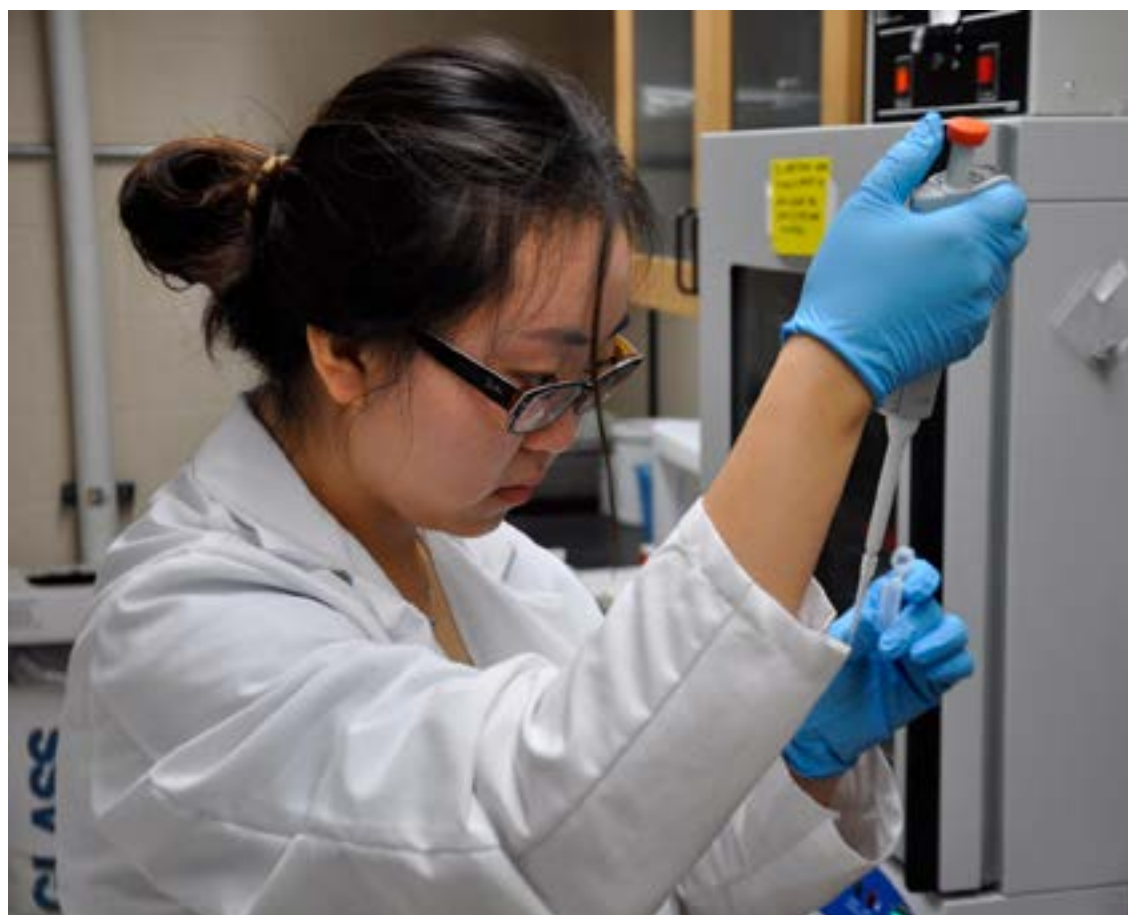


Students Learn and Earn with WIST

The institute's research projects and laboratory services provide opportunities for students to gain experience working on real-world projects



Bohye Jeong, a senior in biochemistry at UW-Stevens Point, prepares material for PCR (polymerase chain reaction) to clone DNA for use in a research trial in the WIST laboratory. Jeong, an international student from Seoul, South Korea, is one of 22 students employed by WIST in the past year.

While many college students look forward to a break from campus and to summer sunshine, Bohye Jeong has spent a considerable part of her summer under fluorescent lights in the basement laboratories of the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology.

Jeong, a senior in biochemistry, is doing biotechnology work as part of the institute's research into deriving valuable, renewable chemicals from biomass. She is working under Alex Rajangam, a post-doctoral research associate in molecular biotechnology. Jeong plans to go on to graduate school after earning her undergraduate degree at UW-Stevens Point. The experience she gains working on research here will strengthen her graduate school applications, she said recently, as she carefully prepared material for a laboratory procedure.

Jeong is one of 22 UW-Stevens Point students WIST employed part time and paid in the past year. While some students assisted on various aspects of research, others gained experience in paper testing and analysis as part of WIST laboratory services. Students worked on a range of projects including compostability testing, specialty paper production and paper grade development.

Student employees assisted on paper machine runs to make RiverPoint® fine art paper for Pacon Corporation. The paper, which was developed by WIST and partners at UW-Stevens Point, is marketed nationally and in Canada as Strathmore® RiverPoint paper.

Talented and motivated UW-Stevens Point students provide valuable extra hands on many WIST projects while they earn a paycheck and gain experience not found in the classroom. It's a great partnership.



At left, Ben Domasky, a sophomore in paper science and engineering, takes a newly produced roll of RiverPoint fine art paper off the pilot paper machine. Below, Katie Ebelt, a sophomore in paper science and engineering, prepares pulp for a paper analysis test.

