O SensUs

Submission bocument

BiosensUM

Medal

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January

1. Bronze

1.1 Register on SensUs Connect;



March

1. Bronze

1.1 Motivation;

Every student in BiosensUM decided to enter the SensUs competition because they want to make a difference. We are highly motivated by the possibility of improving medical technology and maybe even save lives. We want to acquire field experience and bring something to the world during this troubling period that is the COVID-19 pandemic. By tackling this challenge, we want to improve and develop skills that will help us grow as scientists, but also as people. We will put together every team member's input to have the best results so that everyone has its place in the project. We intend to be as environmentally friendly as possible, to encourage small businesses and to produce a technology that would be easily accessible by setting the cost as low as possible while achieving our goals.



1. Silver

1.1 Meet with Alumni;

Attendees	Myriam Cliché (BiosensUM, 2019), Frédéric Fournelle (BiosensUM, 2018/2019), Arnaud
	Laramée (BiosensUM, 2020), Aaron Gabriel
	Nunez Avila (BiosensUM, 2020)
Goal of the Meeting	The goal of this meeting was first to have a contact with alumni. Then, we were
	seeking advice from people who had experience with the competition and the
	context. Finally, we wanted to have feedback on our design and business plan.
	Having alumni in our contacts to ask questions in the future is an advantage for us
	either for our biosensor or for team management.
Date	May 29 th , 2021
Preparation time	2 hours
Duration	2 hours
Summary	We did an ice breaker quiz to do a little fun before talking business. The alumni
	were really eager to help us and give us advice. We had good
	feedback on our design and we even changed an aspect on
	our concept thanks to them. We learned not to take we have
	for granted and start to prototype and write the TRD as soon
	as possible. They also fold us we should make it as simple as
	we can and not try to waste time on complicated designs that
	would lower our biosensor's sensitivity. They also offered us
	to do more team bonding activities where we are not working
	on the project and just enjoy ourselves. This would belp team
	cohesion and we would work better together. Finally to
	recommended to read the information package well so we
	know every criterion and write our TRD well. They suggested
	we don't hesitate to ask alumni or teachers for help if we are
	not sure about something. They offered us to keep contact
	and to help us whenever we need it.
Evaluation	The meeting was a really great opportunity to meet old members of the team and
	we had so much great advice. The meeting was a success.
Picture	O Jose Weing - R
	Transfer Manual Annual Annua
	Katia Cherifi

June

1. Silver

1.1 Interviews with medical professionals;

Professional Name	Dominic Pelletier
Short description about professional	M. Pelletier is a resident physician in family medicine with a strong interest toward care of the elders. He is at is second and final year of residency. He was drawn to become a physician because of the human aspect of this profession and the intellectual challenge it represents.
	The general practitioner or family physician is generally the first to deal with any illness. When the illness goes beyond what he can do, he will refer the patient to a specialist.
	Respiratory viruses are well known by family physician since they are the ones caring in most cases for these illnesses.
Conducted by	Lucas Aubé and Kiran Shewbaran were leading the interview. The other members of the team present were only listening to the interview.
Date	June 22 nd , 2021
Preparation time	5h
Duration	1h
Summary	During the interview, we touched to a few categories of questions mainly the characteristics of respiratory viruses, the impact of these viruses on society, the usefulness of our biosensor and how our biosensor could be used. We present here a summary of the useful information gathered from the interview.
	Characteristic of respiratory viruses:
	Respiratory viruses are grouped together because they all exploit the respiratory track as an open door to get inside the body and infect a host. They constitute a quite heterogenous group of multiple viruses. From all the viruses that can attack the respiratory track, only influenza has a unique set of symptoms (the flu) and a potential treatment (Tamiflu). Tamiflu can be administered to reduce symptoms of the flu but is only use for precarious patient that might suffer a lot from the flu. The treatment for other viruses is only to wait for the immune system to do its job.
	As opposed to other viruses, respiratory viruses are quite tricky in the sense that it is challenging to be fully protected: we cannot stop breathing altogether.
	The best ways to mitigate respiratory viruses is to attack the chain of transmission by vaccination or by social distancing as we saw in the COVID-19 pandemic, to catch as early as possible when someone is infected so that person can be isolated (what our biosensor can offer) and to inform the public on the importance of following health guidelines.

