



RESEARCH IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Chicago Center for Systems Biology

June 22-July 17, 2009
The University of Chicago

Research in the Biological Sciences (RIBS) is a summer program for high school students. This four-week intensive training program for 21 participants is designed to expose students to a broad range of molecular, microbiological, and cellular biological techniques currently used in research

laboratories. Within the session, students are immersed in the research experience, giving them a taste of life at the bench. Using a project-based approach, the course progresses from a survey of basic lab techniques to the application of current molecular techniques in developmental biology and microbiology. Most of a typical RIBS day is spent in lab. Lectures provide background and introduce new concepts. Since

communication skills are important in science, students keep lab notebooks and make several group presentations. The course ends with a research forum in which the students present the results of their projects.

A systems biology module about the *C. elegans* osmotic stress resistance network was part of the program.