Dear BQ/QUBES Community,

As I will be getting to know many of you very soon at this year’s BIOME (starting Monday!!!), I wanted to introduce myself as this year’s Workshop Coordinator. I transitioned into this role in June, but have been with BQ since December working as a project intern.

I recently graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in Biomedical Sciences: Medical Microbiology. Starting this fall, I will be attending the University of Pittsburgh to complete my Masters in Public Health in Epidemiology. Although I am not taking the STEM teaching route, I believe strongly in creating community within classrooms and bringing together people from all different backgrounds. I am looking forward to meeting all of our BIOME participants and hearing about your own backgrounds and journeys and how you landed where you are today.

I hope you’ll feel free to reach out during the BIOME with any questions. For those not attending this year, you can follow along on our social media accounts: Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn. We’ll be sharing out resources and live-tweeting our keynote talks. We’ll also be hosting a BioQUEST birthday party and anniversary celebration, open to everyone, on Friday, July 22, at 5:00PM ET. Please RSVP here.

See you next week!

Rhianna

Rhianna Kozinski
Workshop Coordinator for BioQUEST

P.S.
If you’re coming across this newsletter on the QUBES website, you can subscribe here to keep in touch!

In this newsletter:

BioQUEST News

- RSVP for our Birthday Party, July 22!
- BIOME begins!
- Welcome, Davida Smyth and Molly Phillips
- Apply for Fall FMNs and Incubators
- Featured Publications
Apply for Fall FMNs and Incubators

The following Faculty Mentoring Networks and Incubators are now open for applications (and there are more to come!):

**FMNs:**
- UNVEIL-ing FMN - Apply by Aug. 26
- QB@CC - Apply by Aug. 31
- Project EDDIE - Apply by Sept 1

**Incubators:**
- OCELOTS Incubator - Apply by Aug. 1
- QB@CC Incubators - Apply by Aug. 15

Partner Corner

**News and Opportunities**

- [HHMI Workshop: Best Practices in Writing Selected-Response Assessment Items](#)
- [Build A Genome Network hosts 5th Build-a-Genome Synthetic Biology Workshop](#)
- [Registration and upcoming deadlines for NABT](#)

QUBES Corner

- [QUBES Tips & Tricks - Managing your QUBES profile!](#)

Everyone with an account on the QUBES platform has a profile where you can share your contact information, biography, and interests (using tags). You can find your profile by clicking on the mini-dashboard when you are logged into your account. This short video describes how to update your profile. Populating the information in your profile and making it accessible to others is an important mechanism for building community. Check out the community page for the 2022 BIOME meeting to see how profile information can be used to help connect folks within a group.

- [37 open educational resources](#) were published to the QUBES Library in June! [Browse the new]
• Featured Resources

  - from CourseSource: **Escape Zoom!: Reviewing Introductory Evolution Content Using an Escape Room Format**

    The authors developed a final exam review for a virtual introductory evolution course using an "escape room" format, which consisted of unique activities—including puzzles, role-playing, and literature searches—aligned with course learning goals.

  - from SIMIODE: **Cooking a Turkey**

    The goal of this project is to investigate several models for the cooking time for a turkey based on weight, test these models with data obtained from heating curves for turkeys of various weights, and develop a new model to fit this data.

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**Event Round-Up**

Link directly to featured events below or browse all events on our calendar.

- **July 18-29**: BIOME Institute!!!
- **July 25-29**: OEN Summit
- **July 29-Aug. 5**: Build-a-Genome National Workshop
- **August 1-4**: "Critical, Socially Just, and Open Pedagogies in STEM" workshop series co-sponsored by RIOS
- **August 5, 19**: HHMI Workshop: Best Practices in Writing Selected-Response Assessment Items
- **August 1-12**: CarpentryCon
- **August 8-11**: Antibody Engineering Hackathon
- **August 12-13**: BEDE annual meeting

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**BioQUEST News**

**RSVP for the BioQUEST Birthday Party!**

During next week's BIOME, we'll be hosting an online birthday party!
Friday, 7/22, at 5:00PM ET, online
We'll reconnect, reminisce, play a little BQ trivia, and toast our 36-year history and all of the people who have made BioQUEST so wonderful. Join us!
RSVP here. We'll send a Zoom link the day of the event.

Also check out our 35th anniversary page, complete with BioQUEST stories.

BIOME begins!

We are so terribly excited and so busy preparing for this year's BIOME Institute, starting next week. For those who are registered, we can't wait to see you. For those who can't make it this year, you can follow along on our social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn), for resources related to our workshops and live-tweets (Twitter-only, obviously) of our keynotes.

Check out this year's schedule and get excited!!

Welcome, Davida Smyth and Molly Phillips

We are incredibly thrilled to welcome two new all-stars to the BioQUEST team.

