DMR MRSEC 2011486

Waltham High School Virtual Field Trip

2021

The Brandeis MRSEC is committed to broadening participation of underrepresented groups (URGs) in science. This year, Zare and MRSEC PP, Grace Han, coordinated a virtual field trip for Spanishspeaking students at Waltham High School (WHS) featuring Brandeis graduate students from URGs and Spanish-language chemistry experiments.

The goal of the WHS Virtual Field Trip was to engage high school students through videos of chemistry experiments conducted by Brandeis graduate students. These videos were translated into Spanish and viewed during WHS Chemistry courses. Zare worked with WHS teachers to ensure that the experiments aligned with the class curriculum. Next, the same high school students were placed in small group discussions with Spanish-speaking Brandeis science students. These discussions focused on the Brandeis students' journey to science and what day-to-day life in research consists of.

In the future, this pilot will transition to an inperson experience on Brandeis's campus that will allow high school students from URGs to see chemistry experiences first-hand followed by a mentoring lunch with Spanish-speaking Brandeis graduate students. A. Zare, Director of Education, Outreach, Diversity Brandeis University



Brandeis graduate students recorded chemistry experiments which were then translated into Spanish for native Spanish speakers at Waltham High School.

