"Life Sciences: inventing – creating – having fun" 2014 Laureates

Published on Thursday July 31, 2014
View online : https://www.france-science.org/Life-Sciences-inventing-creating.html

The grant "Life Sciences: inventing – creating – having fun" has been offered by the Office for Science and Technology of the Consulate general of France in Los Angeles since 2012 to French teams who participate in American competitions in life sciences. Following the call for projects launched in January 2014, 6 teams were selected to receive a grant.

These 6 teams will all participate in the iGEM (international Genetically Engineered Machine) competition started in 2004 at MIT in Boston. Around 250 student teams from around the world registered for this synthetic biology competition which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Teams have around six months to modify bacteria, or any other type of cell, by inserting DNA fragments in order to give rise to new functionalities that might lead to major advances to respond to the environmental, medical and societal challenges of tomorrow.

In 2013, 4 French teams received a Life Sciences grant. The Paris Bettencourt team, pioneer of the iGEM movement in France, was awarded Grand Prize Winner by the jury for the "Overgraduate" category (see article).

This year, grantees of the Life Sciences program are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Results 2012</th>
<th>Results 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aix-Marseille</td>
<td>1st participation in the iGEM competition</td>
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<td>Bordeaux</td>
<td>3rd participation in the iGEM competition</td>
<td>2012 : Bronze medal</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>Evry</td>
<td>3rd participation in the iGEM competition</td>
<td>2012 : Gold medal, Best Human Practices Advance (Europe), Best Model (Europe), Advance to Championship</td>
<td>2013 : Gold medal, Best Human Practices Advance (Europe/Overgrad), Advance to Championship</td>
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</table>
The Office for Science and Technology wishes good luck to these 6 teams.

— Viviane Chansavang

For more information:
- iGEM 2014
- Call for projects "LIFE SCIENCES: inventing - creating - having fun" 2014

The call for projects 2015 will be announced in January 2015 on the official websites of the Office for Science and Technology (Embassy of France in the USA) et the Consulate general of France in Los Angeles. Grants may be used to cover registration fees and other expenses. Only one grant will be awarded per team (or individual) per project.