and ethics in engineering and science
- On-campus housing is provided at no or minimal cost
- Period: May 25 to August 3, 2013

Application deadline: February 25, 2013

Areas of research

- **Nanotechnology and materials**
- **Robotics and Control oriented projects**
- **Sensors for Medical and Biomedical Applications**
- **Optical and Vision Sensors**
- **Micro and Nano Electromechanical structures**

Application information available at:
<http://www.seas.upenn.edu/sunfest>

Applicants have to be US Citizens or Permanent Residents; minimum GPA: 3.0.

For further information contact Jan Van der Spiegel at
sunfest@seas.upenn.edu <mailto:sunfest@ee.upenn.edu>



Volunteer Fair, Student Organization Fair, Off Campus Housing Fair

Contact: CSIL 319-335-3699

Thursday, January 24, 2013 | All Day Event | Iowa Memorial Union

A STEM Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Science and Civilization as Seen by a Physicist” lecture/discussion

Speaker: **Professor Vincent Rogers** of the UI Department of Physics and Astronomy

Location: Seamans Center, Stanley Auditorium/1505

Date:

Fri, January 25, 2013

Reception with refreshments at 3:30, lecture from 4:00 until 5:00 PM

For other seminars specific to your areas of interests, please see:

Biology:

<http://www.biology.uiowa.edu/seminars.php?tdate=2012-10-09>

Genetics:

<http://genetics.grad.uiowa.edu/events>

Physics:

<http://www.physics.uiowa.edu/calendar.html>

Institute for Clinical and Translational Science:

<http://icts.uiowa.edu/content/events>

Psychology:

<http://www.psychology.uiowa.edu/events>

Upcoming Seminars, Fairs, and Workshops of Interest



Study Abroad Fair

Have you considered studying abroad but aren't sure where to begin? Stop by the study abroad spring fair and start your journey!

Visit the study abroad fair Monday, January 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the second floor of the University Capitol Centre to learn about short-term and faculty-led study abroad programs all over the world, which allow you to receive academic credit while advancing your UI degree and exploring other cultures. Almost all of these programs are led by UI faculty members and they are some of the most popular study abroad programs the University of Iowa offers.

Study Abroad advisors, former student participants, and faculty program directors will all be on hand to answer your questions

Motivation and Goal Setting

Start the semester off by learning how to increase and maintain your motivation for academic success. Learn how to identify goals that can help you stay on track throughout the semester.

This workshop is free and open to all University of Iowa undergraduate students. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Date: Wednesday, Feb 6, 3:30-4:30 PM

Location: 61 Schaeffer Hall



Volunteer at iExploreSTEM!

iExploreSTEM is a series of coordinated free STEM festivals that have the look and feel of a street fair or county fair. Children have fun while being challenged to think - to solve STEM problems – and while being introduced to careers in STEM. iExploreSTEM Des Moines is a component of I'll Make Me a World in Iowa <<http://www.worldiniowa.com/>> , the huge and awesome Des Moines African American festival.

You and your friends can spend a day at I'll Make Me a World in Iowa showing kids and their families how much fun STEM can be by following these **3 easy steps**.

- 1) Set aside Saturday, January 26. Come to iExploreSTEM at HyVee Hall in Des Moines.
- 2) Choose how you want to help. You can hand out programs, greet visitors, or do whatever needs doing. You can help conduct an onsite festival evaluation. If you are a STEM student or professional you can assist at one of five interactive booths or your group can host an activity that you design.
- 3) Sign up to volunteer. You can sign up and learn more about the interactive booth activities here <https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_b72RJZMHcTD9ELX> .

Hope to see you there!
The UI iExploreSTEM Team



Happy Birthday

Nick Rolston!!!
January 26

Get involved in the Community

Career Leadership Academy

The Career Leadership Academy is an exciting opportunity for YOU to develop your leadership and professional skills – those same skills that employers have told us they're looking for in new employees.

