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QUBES News

Follow Along at the BIOME Institute!

The BIOME Institute kicks off on July 19, and we couldn’t be more excited. If you’re not joining us this year, you can follow along on Twitter @BioQUESTEd and @qubeshub, with the hashtag #BIOME21. You can also view poster information here and explore resources related to our keynotes and workshops!

Welcoming SIMIODE to the QUBES Platform

QUBES and BioQUEST are excited to announce that SIMIODE—an organization committed to facilitating the study of differential equations through modeling—will be migrating its resources and web presence to the QUBES platform.

This move, effective July 31, 2021, will expand and enrich the BioQUEST and QUBES community, offer opportunities for collaboration and connection, and incorporate SIMIODE’s resource materials (which number close to 1,000) into the QUBES Educational Resource Library. Furthermore, SIMIODE’s commitment to problem-based learning, community-led collaboration, and open access to resources aligns with BioQUEST and QUBES’s broader mission to give faculty the tools and support to improve and transform undergraduate STEM education.

Funding for the migration, from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, has also facilitated the adoption of new functions in QUBES. “QUBES has been collaborating with SIMIODE for several years to share practices for online community hubs. We aren’t just moving resources, we are also adopting new practices,” says QUBES co-PI Carrie Diaz Eaton, PhD. These include the commenting feature on QUBES as well as the new instructor permissions.

The migration effort is also supported by the Science Gateway Communities Institute.

See SIMIODE’s announcement about the migration.

Community Spotlight:

Shuchismita Dutta, PhD, and Molecular CaseNet

Shuchismita Dutta, PhD, is a structural biologist and educator, and one of our FMN mentors. She is the Scientific Educational Development Lead for the RCSB Protein Data Bank (PDB), an Associate Research Professor at the Institute for Quantitative Biomedicine at Rutgers University, and member of the Cancer Pharmacology Program at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

As the PI for Molecular CaseNet, an NSF RCN-UBE funded project, Shuchismita facilitates the development and use of case studies that offer ready-to-use stories for engaging students in exploring biomolecular structures, interactions, and their biological functions.

“The confidence that I gained in taking charge of my learning continues to inspire me to take on new challenges, seek collaborators, and find my own path in things that I do today,” she said.

Learn more about Shuchismita and Molecular CaseNet!

Subscribe to the Community Spotlight to receive the full text each month!
New Paper Features QUBES, BioQUEST, and QB@CC

A new paper in *New Directions for Community Colleges* touts QUBES, BioQUEST, and QB@CC as organizations that offer flexible, accessible professional development for community college faculty.

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Carrie Diaz Eaton, PhD, Honored with John Jungck Prize from SMB

The John Jungck Prize for Excellence in Education from the Society for Mathematical Biology is given for significant contributions to education in mathematical biology, including a distinguished record of excellence in classroom instruction, mentorship of research scientists at any level, development of novel educational methods, materials, or programs, promotion of scientific outreach efforts to the public or to youth, a track record of attracting new students to the field of mathematical biology, or creation of an environment exceptionally conducive to education in mathematical biology.

Congratulations to QUBES co-PI Carrie Diaz Eaton on this honor. You can read about her plenary talk at SMB2021 here.
Partner News and Events

BioQUEST Signs Letter to Congress Urging Action on Climate Change

BioQUEST has joined 48 fellow scientific societies and organizations in a letter urging Congress to act immediately on climate change with research and innovation. Read the letter here.

New Learning Community: Building Just and Sustainable OER Communities

Do you lead an organization, project, or professional development related to Open Education or STEM Education in higher ed? Need help improving your broader impacts and sustainability in a way that centers justice and equity? Are you interested in tools and feedback to better reach your audience and communicate the value of your work? If so, join with teams from other projects like yours (e.g. BioQUEST/QUBES and RIOS Institute) in a new workshop. See this blog post to learn more and register!

UNL Seeks Participants for Survey on Introductory Biology Courses

A research team at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is seeking participants for an NSF-funded study of how instructors integrate different aspects of quantitative reasoning into biology curricula.

