

Host Chapter

Biochemistry Association, The University of Texas at Dallas

Chapter adviser

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Title of Meeting: A Summer of Research: An Undergraduate Symposium

Meeting Date: Saturday September 8, 2018

Abstract Submission Deadline: Monday, August 20, 2018

Registration Submission Deadline: Monday, August 27, 2018

Website: Meeting website will be part of current society website. See <http://biochemutd.wixsite.com/home>.

Meeting Description

This meeting will be organized by students who are part of the Biochemistry Association at UT Dallas. We will publicize the meeting at UT Dallas, University of Dallas, UT Arlington, Texas Christian University, Texas Commerce, Baylor University, UT Tyler, Texas Woman's University, University of North Texas, and Abilene Christian University. From submitted abstracts, 60 undergraduates will be chosen to present.

Professors from UT Southwestern Medical Center (and possibly other participating schools) would be eager to attend. We recently (October 14, 2017) hosted a Bioresearch Conference for undergraduates and had 10 researchers from UT Southwestern volunteer to give 20-minute presentations. We had 140 UT Dallas undergraduates attend this event. The invited Professors will be from biochemistry and molecular biology programs, paralleling the research of the undergraduate students.

3. Interactive Panel

A 45-minute, interactive, Q & A panel will be held just before lunch. The topic of the panel will be "Taking the Next Step". The goal is to discuss topics related to a PhD or MD/PhD. On the panel will be a PhD student, an MD/PhD student, several Professors, and, if possible, representatives from graduate school programs in North Texas. The goal is to provide participants with insights that will help them consider the best steps after their undergraduate careers.

4. "Speed-dating" Lunch

Over lunch we will conduct "speed-dating" with the speakers and panelists. Each special guest will be seated at a designated table. The participants then collect their lunch and join them. The "speed-dating" comes in as every 15 minutes we ask the participants to rotate to a new table (the special guests stay where they are). We used this system at our recent Bioresearch Conference and found it to be extremely effective at encouraging the participants to interact with the special guests. In fact, many students at our recent conference said it was their favorite part of the day. It allows the participants to overcome their fears in approaching the special guests, and practice interacting with Professors.

A tentative itinerary for these events is shown below. We are extremely excited at the prospect of hosting an ASBMB Regional Meeting, and feel that our previous experience organizing the Bioresearch Conference gives us the skills necessary to run the meeting professionally. We are familiar with all the logistics at UT Dallas (room bookings, room set up, on-campus parking, catering etc.) and have an enthusiastic committee eager to get to work!

Budget outline

The \$600 budget will be used to cover breakfast and lunch (estimated \$400 based on our previous event with 140 participants), and miscellaneous items (estimated \$200 for name tags, program printing, temporary parking permits, special guest thank you gifts, runner-up gift cards, poster pins etc.). While the budget provided by ASBMB should suffice to cover most of the costs, we will use our resources to cover any excess expense. Our Bioresearch Conference, for example, was supported by a donation from VWR.

Tentative Itinerary

9:00 – 10:00am	Breakfast & Poster Set-Up
10:00 – 10:15am.....	Welcome
10:15 – 11:00am	Keynote Speaker #1
11:00 – 11:45am	Poster Session #1
11:45 – 12:30pm	Panel
12:30 – 1:30pm	Lunch
1:30 – 2:15pm	Poster Session #2
2:15 – 3:00pm	Keynote Speaker #2
3:00 – 3:30pm	Awards Ceremony & Closing Remarks