Interdisciplinary Training

The objectives of CBI training are twofold. Improve the ability of researchers to work, understand, and communicate about their research across disciplinary lines and facilitate the education of scientists who can identify emerging research areas and devise innovative solutions to problems by combining traditional approaches.

The CBI program at UW--Madison is supported by the National Institutes of Health and currently draws from the expertise of over 50 faculty members across scientific programs: Biomedical Engineering, Chemical & Biological Engineering, Chemistry, Integrated Program in Biochemistry, Microbiology Doctoral Training Program, and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Training Program Components

The program provides stipends for up to two years, tuition expenses, and travel funds to attend conferences. Students are usually appointed during their second year of graduate studies.

Thesis Research: While CBI Trainee thesis research does not necessarily focus on the chemistry-biology research, trainees must have an interest.

Chemical Biology Course: Open to all interested graduate students, this course serves as an introduction to concepts and approaches at the chemistry-biology interface.

Chemical Biology Seminar Course: This interactive graduate course focuses on recent developments at the chemistry-biology interface. Participants discuss recent publications in chemical biology.

CBI Colloquium: CBI Trainees present and discuss their research in a monthly colloquium.

CBI Internships: CBI Trainees participate in a 10-12 week research opportunity in industry or at a national laboratory.

Commitment

The University of Wisconsin has a long-standing commitment to the education of all citizens, especially to those individuals who, by virtue of ethnic or racial background, have been underrepresented in the academic community and professions. Within this context, the CBI program is committed to the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students.

To learn more about the CBI Training Program, please visit the website. http://cbitp.chem.wisc.edu
CBI taught me how to think as a scientist, address problems from both biological and chemical perspectives and communicate to a diverse audience.

-Samira Musah  
UW Chemistry PhD, 2012  
Dean’s Postdoctoral Fellow  
Harvard University

The CBI Training Program has continued to reap benefits for me as I am building my career because of the basic knowledge it provided that has helped me to foster communication with other scientists and colleagues on campus. In addition, the networking connections I have made outside of my school are invaluable.

-Laura Wysocki  
UW Chemistry PhD, 2008  
Assistant Professor of Chemistry  
Wabash College

The CBI program really exposed me to the infinite possibilities of research that existed outside my primary field and offered insight into a number of techniques/analyses/tangents I likely wouldn’t have found on my own.

-Ethan Lippman  
UW Chemical Engineering PhD, 2011  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of Wisconsin

My internship impacted my career choices and provided an opportunity for in depth study on a topic other than my thesis research. I was also exposed to the marketing and business decisions that are made in biotech and pharmaceutical research, which has broad implications regarding the study of diseases that occur around the world.

-Kelly Gorres  
UW Biochemistry PhD, 2009  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
Yale University