



St. Louis Community College Project: Expanding the Bio-Bench – Targeted Genome Editing Evaluation Summary 2020

BACKGROUND

Responding to needs in our growing bioscience community, STLCC builds upon the successful NSF ATE Center Bio-Bench project: expanding its biotechnician training into targeted genome editing. By adapting our agile curriculum, STLCC’s Bio-Bench expands the abilities and marketability of our students, helps fill the local research and industry gap in mid-level technicians with highly-sought laboratory experience, and offers a solution for training programs with similar mid-level skill demands.

FUNDER:

National Science Foundation
Advanced Technological Program

TIMEFRAME:

2019-2021
3-year grant

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$373,371
average of \$124,457/year

85%

Graduates industry
placement rate
(2004-2019)

83%

Interns industry
placement rate
(2010-present)

86

Current
enrollment
(fall 2020)

PROGRAM SPECIALIZATION

Ultimately offering a Certificate in Specialization in Targeted Genome Editing, either parallel with Associates in Applied Science or in stand-alone format



Integral and continued research and industry support, along with rigorous external evaluation, guarantees this specialized training to fit industry need now and in the future



Leveraging existing STLCC Bio-Bench assets: infrastructure (agile lab tech training framework) and Contract Research Organization (CRO) research and industry partnerships (identification of desired skillsets, curriculum development, internship providers)



Research and industry scientists on project Advisory Board are developing the coursework and are referral sources for project instructors

IN PROGRESS

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Team of research and industry scientists experienced in gene editing, directed by PI

INSTRUCTOR RECRUITMENT

Accessing referral network made up of CRO partners and other local scientists

EQUIPMENT UPDATE

Specialized equipment purchasing and installation

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

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