

# Research by Students at Liberal Arts Colleges

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# St. Olaf College



- Global mindset and mission
- International Summer School in Oslo; Bangladesh study abroad
- Academics: Chemistry major
  - Molecular Biology concentration
  - Norwegian concentration
- Personal relationships with professors
  - Dr. Greg Muth, Chemistry department
    - summer research at the Mayo Clinic
  - Dr. Solveig Zempel, Norwegian department
    - Fulbright

# Norway



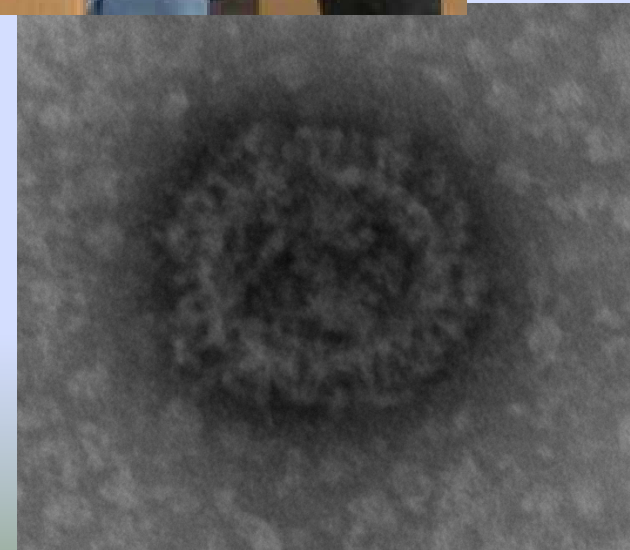
# Fulbright Research

- Molecular neuroscience
- Independent research
- Self-motivated, self-reliant
- International apartment
  - Norway, Germany, Slovakia, Botswana, Italy, Bulgaria
- International laboratory
  - Norway, Greece, Brazil, Iran, etc.



# UW-Madison

Species-specificity of  
influenza viruses



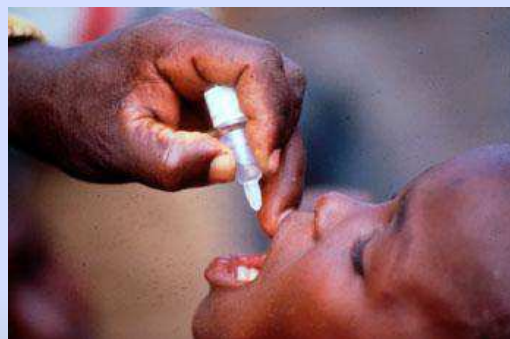
# Future

## Masters in Public Health (MPH)

- Infectious Disease and Global Health

## Partner with Norway

- Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research
- GLOBVAC (Program for Global Health and Vaccination Research)
- GLOBINF (Center for Prevention of Global Infections)
- Norwegian Institute of Public Health



# How a liberal arts education is beneficial for students in research

- **Close interaction with professors**

- direct 1-on-1 research with an expert in the field
- evaluations/recommendations for graduate school, summer research opportunities, etc.
- knowledge of what life as a professor entails, personally and professionally

- **Can lead to great things (like a Fulbright!)**

- Norwegian language + science = study science in Norway
- interaction with professors (Dr. Zempel) led directly to me applying
- liberal arts, lots of writing experience (breadth of coursework and amount of work), easy (er!) application
- well-organized review system for applicants, strengthened my application significantly

- **Communication**

- writing and presentation skills, to convey results
- publishing most recent paper, rebuttal to reviewer's comments was relatively easy
- as a beginning graduate student, editing/correcting others' drafts
- international collaborations
  - initiating the connection
  - effectively communicating

- **Balanced life**

- research, self-motivated, but don't want burn-out
- music, athletics, & friends were important at St. Olaf
- at St. Olaf I learned how to balance academics with other aspects of life; this has made me a much more effective graduate student

# How a liberal arts education is beneficial for students in research

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- international collaborations
  - 1) initiating the connection
  - 2) effectively communicating

# How a liberal arts education is beneficial for students in research

## Balanced life

- well-rounded student
- music, athletics, & friends were important at St. Olaf
- at St. Olaf I learned how to balance academics with other aspects of life
- a much more effective graduate student and more well-rounded person

**Thanks!**

