Simon Birk

Profile

Enthusiastic, motivated pre-med student studying computational biology at UT Austin with special interest in the intersection of tech and patient care. Interested in gaining critical first hand experience to the field of my calling.

Education

2018 – 2022	The University of Texas at Austin, Computational Biology, pre-medical track - GPA: 3.76, sGPA: 3.8
2015 – 2018	 John B. Connally High School National Merit Commended Scholar Earned degree with honors Endorsements in both mathematics and engineering pathways Co-Captain of Policy Debate Team, 3x state qualifier

Organisations

2018 - 2020

Texas 4000 for Cancer, 2020 Team Rider

- Personally raised \$4600 for grants toward cancer research and support services. Team-wide fundraising topped \$550,000
- Aided several fundraising events in line with our mission (i.e. PanCAN PurpleStride, Light the Night, 2019 LIVESTRONG Challenge, etc.)
- Completed 1000 miles on the bike in training for 4500 mile signature ride

Professional Experience

01/2020 - present

University of Texas at Austin, Peer Mentor at Roux Lab

- Mentor and train new members of the Freshman Research Initiative (FRI) program
- Introduce trainees to methodology and best practices in the lab in 1-on-1 setting

01/2019 - present

University of Texas at Austin, *Undergraduate Researcher at Roux Lab*

- Independently designed, carried out, and analyzed the data from experiments investigating the impact of Apyrases, extracellular nucleotides as well as other biotic and abiotic factors on seedlings
- Presented the stream's research at the Undergraduate Research Forum in 2019
- Currently investigating mechanisms of phosphate transport in A. thaliana seedlings

10/2019 - 06/2020

Texas 4000 for Cancer, Saturday Ride Coordinator and Ride Lead

- Planned and coordinated support for the weekly Saturday rides and evaluations
- Automated the generation of ride groups according to week-specific parameters with a python script
- Interfaced with different levels of leadership to consistently provide a seamless experience for riders. Assisted recent transition to virtual
- Led teammates to 100% passing rate at 50 mile cycling test
- Actively directed ride group movements while on the route.