	Impact of respiratory viruses:
	Before the pandemic, even though the general opinion was that respiratory viruses are not a big deal (« it's just a little cold »), they had quite a big cost on society. Population that are more at risk include young children and older adults that both have weaker immune system. In the case of young children, complication usually seen is ear infection or bronchiolitis. For older folks, comorbidity and the already push to its limit body can cause rapid decay of the patient state when face with a respiratory virus.
	The environments where respiratory viruses are the most dangerous are in small, enclosed spaces were there is a high density of people with personnel movement. Examples of such environments are prisons, schools, kindergarten, home for the elderly, etc.
	With the covid pandemic, new protocols of triage were introduced to segregate patient that might have a respiratory virus from other patients in hospital waiting rooms. Such protocol might stay after the pandemic to reduce the impact of respiratory viruses in hospital context. Our biosensor could be use in such a context.
	Our biosensor possible use and usefulness:
	Current influenza testing is uncomfortable for the patient, time consuming and costly. Therefor it is only done when there is a clear goal to the testing (knowing if a physician should administer Tamiflu). Our biosensor could have a new goal that would be to prevent the spread of the disease.
	Another benefice of our device is that if it could differentiate between different respiratory viruses that have the same symptoms, maybe specific treatment could be developed (like Tamiflu) and therefor reduce even more the impact of respiratory viruses in general.
Evaluation	The interview was incredibly useful, and we learned a lot. It was great to discuss our project with a health professional and to put everything we are doing in context.

2. Gold

2.1 Organize online Event;

Title of Event	The Mystery Event
Date	June 21 st , 2021
Preparation time	8h
Type of event	Social activity

Abstract	The event is like a virtual escape room game. A everyone and is giving them a chance to get it ba to resolve puzzles and enigmas in small groups t identity with a time co	A hacker stole personal data from ick. To recover their data, they have to find clues leading to the hacker's onstraint.
Objective of activity	The event is for everyone to take a break from also lead to teamwork between the different to resolv	work and have fun together. It can t teams since they have to work /e it.
Promotion	We reached the other teams by posting twice on the other captains by Whats SensUs Connect Ware a law law are prove Ware to prove a law of the Apple and th	A sensus connect as well as reaching app and email.
	Constant and the second and the	As Connect Wearry Lise was frage Dags Paren in Orac Dags Wearry All sees Wearry

Partners	No partners were involved.
Contact person	The team captains: alexandrine.frappier@umontreal.ca; lucas.aube@polymtl.ca
Evaluation method	We will evaluate what we gained from this experience and what the other teams thought of our event with a survey.
	Evaluation (fill in after the event)
Number of participants	11
Lessons learnt	We learned that if we want to have more people attending our event, we need to promote it more in advance. Although, it was fun and people found it was a good break from work, more people could have enjoyed it. We learned it was a lot of coordination when you want to do something like we did.
Recommendations	Set a date in advance so that people can have time to see the publicity and more can join.



July

1. Silver

1.1 Meetings with a SensUs Partner;

Partner	Medtronic
Attendees	Jesper Svenning Kristensen (Medtronic), Alexandrine Frappier (BiosensUM), Ryma Boudries (BiosensUM) and Nadine Padillo (BiosensUM)
Goal of the Meeting	This meeting's goal was to have an external view of an expert to help us find solutions to problems we encountered during tests in lab, especially concerning saliva's viscosity and bubbles. Also, we wanted an expert's opinion to help us decide whether or not we would use certain features. We had trouble deciding if using certain features were worth it and someone with experience with biosensors could help us greatly. Since most of our problems were in the biochemistry and surface chemistry, Medtronic was a good choice. We also found the people present during the partner session were nice.
Date	July 6 th , 2021
Preparation time	3h

