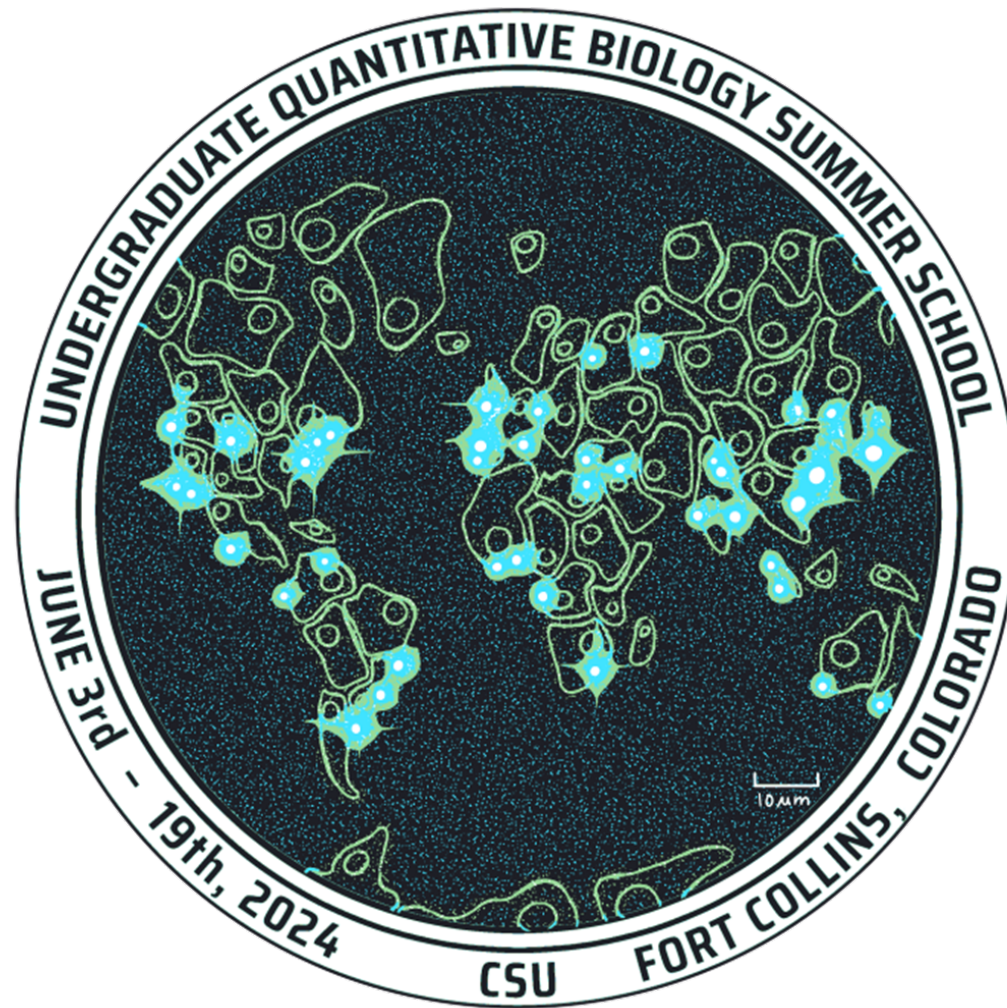


# Welcome to the 2024 UQ-Bio Summer School!



# Tell us a Little About Yourself

## Outline

- **Welcome and Logistics**
- Meet the UQBIO Organizers:
  - Brian
  - Luis
  - Zach
  - Will
  - Alex
- Overview of the 2024 UQBIO Program and Resources
- Program Goals
- Tips and Best Practices
- Breakout Sessions



Slack Invite

Use the poll at this link to tell us a little about what you study and from where you are coming.

<https://www.menti.com/al9ov4jv1gpt>

The voting code:  
28 67 14 3



Also, if you haven't done so already, please visit slack and write a longer introduction.

# Hello and Zoom Etiquette

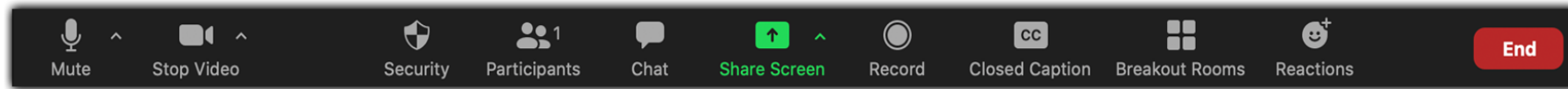
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Slack Invite

## Attendee controls:



Please **MUTE** your microphone!

Turn your video **ON** if you don't mind

Enter questions in **chat** or raise your hand in **reactions**

**Please take a moment to rename yourself:**

Click participants, hover over your name, Click **More**, and choose **Rename**

Name, University, Pronouns

*Example:*

*Penelope Smith, CSU, (she, hers)*

*Desmond Fletcher, ETH (they, their)*



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

# Welcome to the 2024 UQ-BIO Summer School



## Outline

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Slack Invite

## Outline of Today's Activities

- Welcome and Introductions
- Finding and accessing UQBIO2024 Materials
- Goals of the 2024 UQBIO Summer School
- Tips and Best Practices
- **Breakout Sessions:**
  - GitHub and Installation Assistance
  - Initial Python Notebook Help

Friday, May 24, 9:00am – 11:45am (UTC-6hr)

- Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98339683896?pwd=em9oY204TEdvcWIKSHByTkFTazRVUT09>

Wednesday, May 29, 9:00am – 11:45am (UTC-6hr)

- Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95388584173?pwd=M3ZIZURPVUlwa1IKM3dLbHQwWmlRZz09>




COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



# Brian Munsky and his Random Walk to UQBIO.

**Outline**

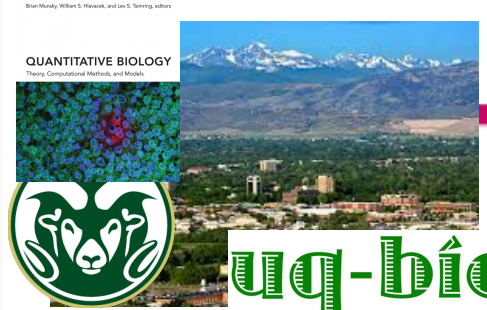
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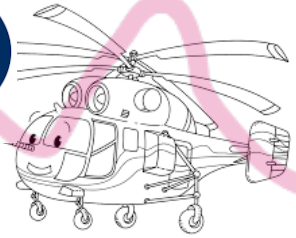
Slack Invite





Grew up playing soccer and writing dystopian poetry in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



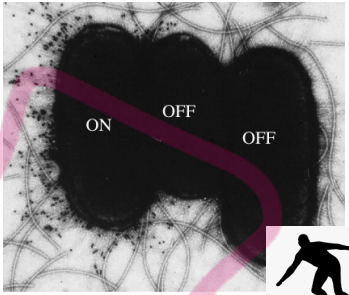


Now an Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering (and trail runner / birdwatcher) at the Colorado State University.

Started as an English major but later earned BS/MS in Aerospace Engineering studying **helicopter noise** at Penn State.

Spent a lot of time hanging out with quantum physicists as a Richard P Feynman Fellow at Los Alamos National Lab.

Studied **gene expression noise** (and surfing) for a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering student at UC Santa Barbara.

# Luis Aguilera and his Journey to CSU and UQ-Bio

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Slack Invite

## Education



BSc Genomics and Bioinformatics  
UANL- Mexico



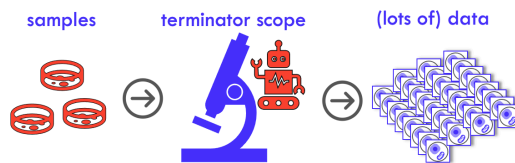
PhD Biomedical Eng. and Physics  
Nat. Polytechnic Institute, Mexico  
Universität Heidelberg, Germany



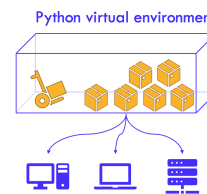
Postdoc/RS at CSU, USA  
Stochastic modeling and Image processing

## Research interests

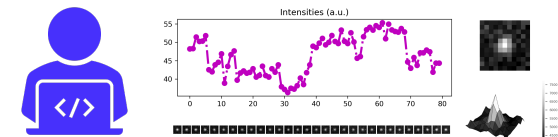
- Microscope automation



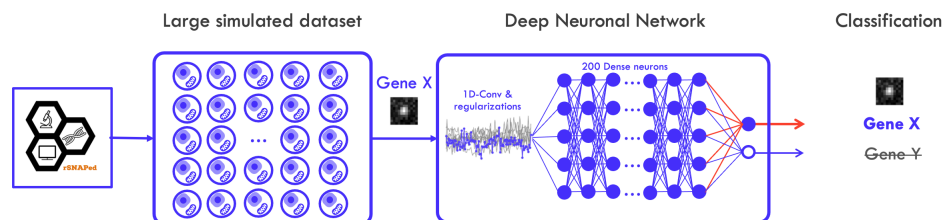
- Software development



- Stochastic modeling



- Accelerating image processing with ML



- Developing novel techniques for efficiently teaching programming



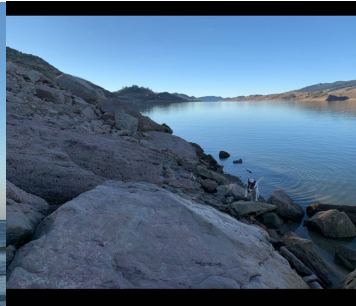
# Zach Fox and his Journey to UQ-Bio

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University of Delaware (Bachelors)  
Systems Biology  
HIV/Cancer gene regulatory networks



Colorado State University (PhD)  
Stochastic models of gene regulation  
Computational and methods for parameter inference



Institut Pasteur (PD I)  
Stochastic models of gene regulation  
Reactive microscopy software



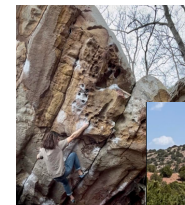
Los Alamos Nat Lab (PD II)  
Stochastic models of gene regulation  
GNNs for molecules  
Attention-based models

## Hobbies!

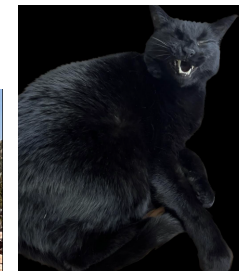


**Currently | Oak Ridge National Lab**  
Research Scientist for AI in Health

NLP-based informatics of pathology reports  
Molecular design using Large Language Models  
Diffusion models in discrete state spaces  
Other stuff



sports



animals





# Will Raymond and his Journey to CSU and UQ-Bio

## Outline

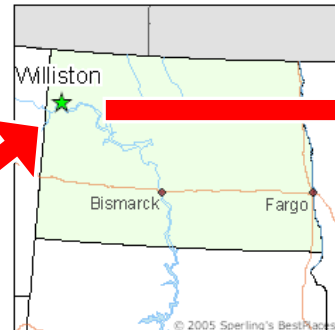
- Welcome and Logistics
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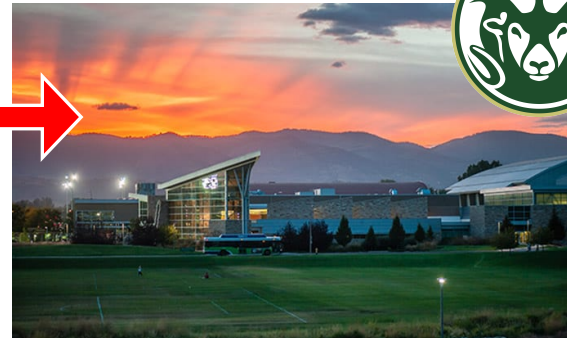
Grew up in VA, moved to ND, then to CSU



North Dakota



Would not recommend VERY COLD



Did my undergrad in BME and CBE here and continued to do my PhD here as well.

**Research Interests!**

Codon Optimization  
Machine Learning RNA  
tRNA abundances Biology  
mRNA translation

**Upcoming Paper!**

Identification of potential riboswitch elements in *Homo Sapiens* mRNA 5'UTR sequences using Positive-Unlabeled Machine learning

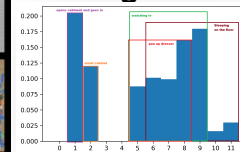
William S. Raymond, Jacob DeRoo, Brian Munsky  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.11.23.568398>

**Hobbies!**

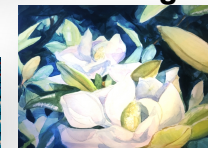


Listen to a lot of music

Video game datamining



Painting

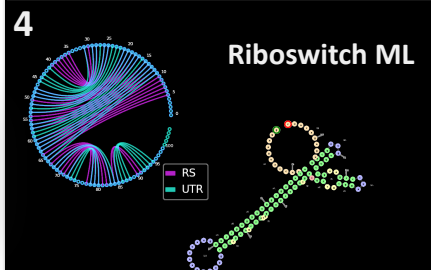
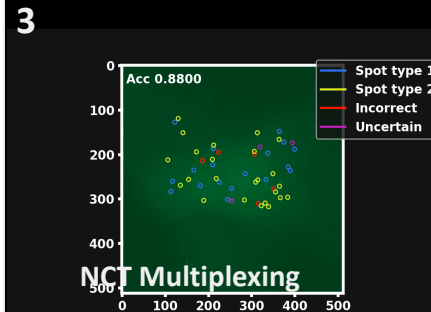


Swimming



**My Main projects while I have been at CSU:**

1 **rSNAPsim**  
Translation Modelling  
2 Transcription Modelling



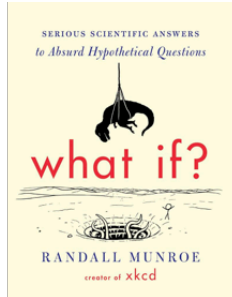
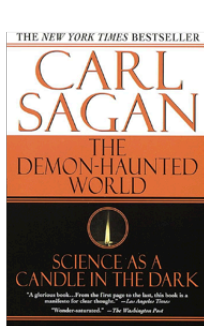
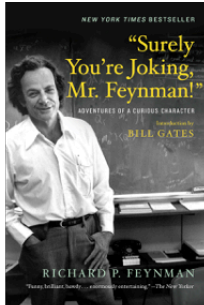
# Alex Poppinga and her Journey to CSU and UQ-Bio

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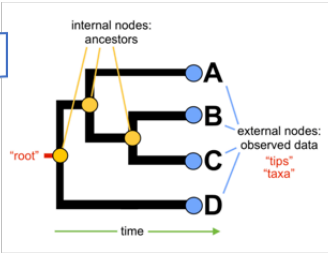
Music major at the University of Northern Iowa



Inspired by science, scientists, science popularisers; developed particular fascination with genetics and evolutionary biology; switched into biology



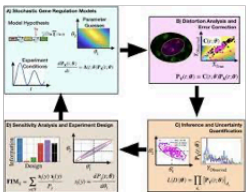
Imposter syndrome, COVID-19 pandemic, etc. -> rock climbing obsession



Developed strong interest in computational / statistical methodology and started studying bioinformatics, too



Recovery & return to science -> discovery of Munsky Group! -> self-actualisation / living happily ever after?



Pursued & completed PhD at the University of Auckland, NZ, on topics in computational biology

# The 2024 UQBIO Summer School Goals

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Slack Invite

## The Goals of the 2024 UQ-Bio Summer School are:

1. To advance the integration of experimental, mathematical and computational tools and principles needed to achieve rigorous, reproducible, and quantitatively predictive understanding for the mechanisms of biological processes.
2. To provide students with helpful resources and networking opportunities to advance their careers in quantitative biology, and to promote increased diversity, equity and inclusion among teams and networks that seek quantitative and mechanistic understanding of biological and biomedical phenomena.



# A quick note on the q-bio philosophy



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Slack Invite

Congratulations on joining the **2024 UQ-Bio Summer School**. We are thrilled to have you join our community. If you want to apply mathematical or computational approaches to better understand biology, then **you are in the right place!**

Please be aware — you are about to embark on an **exciting**, but **very difficult** academic journey.

At UQ-Bio you will be challenged not only to learn new skills and new material, but also to work on **very difficult open problems** that have **no perfect solutions**. Although the program will last for only a couple of weeks, we hope that this journey will keep you challenged and entertained for **many years**.

**It is not possible to complete every assignment that we assign during this program! No one will master every concept introduced in the course!**

Embrace the challenge. Enjoy the process. Indulge yourself with the lessons that most excite you.

And, if any lesson is too much for you right now, that is **OKAY!** **All materials will be available online so you can return to them later in your journey.**



You get to drink from the firehose!  
(UHF, Orion Pictures, 1989)

# The 2024 UQBIO Website and Resources

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Slack Invite

**Website:** <https://q-bio.org/wp/>

- This is where you will find general information about the programs and where we are heading over the next few weeks.

**Slack: Use the QR code (bottom left) to join.**

- This is where online questions and discussions will be conducted.

**Schedule:** <https://q-bio.org/wp/uq-bio-schedule-2024/>

- This shows all the upcoming events. Look through your welcome email or scroll through the **Slack 'General' Channel** for links to recordings.

**Contact Email:** [qbio\\_summer\\_school@colostate.edu](mailto:qbio_summer_school@colostate.edu)

- This is how you get in touch if you are having trouble getting access to the Slack channel

**GitHub Page:** <https://github.com/MunskyGroup/uqbio2024>

- This is where you will find example codes and links to lesson workbooks.

# The 2024 UQBIO Required Online Accounts

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Slack Invite

## GitHub (<https://github.com/MunskyGroup/uqbio2024>)

- We will frequently need to use or share codes over GitHub.
- If you have not done so before, I strongly recommend getting familiar with using GitHub to share and keep track of changes in computational projects. Please see the uqbio2024 GitHub page for instructions on getting started.
- Sign up for the **GitHub Student Developer Pack** as soon as possible. When you are granted access, activate the **GitHub Co-Pilot Extension**.

Scan this QR Code to  
Reach the GitHub Page



## Anaconda Python and VS Code.

- We will be using Python extensively in this course. We recommend Anaconda and VS Code for these tasks.
- Please see installation instructions on the uqbio2024 GitHub README.

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS**
- **WORK TOGETHER ON ASSIGNMENTS**
- **START PRACTICING EARLY**
- **TRY EVERYTHING AND STAY INVOLVED**
- **DON'T GIVE UP *WHEN* YOU FALL BEHIND**
- **HAVE FUN!**

But don't just take my word for it...

After previous UQ-Bio Summer Schools, we asked students what advice would they give to future students. Here is what they said:

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices



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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

- *Make sure **to interact with the other students** and the instructors/learning assistants, **there's a lot to learn from them** and **great connections** to be made!*
- *Take this opportunity to **network**.*
- *try to **make friends**!*
- *Meet and **interact with as many people as you can**, take some time to explore campus and Colorado,*
- *Be eager to **ask questions** of and **befriend fellow students**, LAs and instructors*
- ***Talk to as many people as you can** - attend in person if possible!*
- *Enjoy and **interact with everyone** as much as you can,*
- *Also cherish the opportunities to **talk to professors** in the field, because they might have novel insights on your own research.*
- *I would advise them **to try to ask good questions** even if it feels uncomfortable to interrupt others. Learning is maximized through **interaction** and obtaining **feedback**.*

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **WORK TOGETHER ON ASSIGNMENTS**

- *to make the most of all the opportunities that they have, and especially to try and **collaborate with peers and staff** in order to solve problems and aid understanding.*
- ***Search a good work group** and don't be afraid of say the things at time.*
- ***Be more interactive** with your project group, **work together** and discuss stuff with each other.*
- *I would advice them to better **engage with the projects** and weekly assignments and try to go one-step ahead of whatever asked (as Michael, from Team 3A, did). This is help them get most of out the course.*
- *Some advice that I would give to future students of the UQ-Bio program **is to start working with your group during the first week** that you are assigned and have regular communication with the rest of your group. Starting this early will help **build the foundation of the team**, and will hopefully allow project work to go smoothly.*
- *Start projects early, and **work with your team members early** on homework projects. If you have difficulty with the project or code **reach out to the learning assistants immediately**. If you cannot grasp a concept, **reach out to the faculty during the presentation** or after the presentation to learn the material.*
- ***ask for help when you need it!***



# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **START PRACTICING EARLY**

- ***Start early,***
- *Students should have a strong coding background to keep up with the demands of the course and to be able to participate fully with the teams.*
- ***Know your linear algebra well.***
- ***It is helpful to work through colabs ahead of time***
- *This is a very intensive and highly important Training Program. You have to **come prepared and ready to learn.***
- ***Stay current with the material.***
- *I think I would tell them **to be regular followers of the content and be familiar with Python beforehand.***
- ***Start early to get familiar with Python.** This also includes practicing your programming skills by doing relevant data analysis tasks with the language. In particular, as Numpy and Pandas are so widely used in data analytics, **play as much as you can with their tutorials.***

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **TRY EVERYTHING AND STAY INVOLVED**

