Mentor's Name | Jessica Larsen
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Research Subject Area | Polymeric Biomaterials for Central Nervous System Disease Treatment

A. Briefly describe overall research program at your laboratory.

We develop polymer-based drug delivery systems with the goal of treating disease in the brain and spinal cord.

B. Briefly describe specific project(s) for your teacher:

The teacher on my project would learn how to make polymersomes, which are polymer-based nanoparticles structurally similar to the lipid nanoparticles used in the COVID-19 vaccine. The teacher will learn how to culture cells, isolated from different areas of the body, and to perform testing on polymersome nanoparticle performance in cells.

C. Will any other people (post docs, grad students, undergraduate students, colleagues, etc.) be involved directly with your teacher?

The teacher will likely work closely with graduate students to accomplish his/her goals.

D. Will you require any advanced reading/preparation for the teacher? If yes, please briefly describe.

Yes – I will send some must read articles (probably 4-5 max) to help prepare the teacher for laboratory work.