

NON-TECHNICAL ABSTRACT: *(State in layman's terms the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, making reference to the potential public benefits of the project.)* The broad, long-term objective of this programmatic proposal is to develop a series of teaching modules that use dance/music to explain complex concepts of biotechnology to both non-science and science majors. By introducing sophisticated concepts in this unique context to students in the non-science and science general biology classes, student interest and excitement will be generated and students will be more receptive to learning about science. Since many non-science majors express a lack of confidence in their ability to grasp scientific concepts, using dance and the accompanying music to bridge this gap is likely to assuage some of that anxiety enabling these non-science majors to understand important scientific principles more easily. The two topics that have been chosen for the proposal are 1) stem cell differentiation and therapy and 2) immune response to cancer. The PI who has a solid scientific background and extensive dance training will collaborate with a Professional dance choreographer to develop these two modules that will be tested in the general biology classes for non-science and science majors and assessed using appropriate evaluation instruments.