Agenda	1. Opening [2 min]
_	a) Update: We have now opted for the LSPR technique using monoclonal antibodies
	as binding elements.
	b) Key Market: Pharmacies and small clinics.
	c) Currently: exploring ways to conjugate antibodies to gold nanoparticles coated
	on Ubent optical fibers.
	d) Remarks on the agenda
	2. Discussion about technical plan [16 min]
	A) Which method would minimize the presence of bubbles in our sample:
	Any advice on how to integrate a bubble trap in a microfluidic device (i.e.:
	configuration of inlets/outlets)
	b) How can we integrate conjugated gold nanoparticles to the antibodies in our
	biosensor?
	c) Do you have any experience using nanorods or nanoparticles as surface coating?
	I. Any nanorod organization that is more selective?
	d) Any advice on how to keep LSPR user-friendly?
	I. i.e.: simple maintenance and monthly calibration
	e) How can we make our product reusable and sustainable?
	I. How much wash time between sample analysis is usually needed? II.
	IS IT possible or practical to make a cartridge reusable?
	III. How many fourious should be respected when using the LSPR technique? I
	Disposal of hiological fluids
	II User-safety
	3. Closing [2 min]
	a) Do you have any suggested literature that would be useful for the development
	of our biosensor?
	b) Thank you for your help!
Duration	30 minutes
Summary	We could confirm that a few decisions we made were right like not using bubble traps,
	using nanospheres instead of nanorods. We also
	gained insight on the thinking behind the
	development
	so we won't overlook anything vital like for the
	learned new information on the use of antibody
	conjugated nanoparticules that we didn't think of like
	making sure the antibody we use in the biosensor is
	not binding the same part of H1 as the antibody
	conjugated with nanoparticles. Finally, he gave us a
	great idea for a multiple use cartridge.
Evaluation	This meeting was a great help since we learned a lot and we gained new ideas for our
	concept.
Minutes	30 minutes



1.2 Be present at two online events;

Title of activity 1	Meet the Teams
Organized by	PULSe
Date	March 29 th , 2021
Type of activity	Networking, get together activity
Abstract	This activity's goal was to get the different teams to know each other, interact together and have a little break from all the work.
Objective of activity	Connecting students from the different teams and create a friendly environment in the competition.
Lessons learnt	The history of the university KU Leuven and that other team members are nice people.
Recommendations	Have more people in back up in case one has connection problems as to avoid disturbing the presentation.



Title of activity 2	The Mystery Event
Organized by	BiosensUM
Date	June 21 st , 2021
Type of activity	Social activity
Abstract	A little virtual escape game to let people have fun.
Objective of activity	Take a break from work and practice working in a group with people from different teams.
Lessons learnt	People work great together since they were able to resolve the puzzles quickly. Also, it is good to take a break and have fun once in a while.
Recommendations	Maybe promote the event earlier.
Screenshot	<pre>####################################</pre>

2. Gold

2.1 Present at a professional Event;

Title of event	Forces AVENIR
Date	June 3 rd , 2021
Preparation time	15-20 hours
Type of event	Conference
Abstract	This event is a conference/interview given to a jury about the project for a competition between research projects in Quebec. This conference is in webdiffusion so that everyone can go online to watch it live.
Objective of event	Getting students to present their project to determine which ones they reward.
Partners	Entrepreneurs, researchers, educators
Contact person	Martine Côté (mcote@forcesavenir.qc.ca)
Evaluation method	We will evaluate what we gained and learned during this event
	Evaluation (fill in after the activity)
Number of participants	2 people from BiosensUM and 7 people from the jury were directly involved. About 100 people watched the interview live and the video is available on Youtube for anyone who woud like to watch it.
Lessons learnt	We gained a lot during the event, mainly during the preparation. We learned how to pitch and to boast for our team. We also learned how to pitch well while staying natural, which is important because a presentation that looks forced is not interesting to watch. During the question period, we could practice our spontaneity to provide information. Since we are in competition with other universities, it provided a context close to the SensUs competition, so we learned how to make our team stand out from the other.
Recommendations	This kind of pitch needs practice to make it seem natural, so start preparing in advance.





1. Bronze

1.1 Tips for subsequent SensUs Teams

- Tip 1: Never assume you still have plenty of time to accomplish a task. It always leads to doing the task last minute.
- Tip 2: Use only one online platform for the team to avoid communication problems. Microsoft teams is great for communication and work within the team.
- Tip 3: Don't hesitate to contact group members privately when they don't seem to participate in the meetings. Sometimes they are just shy and are scared to talk to the whole team.

