Summer Research Opportunity for Freshmen/Sophomores

A 4-week intensive bootcamp combining synthetic biology with computer science on the shores of lovely Lake Michigan is being offered June 2015 at Carthage College!

A National Science Foundation award has been made to Simmons College in Boston, MA and Carthage College in Kenosha, WI to pilot a summer “boot camp” in synthetic biology and computer science. Synthetic biology is an interdisciplinary approach to the design and construction of new biological parts, or re-design of existing biological systems for useful purposes. The main research question will be to design organisms that can sense hydrocarbon contaminants in water from different sources. These studies will prepare students for future research experiences in the fields of molecular biology, bioinformatics and synthetic biology. Eight students at each site will participate in the bootcamp from June 1 to June 26, 2015. Each student will receive room and board as well as a $1200 stipend. Students trained in the program will gain skills in lab research, develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills, understand the process of science, learning computer programing skills and be able to communicate their research results to their peers and the general public. Students will have an opportunity to present their results at a national conference. Students from schools with limited opportunities for research and from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

More information is available by contacting Dr. Deborah Tobison at dtobison@carthage.edu.

Applications, transcripts, and letters of recommendation are to be submitted via email to Dr Tobison by March 31, 2015.