



What is iGEM?

iGEM, the International Genetically Engineered Machines competition (<http://2010.igem.org>), is the premiere undergraduate competition in synthetic biology. Student teams compete to design and build biological machines from standard biological parts, called BioBricks. Each team presents its results at the annual international conference, the Jamboree, held in November at MIT.



Why UBC?

The University of British Columbia is a world leader in molecular biology, genetics, computational biology, and microbiology, and seeks to become a leader in the emerging field of synthetic biology. iGEM at UBC increases the exposure of our most brilliant and motivated students to this field, and as such enhances the scientific talent available in Canada.



What is our idea?

We have two project tracks, Biosensor Sensitivity and Biological Decision Systems. They are described in the table below.

Biosensor Sensitivity	Biological Decision Systems
We have manipulated the sensitivity of a whole cell biosensor. This has been done via site-directed mutagenesis on the promoter region of existing biosensing systems. We envision applications of this idea in environmental pollutant sensing and blood toxin screening.	We will introduce a logic gate-based decision system to allow our whole cell biosensor to respond to combinations of inputs at the different concentrations. Applications of this idea include drug delivery systems and pollutant cleanup systems.

Who's helping us right now?

Our current sponsors include the following organizations:

Sponsor	Amount	Funding Type	Sponsorship Level
UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund	\$12,000	Direct Funding	Platinum
UBC Michael Smith Laboratories & Advanced Molecular Biology Lab	\$40,000	In-Kind Lab Space	Platinum
CIHR/MSFHR Training Program in Transplantation	\$6,000	Student Stipends	Gold
UBC Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering	\$2,500	Direct Funding	Silver

Why should you help us?

Winning Idea: With team members experienced in scientific research and presentation, our team can excel at the Jamboree this November. Last year's team was awarded a Gold Medal (<http://ung.igem.org/Results?year=2009>) for their work!

Raise Your Local and International Profile: iGEM is an international competition, and the iGEM team is involved in conferences, symposia and expos held across Canada. Our top sponsors will receive considerable attention at the Competition Jamboree.

Interdisciplinary Research: Our project addresses fundamental issues of biosensing, with many potential applications that can be developed in fields ranging from environmental pollutant sensing to high-throughput drug discovery and development to cancer diagnostics.

How can you help us?

The cost to send a team of 10 students to the Jamboree in November and to fund their summer research is **\$50,000**, not including in-kind donations of laboratory space. The UBC iGEM Team has established several sponsorship packages for in-kind and direct funding from academic and industrial partners:

Sponsorship Level and Contribution Amount	Platinum >\$10,000	Gold >\$5,000	Silver >\$2,000	Bronze >\$1,000
Your organization name mentioned on our sponsorship list	✓	✓	✓	✓
Your organization logo on our website and blog	✓	✓	✓	✓
Your organization logo on our presentation slides at Canadian events	✓	✓	✓	✓
Your organization logo on our team T-shirt	✓	✓	✓	
Your organization referenced during our oral presentation at MIT	✓	✓		
Your organization logo on our team poster	✓			
Your organization referenced in press interviews and media publications	✓			

We appreciate your support, and look forward to working with you as a partner in advancing synthetic biology as a useful and applicable technology for society!