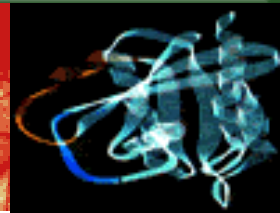
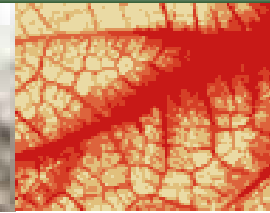


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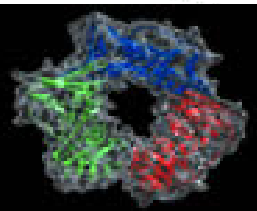
Dr Celia Knight,
School of Biology, University of Leeds
Leeds, LS2 9JT

Tel: 0113 343 3088

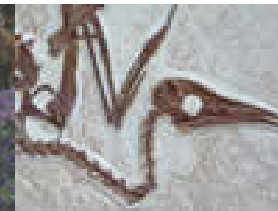
e.mail: c.d.knight@leeds.ac.uk

<http://www.plants.leeds.ac.uk>

<http://www.biolog-e.leeds.ac.uk>



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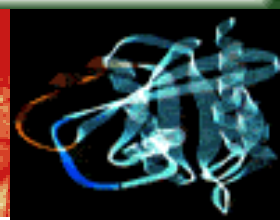
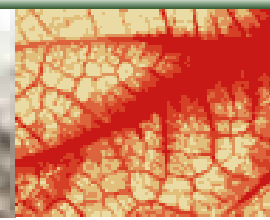


Key point summary

- Web is a relevant medium – students use it.
- Academic input is direction and standards; low on time, but unique resource.
- Opportunity for able and/or motivated students to add something to their CV.



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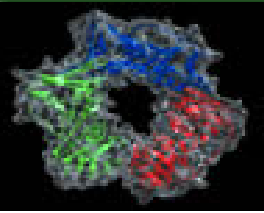
What is Biolog – e ?

The University of Leeds' 1st electronic Research Journal for undergraduates

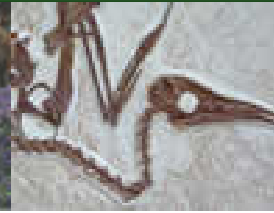
Links to others <http://www.biology.leeds.ac.uk/studentpages/ejournal/links.htm>

It publishes:-

- examples of undergraduate research from the School of Biology, University of Leeds
- articles about academic life by students, for students



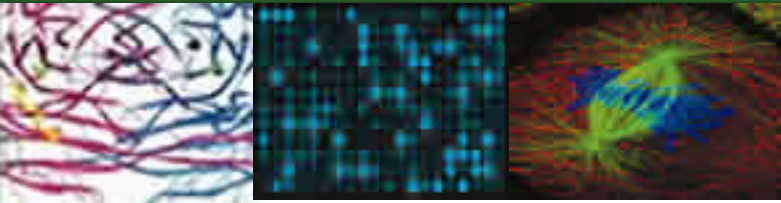
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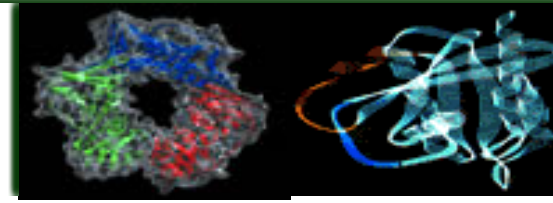
Undergraduate Research

First class final year BSc project reports are published to:-

- celebrate the success of high-achieving students
- show undergraduates the standards to aim for



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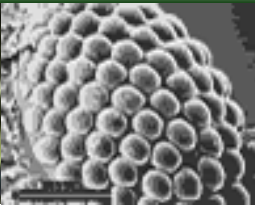


Student-led Articles for Biolog - e

Biolog-*e* also publishes articles written by students on:-

- interviews with graduates on careers
- student experiences of e.g. international programmes
- how to apply for further study

and more..... Biolog - e



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What's in it for the Students?

The opportunity to:-

- mix with different sets of people, e.g. other level students, lecturers
- ask questions the curriculum doesn't cover
- practice and receive training for work-based skills e.g. from Skills Centre



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Who runs Biolog – e ?

While the e-journal is developing, I am the editor.

This year there is also an undergraduate editor.

Over time, students will learn the standards of the journal and take more responsibility but some academic guidance will always be needed.



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How can Undergraduates use Biolog - e ?

There are 3 levels of involvement:-

1. **Reader** – anyone can use it and give us feedback.
2. **Contributor**
 - a) First class research projects (BLGY 3040)
 - b) Other articles
 - c) **Member of the Editorial Board**

Involves a commitment to running the journal.

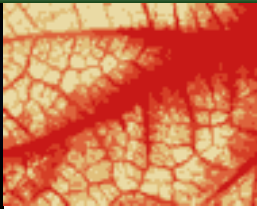


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Evaluation after 3 issues

- Increasing awareness amongst students and tutors is prompting students to approach the editors.
- All who contribute gain from the experience.
- Unsolicited comments from external readers – promotes the idea and Leeds teaching and research.



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Problems to resolve

1. Format of research articles
2. Copyright
3. Plagiarism
4. Continuity



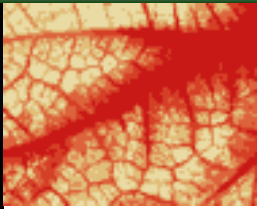
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Application to other subjects

- Site available on CD for adaptation with Dreamweaver or Contribute
 - Earth and E-nvironment

<http://www.env.leeds.ac.uk/e-nvironment> (Mark Reed)



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Further developments

1. Postgraduate version.
2. National journal for undergraduate research?
National debate needed.



Opportunity for National Debate

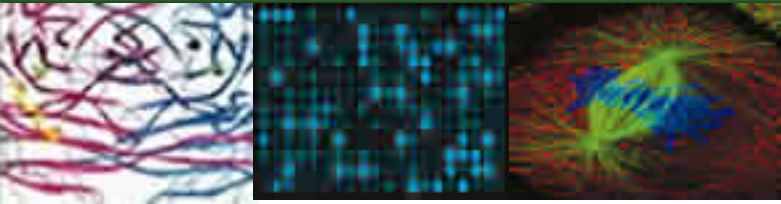
1. Leeds awarded £700K from Gatsby foundation to coordinate plant science teaching nationally.
2. Existing network will form starting point for debate about national undergraduate e-journal for extension to other disciplines.



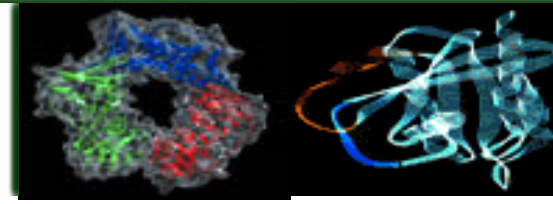
Your comments

1. Would a national journal for undergraduate research be positive for your discipline?
2. What problems do you foresee if such a journal, or journals, were established?

by e.mail to c.d.knight@leeds.ac.uk



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