


# Cornell iGEM 2014 Survey

We're interested in what you think about some of the issues that the Cornell International Genetically Engineered Machines team is working on this year. We won't be storing, publishing, or looking at information that will link your name or identifiable personal information to your response. You are free to opt out at any time - we assure you that your answers (or lack thereof) will not affect your relationship with Cornell University, Cornell iGEM, or the student administering this survey in any way. Thanks!

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## Cornell iGEM 2014 Survey

### Demographics

#### Gender

- Male
- Female
- I prefer not to answer this question.
- Other:

#### Age

#### Education

Please identify the highest level of education you have completed.

- No schooling completed
- Nursery school to 8th grade
- Some high school, no diploma
- High School/GED/equivalent
- Some college/no degree (yet)
- Trade/technical/vocational training
- Undergraduate degree (Associate's, Bachelors, etc.)
- Graduate degree (Master's, Doctorate, JD, etc.)
- I prefer not to answer this question.
- Other:

### **Ethnicity**

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- I prefer not to answer this question
- Other:

### **Location**

What environment do you live in most of the year?

- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban
- Other:

### **Marital Status**

- Single, never married
- Married or domestic partnership
- Widowed
- Separated
- Other:

## Employment Status

(Currently)

- Employed for wages full-time
- Employed for wages part-time
- Self-employed
- Out of work and looking for work
- Out of work but not currently looking for work
- A homemaker
- A student
- Military
- Retired
- Unable to work
- Other:

## Religious Belief

How do you identify religiously?

## Political Belief

How do you identify politically?

## Location

Where are you from? If you are from the United States, please list as City, State. If you are not from the United States, please respond with City, Region, Country

# Cornell iGEM 2014 Survey

We are interested in your beliefs about the following subjects. For the rest of the survey, most questions will be presented as a statement followed by a choice: you can "Strongly Agree", "Agree", "Neither agree nor disagree", "Disagree", and "Strongly Disagree".

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am worried that there are heavy metals (lead, nickel, mercury) in my drinking water.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I make a conscious effort to conserve water.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am concerned about water contamination.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am certain about where my drinking water comes from.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe human behavior is at least partly responsible for climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am concerned about climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Cornell iGEM 2014 Survey

## What do you think about Synthetic Biology?

We are interested in your beliefs about synthetic biology. All the questions below will contain a statement about synthetic biology - we would like you to state how much you agree with each statement.

### **Definition of Synthetic Biology**

In your own words, please explain what the term "synthetic biology" means to you? What does it make you think of?



Strongly Agree

Agree

Neither agree  
nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly  
Disagree

Synthetic biology  
can provide  
solutions to our  
environmental  
problems.

The US  
government should  
fund research &  
development in  
synthetic biology.

The principles of  
synthetic biology  
should be taught in  
upper level  
education.

I am okay with  
GMOs (Genetically  
Modified  
Organisms) in my  
food.

There are valid  
ethical concerns  
that outweigh the  
possible benefits  
of GMOs

I think most people  
would agree with  
my views.

# Our Project

This year Cornell iGEM will be focused on developing an alternative solution to heavy metal water pollution (i.e lead, mercury, or nickel). Our hope is to create a water filtration device composed of E. coli that have been genetically engineered to produce metallothioneins-a protein that has a high affinity for binding with heavy metals. In other words, water containing heavy metals will be pumped through the E. coli cells and the heavy metals will be taken out of the water and into the E. coli cells. Our hope is to design our device for point-source filtration, so attaching it to the end of a factory pipe filtering out heavy metal content before it enters the ecosystem. However, there are many other applications for our project.

**I believe that this is an acceptable application of synthetic biology.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree