

# Pitt Bio Outreach: Gene Team

Dr. Becky Gonda, Director of Outreach



# Gene Team Mission

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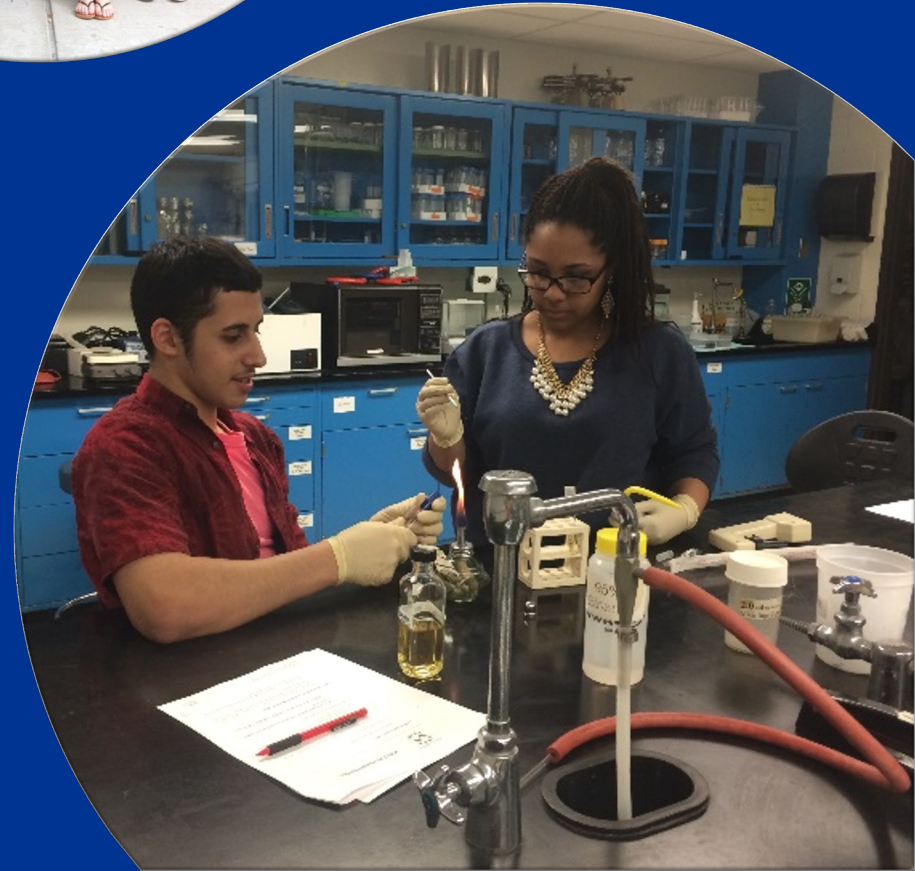
The Gene Team aims to engage students in current research in Biological Sciences and provide college preparatory mentoring. Our goal is to increase participation in biological research from groups that are historically underrepresented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.





# Gene Team Summer Research

- Exclusive to students from Urban Schools
- Research project from a Pitt Research Lab
- 4 weeks; 18-20 students
- Team with PPS, Academic Resource Center, and Office of Administration and Financial Aid for college prep
- Gene Team Science Corps

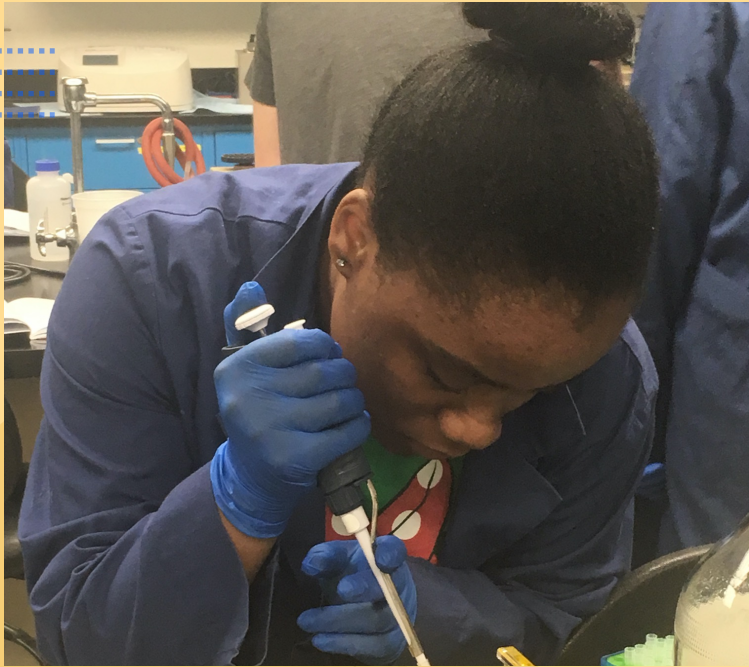




# Student Benefits

- Stipend provided
- Bus pass if needed
- Opportunity to work on current, cutting-edge research in a team setting
- Work on college preparation
- Present data to University scientists





# Gene Team Accomplishments

- Advance research
- Return data and products to research labs
- Assessment data show increased content knowledge, critical thinking skills, and sense of belonging in STEM
- Gene Team Science Corps: Science advocates within district

# Challenges We Face

- Most students are just out of 9<sup>th</sup> grade: Maintain mentorship throughout high school and tracking once in college
- Struggling with students committing to participating and then dropping the program at the beginning
- Stipends should be increased so that students do not have to choose between Gene Team and working during the day

# Contact

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