Homework #3: Current grants and project ideas
Note: this assignment should be completed individually

Due date: April 16, 2015

Goal: To brainstorm for “The Design Project”: to engineer a protein for the advancement of a medical or technological problem

Task 1: Select 2 Grants and answer questions 1-7 below.
Task 2: Identify 2 possible ideas for your own project and answer questions 8-11 below.

Format: 2 pages max, 0.5” margins, single spaced, Arial 11pt

Task 1: Select 2 Grants and answer questions 1-7 below.

For non-medical grant abstracts, look into National Science Foundation (NSF) or Department of Defense (DoD) websites.

For National Institute of Health (NIH) grant abstracts, see link: http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm
In the Text Search box, type “protein engineering” (including quotations)
Scroll down and click “Submit Query”
A list of funded proposals will be shown. Clicking on the Title brings up a Public Abstract.

1. Provide the Funding Agency and Project Number (i.e. NIH 5R01AI102691-02) for each of your 2 grant application abstracts
2. State, in your own words, the main goal of the project (1 sentence)
3. State the type of protein used or researched (2-4 sentences)
4. Explain the proposed technology to engineer the protein (2-4 sentences)
5. Propose one additional application of the proposed technology to protein research not mentioned in the abstract online (2-4 sentences)
6. In your opinion, do you think the funded application will fulfill its goals (as stated in #2 above)? Justify your answer. (2-5 sentences)
7. Propose an engineering approach to improve on the main idea of the project (2-5 sentences)

Task 2: Identify 2 possible ideas for your own project and answer questions 8-11 below.

8. Problem: state the problem to be addressed (1-3 sentences)
9. Main goal: state the goal of your proposed project (1-3 sentences)
10. Strategy: state the main technology/strategy of your approach (1-3 sentences)
11. Explain the applicability to proteins and engineering (1-3 sentences)

Note: you have to select 2 ideas even if you think you already know which idea will become your main project.