

Abstract Submitted  
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**Experiences Gained Creating a Biophysics Major at a Predominately Undergraduate Institution** JUSTIN LINK, Xavier University, Department of Physics, STEVEN HERBERT, Xavier University, Department of Physics, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School — Xavier University, a liberal arts predominately undergraduate institution (PUI) located in Cincinnati, OH, implemented a Biophysics major in the Department of Physics in spring 2012. The program is built upon foundational physics courses and is unique due to the possible selection of upper-division courses that students elect to take towards their undergraduate degree. A capstone course is offered to bring all prior knowledge in the fundamental sciences together to approach complex problems in biology. Due to the flexibility of the program, it serves students well who are interested in pursuing advanced degrees in Biophysics or Biomedical Engineering. It also offers students interested in the health professions an alternate path towards medical school which can be advantageous in the application process. This session will express some of the advantages and challenges to creating such a program at a liberal arts PUI and discuss the capstone course within the major.

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