

Los Angeles Mission College Department of Life Sciences

## BIOTECHNOLOGY SUMMER WORKSHOP

The Department of Life Sciences at Los Angeles Mission College hosted a week-long biotechnology workshop series from Monday, June 17, 2019 - Thursday, June 20, 2019. The workshop series were led by biotechnology faculty, Dr. Chander Arora.

The workshop consisted of participants from various local middle schools, high schools, and college students.

The goal of the workshop series was to introduce participants to the endless possibilities that the biotechnology field could offer them. The week-long hands-on workshop covered a long range of topics which included preparations and sterilization of culture media by autoclave, making agar plates and slants, streaking and growing bacterial cultural, gram staining of bacteria, working with bacterial plasmid and transformation of bacteria for green fluorescent protein, identification of human blood groups, micro pipetting and multichannel pipetting, ELISA with primary and secondary antibody, microscopy of live protists and fixed slides of blood and various cells.

On Friday, June 21, 2019, students had the opportunity to present their work and received a certificate of completion. One of the groups presentations demonstrated the gram staining also called Gram's Method which is used to distinguish and classify bacterial species into two large groups.

Post-survey results showed that students gained a better understanding of the possible career opportunities in biotechnology and it has also increased their pursuing a career in the field of sciences. One student stated, "I am determined to pursue and learn more about biotechnology". Another student stated, "The workshop has only strengthened my interest in the biotechnology field. I am extremely happy and satisfied with the biotechnology program at LAMC. I look forward to working in the field very soon!". The survey results demonstrated that the goal to increase awareness and interest in biotechnology was achieved.

For more information visit our website: www.lamission.edu/Biotechnology