The program is comprised of 4 academic credit-bearing courses called "phases" that focus on developing the leadership skills you already have and discovering the ones you'll need to be successful after graduation. Each phase of the program is filled with seminars, activities, and events designed to give you an edge as a leader in whatever career field you choose.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.careers.uiowa.edu/leadershipacademy/>

Volunteer Opportunities

Want to volunteer at the Crisis Center? Two training sessions are coming up for those who would like to volunteer for the Crisis Center Food Bank and/or the Crisis Intervention Program. If you are interested in applying to take either training, [click here to find more information.](#)

Call for Volunteers - Strive for Success needs TUTORS!

Strive for Success (SFS) is a non-profit organization designed and dedicated to helping at-risk youth, grades 3-8, in Iowa City, and surrounding areas succeed in school, life, and society. Our program runs Monday Tuesday Wednesday and Friday from 3:30-5:30 and Thursdays from 2:30-5:30. We are looking for volunteers to help provide academic support in reading and math.

For more volunteer opportunities, see:

<http://www.careers.uiowa.edu/cblp/hotopportunities.html>

If you are looking for a volunteer involvement, be sure to also check out the [Volunteer Center of Johnson County volunteer matching website](#) or arrange a consultation appointment with the CBLP by calling (319) 335-1023 or by emailing civic-engagement@uiowa.edu. We are happy to assist you with locating volunteer options.



Great Job to our IBA Students who Created Career Simulation Experiences for Project HOPE Eighth Graders!

Project HOPE helps students explore the health sciences

By Steve Kehoe

Middle school students from West Liberty, Iowa, who participated in Project HOPE (Healthcare, Occupations, Preparation, and Exploration), traveled to the University of Iowa (UI) on Thursday, January 10, 2013, for the culmination of a six-week program that provided them with opportunities to explore health science occupations.

Project HOPE is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)-based career education program designed to connect minority and low socioeconomic middle school students to the health science professions early in their education.

The project, developed by Saba Ali, an associate professor in the UI Counseling Psychology Department, addresses the critical need to increase diversity in the American healthcare workforce and specifically works with students in rural Iowa communities with large Hispanic immigrant populations. The program is currently in place in West Liberty and Columbus Junction, two Iowa communities with large Latino populations. According to Ali, less than one percent of the healthcare workforce in Iowa is composed of minorities and only between five and nine percent nationwide.



While at UI, the group of eighth graders interacted with minority students in the Iowa Biosciences Advantage (IBA) program, as well as health science professionals. IBA is a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded program that provides underrepresented minority students at the UI with first-rate research training and support to prepare them for entry into doctoral programs in the biosciences.

IBA students engaged the middle school

students in career exploration using the scientific method. The eighth graders participated in three, thirty-minute sessions where they were able to take part in hands-on activities developed by the IBA students. During the sessions, the middle school students identified a simple scientific question, performed an experiment, and then discussed their findings and how it related to health careers.





At one station, students competed to build the strongest bridge using toothpicks and Dots candy, which simulated how various forces act on the human body. Another station featured an egg drop contest where the students designed what they felt was an effective shock-resistant package to protect an egg from breaking when it was dropped. This simulated the protective layers found in the body. Finally, the students created a homemade stethoscope that would be effective at listening to heartbeats. IBA students explained to the eighth graders how the heart works and various measures that can be used to listen to the heart.

One West Liberty student said learning about health-related science for the day was enjoyable. “Science was fun today. In school, we’re learning about astrology and earth science in books, but I like learning about the human body and getting to actually do stuff,” the student said.

Just as the Project HOPE participants learned about science from the IBA students, the IBA students also gained new perspective from the middle school students. “I learned a different way to approach problem-solving. They have a basic knowledge, and it’s neat to go back to the basics. Sometimes it doesn’t need to be as complex as we make it,” said IBA student Mariah Bankert.

Project HOPE is a collaboration between the UI Colleges of Education, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and the Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory and was selected as one of twelve Governor Terry Branstad’s STEM Scale-Up projects in 2012-13, which will allow the program to expand into additional communities.

For more information about Project HOPE, please contact Saba Ali (saba-ali@uiowa.edu).