- *Work the assignments on your own time.*
- *Be prepared for lots of coding*
- *Pay attention and keep up with the material in a timely manner*
- *don't miss anything since **everything will be interesting***
- *Attend on time*
- *...attend all the invited speakers cause they were awesome*
- *Dedicate the time to work on the code and projects because like learning a new language, this requires double the work.*
- *Attend all tutorials*
- *full time job and the summer school are hard to manage, try to **make some time for it***
- *Free up your time to commit to q-bio, to get most out of the program.*
- *Make sure to keep up with the work. It is a fast paced program so if you fall far behind it will be difficult to catch back up.*
- *Follow each assignment as given to you and **DON'T procrastinate!***
- *Try and attend all of the lectures*
- *be as involved as you can, do full participant if possible*

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **DON'T GIVE UP IF/WHEN YOU FALL BEHIND**

- ***don't overcommit** yourself to other things because this is a serious opportunity and requires lots of time*
- *I would advice the future uqBio student to **not be afraid to dive deeply** into topics introduced to them that are exciting, **even if that means not diving as deeply into other topics**. There was such a wide range of material covered and I think that the program was a great way to give students a **multitude of chances to get excited about some aspect of quantitative biology**.*
- *If you are planning on enrolling the course **make sure to have enough time to study after lectures and tutorials***
- *I'd say, **don't worry if it's overwhelming at times...** in the last week it all came together for me more!*
- *This is great opportunity for young students who would like to purse quantitative biology research, so take this opportuniy and **try to finalize all the modules on your own time even if you did not get to finish them all for the initially assigned weeks**.*

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices

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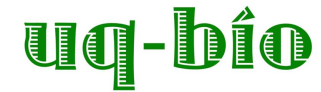
Slack Invite

To get the most out of this program, make sure to:

- **HAVE FUN!**

- *Have fun!*
- *GO FOR IT!!*
- *Enjoy your time!*
- *Have fun and don't stress! Everyone is learning together.*
- *Enjoy yourselves, meet people, ask questions*

# The 2024 UQBIO – Tips and Best Practices



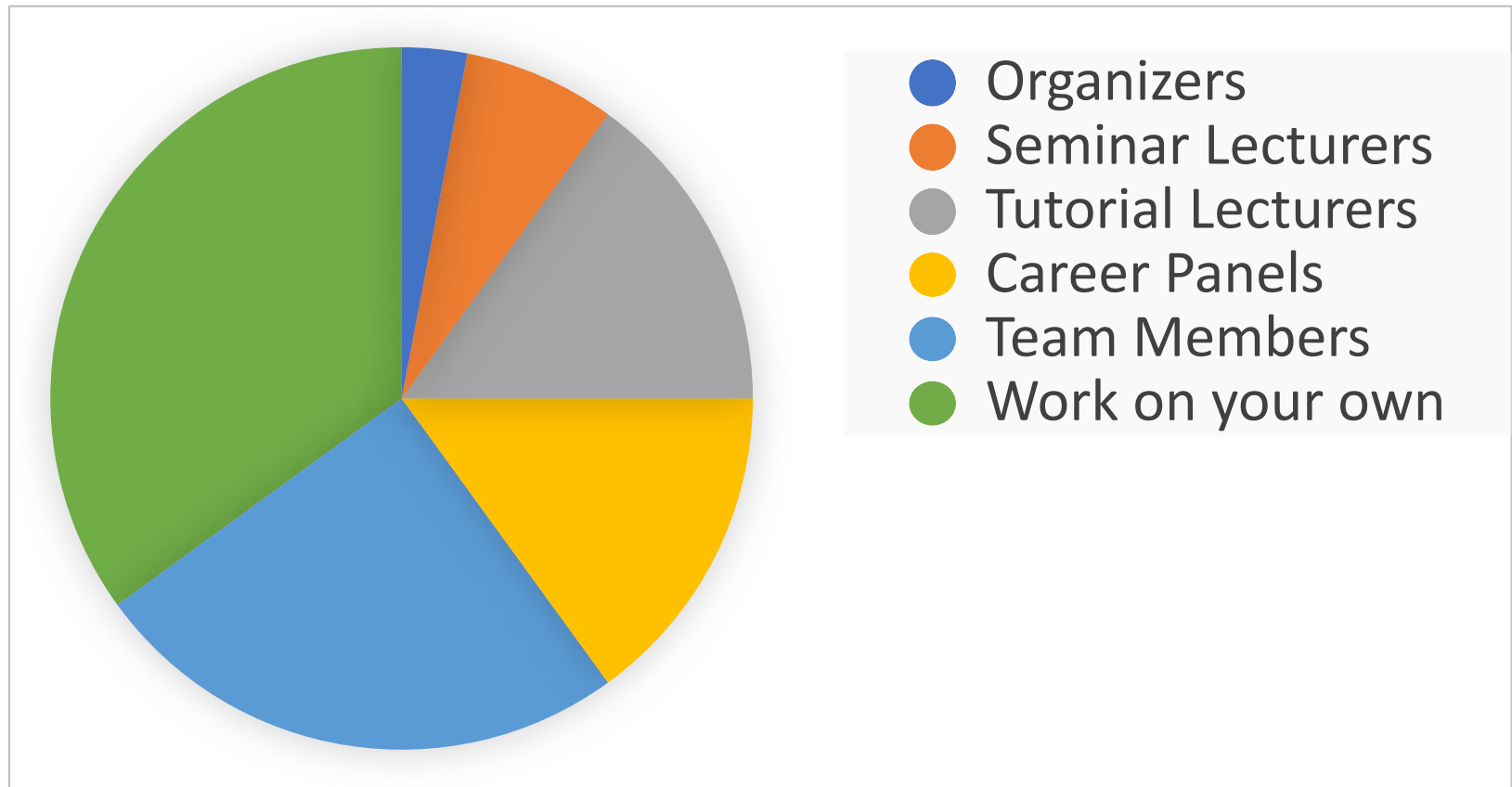
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Slack Invite