Participation in this study is expected to take around 30 minutes, and participants will be compensated with a $75.00 Amazon gift card. Participants will complete an online survey where they will be asked to provide information about an introductory biology course they have taught and to upload a course syllabus, an exam document, and any test-prep materials (e.g., learning objectives, study guides) that were provided to students in the course. Participants may benefit from having an opportunity to reflect on their teaching and assessment practices. The link to access the survey is here. Survey responses should be submitted by August 16, 2021.

If you have questions, please email crystal [dot] uminski [at] huskers [dot] unl [dot] edu.
HHMI BioInteractive Offers Workshops in July, August

Re-energize your teaching for Summer and connect with your fellow life and environmental science educators in an online workshop hosted directly by HHMI BioInteractive.

To accommodate educators’ schedules, each of the following workshops will be offered twice. Workshop content will be the same at both sessions. All workshops will be synchronous and conducted on Zoom. Register for a workshop today!

**BioInteractive Across Scales: Uniting Molecular and Ecological Concepts Through The Principle of Regulation**
(This workshop will be facilitated by Kristine Grayson and John Moore)

Session 1: Thursday, July 22, 4:00–5:00 PM EDT
Session 2: Thursday, July 29, 4:00–5:00 PM EDT

**Scientific Figures: Pairing Data Points with Other BioInteractive Resources**
(This workshop will be facilitated by Phil Gibson and Parks Collins)

Session 1: Tuesday, July 27, 4:00–5:30 PM EDT
Session 2: Wednesday, July 28, 4:00–5:30 PM EDT

**Using BioInteractive Resources To Explore The World of Viruses**
(This workshop will be facilitated by Dave Westenberg and Mark Randa)

Session 1: Tuesday, August 3, 4:00–6:00 PM EDT
Session 2: Tuesday, August 17, 4:00–6:00 PM EDT
Build-a-Genome (BAG) Network National Workshop, August 2-5

With NSF funding as an RCN-UBE (Research Coordination Network for Undergraduate Biology Education) network, Build-a-Genome (BAG) is delighted to offer a fourth national workshop! The workshop will be held from August 2nd-5th from 1-4 pm ET and will be a virtual online workshop.

BAG is a course-based undergraduate research experience centered on synthetic biology education. Synthetic biology allows students to create novel biological systems while learning the fundamentals of molecular biology, genetics, genomics, and bioengineering. This workshop will provide an introduction to the field as well as 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. Applications will be accepted until the workshop is full. More information, a tentative schedule, and an application are available here. Please reach out with any questions to Lisa Scheifele at lzscheifele@loyola.edu.
Inclusive Teaching Practices in STEM Education Webinar, August 11

SCORE-UBE, EDSIN, B(i)LDS, BLUE, iDigBio, QUBES, and the BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium are organizing a new webinar series titled “Inclusive Teaching Practices in STEM Education.”

The next webinar, Fixed vs Growth Mindset and Why the Biggest Challenge May be Faculty, will be August 11, at 3:00pm ET with Dr. Brett Woods, the Interim Dean of the Wanek School of Natural Sciences at High Point University.

Learn more and register for the webinar.

The purpose of this series is to initiate discussion on topics related to inclusive teaching practices while building community among a diversity of STEM disciplines interested in creating a more inclusive learning environment for undergraduate students.

7th Life Discovery – Doing Science Education Conference, September 30-October 2

9th Life Discovery – Doing Science Education Conference

Pushing Past Barriers: Ecological Science for All

September 30 – October 2, 2021 Estes Park, CO

NSF-funded travel support for eligible faculty available

Early Bird Registration is open through 8/13!

Accepting proposals for Education Share Fair

This conference is jointly organized by the Ecological Society of America, the Society for the Study of Evolution, and the Botanical Society of America.

Members of the QUBES team are always looking to meet others who have a passion for quantitative biology education. Reach out so we can help you gather your collaborators, move projects forward, and continue to move quantitative biology forward. Connect with us by submitting a support ticket.

Do you have a product or result from a QUBES sponsored activity? Help us measure our success by sharing your product or result with QUBES. Learn how to cite QUBES.