Davida Smyth, PhD, is joining the BioQUEST Board of Directors. Davida is an Associate Professor of Microbiology at Texas A&M University in San Antonio. There she conducts research with her undergraduate team in the area of comparative microbial genomics and evolution, studying Staphylococcus aureus from animals and from humans, and is researching the role of the built environment, wastewater, and anthropogenic activity in driving antibiotic resistance, a major global health threat. She also engages in pedagogical research on improving civic and scientific literacy in biology and integrating authentic research into the curriculum to improve student engagement and success in science. She is a Senior SENCER Leadership Fellow and
PULSE Fellow and Ambassador. She is Deputy Director of the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement.

Molly Phillips joins BioQUEST as our new Professional Development Manager, taking on Deb’s responsibilities after Deb’s promotion to Deputy Director. Molly is a biologist with a background in evolution, ecology, and natural history, which includes five years of experience working in natural history collections. Molly has extensive experience in education and outreach and coordinating and facilitating networks, and we are thrilled to have her on our team.

Welcome to Davida and Molly!

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**Featured Publications**

We are so proud of the amazing scholarly work that is coming out of our community. Congratulations to the authors and thank you for your work.

ASCN Blog, 2022

Pat Marsteller, Carlos Goller, and Sharon Homer-Drummond have teamed up on a couple of blog posts for ASCN’s *[DEI and Social Justice in STEMM Blog]*:

In the post titled, "[What is Social Justice in STEMM Higher Education](https://ascn.org/blog/what-is-social-justice-in-stemm-higher-education)" they lay out an overview of some of the language of social justice, make suggestions for what faculty can do today to reflect values of social justice, and share a bunch of resources (many of which have been published on QUBES).

In the post, "[Social Justice in Undergraduate STEMM Education 2040: An Optimist's Perspective](https://ascn.org/blog/social-justice-in-undergraduate-stemm-education-2040-an-optimist-s-perspective)" they help us project into the near future to imagine ways that our work today will have downstream impacts.

*If you have published a paper related to your work with BioQUEST and/or the QUBES platform, please let us know ([send the link to Caitlin](mailto:caitlin@bioquest.org))!

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**Partner News and Opportunities**

HHMI Workshop: Best Practices in Writing Selected-Response Assessment Items
There have been several national calls to increase the levels of critical thinking in college classrooms, particularly in science classrooms. HHMI BioInteractive is launching an Assessment Builder in 2022. The goal of this tool is to deliver high-quality, peer-reviewed, selected-response questions in introductory life sciences that align with learning objectives and reflect science practices. HHMI will compensate for submitted questions, provided they meet a minimum set of criteria and adhere to the terms outlined.

In this two-part workshop series, Rebecca Orr and Peggy Brickman will provide an opportunity to learn more about best practices in constructing and peer reviewing selected-response items.

This workshop is for high school educators who teach advanced biology courses (AP, IB, etc.) and undergraduate educators who teach at 2- or 4-year institutions. This workshop is being offered on the following dates.
Participants should attend both dates:

Part 1: Friday, August 5, 1:00–3:00 PM ET
Part 2: Friday, August 19, 1:00–3:00 PM ET

Build A Genome Network hosts 5th Build-a-Genome Synthetic Biology Workshop

The Build-a-Genome (BAG) Network invites you to join them for their 5th Annual Workshop, July 29–August 1st at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY.

BAG is a course-based undergraduate research experience centered on synthetic biology education. Synthetic biology allows students to be creative as they design novel biological systems while learning the fundamentals of molecular biology, genetics, genomics, and bioengineering. Build-a-Genome was developed as part of the International and groundbreaking Synthetic Yeast Project and focuses on the design and creation of synthetic genomes, like yeast and bacteriophages, and this opportunity may be of interest to those already working with bacteriophages as part of the SEA-PHAGES program.

Our network’s goal is to make these techniques easy to incorporate into a diverse range of courses. This workshop will provide an introduction to the field, opportunities to engage in hands-on lab activities, and materials that can be easily incorporated directly into relevant courses or research projects.

Participation from individual faculty, faculty teams, and faculty/student teams is welcome. More information and applications are available at the BAG QUBES site, or reach out to Lisa Scheifele.
Registration and upcoming deadlines for NABT

Registration for NABT is now open!

Join NABT in Indianapolis from November 10-13 for a great program of educational sessions, engaging speakers, an interactive exhibit hall, special events, and more! Look for program updates at NABTCongress.com

Early-bird savings end on July 31st, and it's easy to register online or by downloading the 2022 Registration Form.

NABT is offering discounts for groups of three or more attendees who make a single payment transaction using a credit card, check, or PO. The group can be teachers in a single school or district, or it can be you and your biology buddies. Contact NABT at conference@nabt.org for details.

Biology Education Poster Session - submit by 8/15

The popular NABT Poster Session highlights practices, programs, and research in three distinct categories: general strategies for teaching biology, the scholarship of teaching, and mentored student research. Posters presented by students are eligible for two competitions, and winners will be announced onsite in Indianapolis.

Learn more at 2022 Call for Posters.