Dear Colleague,

I am writing you to inform you about Rice University Ph.D. program in Systems, Synthetic, and Physical Biology (SSPB) – now in its fourth year – and to seek your help in advertising this program among your strongest students.

The SSPB Ph.D. program at Rice University trains students to combine principles from science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in order to make transformative discoveries and advances in biological engineering. SSPB students are highly interdisciplinary, with strong foundations in the quantitative and life sciences. SSPB faculty members come from eight different departments across the Schools of Engineering and Natural Sciences. The curriculum includes 3 core classes: Systems Biology, Synthetic Biology and Physical Biology, designed to provide students from diverse backgrounds exposure to a breadth of biological and quantitative topics. In addition, students have a wide selection of elective courses on the topics ranging from advanced topics in computer science, physics, applied mathematics or statistics to in-depth biology courses focusing on the area of a student’s dissertation research. We seek students with a wide range of undergraduate majors (biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics, statistics, or physics) and especially welcome students with training in the combination of these disciplines.

I would really appreciate it if you could post the attached poster and mention this opportunity to your students. Students are also encouraged to visit our website, [http://sspb.rice.edu](http://sspb.rice.edu) for more information about the program and links to the application. Students are welcome to contact me as the chair of SSPB admissions (igoshin@rice.edu) or the SSPB program coordinator Dyani Banda (dbanda@rice.edu) should they have any questions.

I truly appreciate your time and help.

Sincerely,

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