



## REGISTRY OF STANDARD BIOLOGICAL PARTS

July 17, 2008  
iGEM Newsletter Volume 2

Hi iGEMmers,

It is now the middle of summer and once again, we have a lot to update you on.

First and most importantly, the Jamboree is fast approaching and we would recommend that anyone who will need a VISA to travel to the United States start the application process right away if they have not already done so. We can provide an official invitation letter to each individual once we receive some basic information. Please take a look at the Invitation Letter page on the iGEM wiki to read more details:

[http://2008.igem.org/Invitation\\_letters](http://2008.igem.org/Invitation_letters).

Secondly, we have been receiving emails from some teams having trouble transforming DNA from the 2008 iGEM distribution. This prompted us here at iGEM to revise the transformation protocol a bit, as you will remember from our first newsletter. However, if your team has followed our updated transformation protocol and is still unable to transform certain parts, please email us at [hq@igem.org](mailto:hq@igem.org) with a list of what parts you need. Requested parts will be sent as bacterial stabs and can be shipped out immediately.

Also, as an additional reminder, please refer to the quality control analysis results found on the Registry's homepage before either requesting or using a part. This information will let you know the quality of the part, providing sequence analysis as well as e-gel images. You can find instructions on how to determine the quality of a part on the Registry's website at the 'How to Check if a Part is Correct' page:

[http://partsregistry.org/Help:How\\_to\\_check\\_a\\_part](http://partsregistry.org/Help:How_to_check_a_part).

We would also like to remind you take note of the great offers iGEM partners are presenting to teams this year! Mathworks, a leading developer of scientific computing software, is giving iGEM teams the opportunity to use their MATLAB software. Additionally, GENEART is providing each team with a discount on gene synthesis rates thru August 15<sup>th</sup>. After this deadline, GENEART will pool each team's remaining budget allowance and provide this service on a first-come-first-serve basis until September 30<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the [Partner Offers](#) page for additional information.

Finally, we have a couple of teams that have developed some features that they would like the iGEM community to know about. The Calgary iGEM Ethics team has created a survey exploring environmental, economical, legal and social implications of synthetic biology. They are hoping as many teams as possible will take time out and respond to this survey, as they will use the collected responses as part of their 2008 project. You can find the survey at:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Z4uF2nQ7CRRP62I49u8Ayg\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Z4uF2nQ7CRRP62I49u8Ayg_3d_3d).

The second team effort is Davidson's set of web tools, in particular a gene synthesis optimization tool. You can check it out at: <http://gcat.davidson.edu/IGEM06/oligo.html>.

Please help us by taking the time to read this letter and pass it along to all the members of your team. Again, you can always contact us by emailing [HQ@igem.org](mailto:HQ@igem.org) or calling us at +1.617.258.5244.

Thank you,

iGEM Headquarters