

Instructional Related Activities
Report Form (IRA # 383)

SPONSOR	DEPARTMENT
Dr. Nitika Parmar	Biology

ACTIVITY TITLE	DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY
Presentation of research by students at two national conferences- ASBMB and ASM meetings.	April 9-13, 2011 and May 21-24, 2011.

PLEASE EXPLAIN (1) DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY; (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S); AND (3) WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM THE PROCESS.

1. DESCRIPTION: Two students presented their work at the ASBMB meeting while one student presented her work at the ASM meeting; work was presented in the form of posters. This work was a culmination of 15-24 months of research experimentation conducted in research mentor's lab.

2. RELATION TO COURSE: Students presenting their work were enrolled in BIOL494 (Independent Research) with me. All learning objectives of this class (designing and implementation of experiments as well as dissemination of results) were fulfilled as a result of participation in these meetings.

3. LEARNING: Students gained valuable skills in presenting their research data with confidence and in a scientific professional manner as a result of being exposed to these national conferences. In addition, one student (who presented her work at the ASBMB meeting actually won the top Thematic Award for best poster in the RNA category. Her poster was judged the best amongst 1000 poster presentations.

Students were also able to network with several other individuals in their field and build useful relationships. One student (who attended the ASBMB meeting was able to network with international students who were attending the same conference, which directly led him to explore the possibilities of pursuing a graduate degree in Australia. He recently visited Sydney and Melbourne and is applying for a Masters' program at some of the universities located in these cities.

Attendance and presentation at such conferences is particularly critical for students who intend to pursue a graduate degree and strengthens their prospects of successfully seeking admission in top schools (as evidenced by s admission to Yale University for a PhD program)

LIST OF ATTENDEES

1. (ASBMB MEETING)
2. (ASBMB MEETING)
3. (ASM MEETING)

**Please attach assessment forms from students, list of attendees, peoplesoft program report

E-mail to the Dean's Office
30 days after activity