Valuable tips in the document:

- Have fun!
- Recognize everyone's contribution, accept and respect differences.
- Split the team into smaller teams (subgroups) based on different aspects of the project.

2. Silver

2.1 Reposts on social media;

March 1st, 2021





June 27th, 2021



3. Gold

3.1 Post on SensUs Connect every month;

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February 17th, 2021
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February 28th, 2021



March 15th, 2021



March 27th, 2021



April 18th, 2021



April 28th, 2021



May 13th, 2021



May 29th,2021

SensUs Con	nect	Sea	rch for peop	ble			Q	
	Welcome	Live feed	People	Groups	Partners	News	Events	Opportuni
Hi everyor	Rachel Pry 4 hours ago ne,	yce				•••		
it's exclun summer! I have a q far?	summer! I have a question for everyone, what is your favourite part of the competition so far?							
For me, it' skills! I mo awesome	For me, it's been the chance to get into the lab with new people and learn new skills! I moved to Montreal (Canada) in September and SensUs has been an awesome place to meet new people.							Liked
🧡 1 Like -	1 comment						-	Se ver

June 14th, 2021



June 26th, 2021



July 13th, 2021



3.2 World-value;

During our first team meeting in January, maybe the most important task we did as a team was determining the values that would drive forward our project and guide us during the upcoming year. By doing so, we made sure that all team members would feel that the team's direction was in accordance with their values. Guided by those values, we hoped that our biosensor would be as good for the world as it could be. We called this set of values the BiosensUM's core values:

- 1. The sensor, its' development, and our work in its all must **respect the human and natural environment** and look to preserve it.
- 2. We shall always prioritize **local and small businesses** to contribute to the development of local economy and new industries while at the same time limiting shipping to a minimum to follow our first value.
- 3. Our work should be driven by **innovative ideas**. Only by bringing something truly new to this world, can we have a significant impact on it.
- 4. Through activities and team building moments, we will cultivate a **powerful team spirit**. Good work can only be accomplished by a truly united team.
- 5. A simple and easy to build biosensor is both **available and responsive** when needed. In time of need, the speed at which a biosensor can be constructed and deployed around the world is crucial to control a pandemic.

These core values were approved by the whole team, our coach and our supervisor. They guided us during most of the development phase and during discussions with our professional partners. Let us now look more specifically at impacts these values had on our biosensor.

To lesser environmental footprint of the device, we choose materials that can be easily recycled and mostly electrical components that are RoHS compliant¹. The casing of our biosensor and more than 50% of the cartridges are made of HDPE, which is one of the easiest available plastics to recycle and can be recycled worldwide². This means that if many biosensors would be necessary for a year or two in case of another pandemic, the world would not be stuck with useless equipment or waste once the situation is back to normal. We also explored the possibility of reusable cartridges, but more work needs to be done to ensure the feasibility of this idea.

All our optical components were bought from Thorlabs which have a manufacture in Montreal and have their headquarters at less than a 6-hour drive from Montreal. Also, the HDPE sheets used to build the sensor were bought from a Montreal based distributor. This ensured that the heart of our sensor did not come from the other side of the world and it reduces the impact of components travel³ as well as contributing to the well-being of the local economy.

By building our sensor from easily available components from Thorlabs or other similar distributor and materials available worldwide, we ensure that our biosensor could be built rapidly all over the world to be deployed in case of a new pandemic.

Making the world safer through available, responsive and innovative medical technology without compromising the environment is BiosensUM's core value.

1. THOMAS. RoHS Compliant Definition. thomasnet certifications https://certifications.thomasnet.com/certifications/glossary/othercertification_registration/europeancommission/rohs-compliant/.

2. Plastic Action Centre. Plastic by the number. https://plasticactioncentre.ca/directory/plastic-by-thenumbers/.

3. Allal, Abdelmoula Ait Mansouri, K., Youssfi, M. & Qbadou, M. Toward a Study of Environmental Impact of Shipping Industry and Proposal of Alternative Solutions. in Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing (2019). doi:10.1007/978-3-030-11881-5_21.