## Who is going to teach you something during UQ-Bio?



## Now on to today's Main Event: Breakout Sessions

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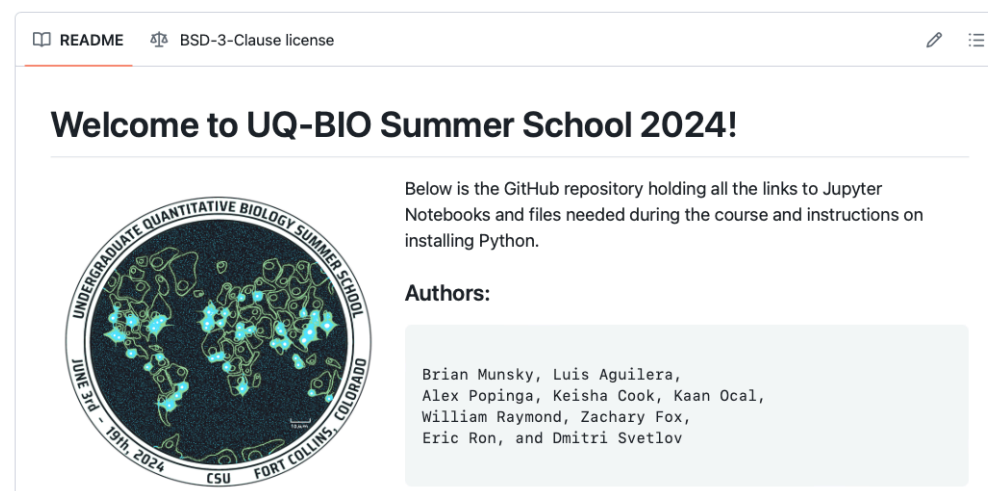
Slack Invite

**First – Go to the UQ-Bio 2024 GitHub Page:**  
<https://github.com/MunskyGroup/uqbio2024>

Instructions for software installation and getting started are posted on the uqbio2024 GitHub page README.



Scan this QR Code to  
Reach the GitHub Page





# Now on to today's Main Event: Breakout Sessions

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Slack Invite

## Four Breakout Session Rooms:

**Stay Here — General Getting Started. Help with Finding online resources.**

**ROOM 1 — GitHub and Installation Assistance — WINDOWS.** Join this room if you have a Windows computer, and you need help with installation and set up of GitHub, Anaconda, or VS Code.

**ROOM 2 — GitHub and Installation Assistance — MAC.** Join this room if you have a Mac computer, and you need help with installation and set up of GitHub, Anaconda, or VS Code.

**ROOM 3 — Python Warm Up and Homework Assistance.** Join this room if you have installed GitHub, Anaconda, and VS Code and you have questions on any of the Module 1 Notebooks or Homework assignments.