



RESEARCH2REALITY

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Sparking Careers in STEM for Everyone

An interview with **Molly Shoichet**, University Professor, University of Toronto Mentor, Amgen Scholars Canada Program and **Allysia Chin**, Undergraduate Student, McMaster University Amgen Scholars Canada Program

Molly Shoichet

The Amgen Scholars Program is a program for undergraduate students in STEM — so science, technology, engineering, and math — to have the opportunity to work in a research laboratory.

Allysia Chin

Specifically in the Shoichet Lab, I really loved how interdisciplinary it is. We have chemists, we have engineers, we have biologists. And I really like being able to take those different parts of science, come up with a question, and be able to answer that question using engineering.

Molly Shoichet

When you're first in the lab, I think it's just like being a bit of a puppy dog exploring snow for the first time. I mean, how exciting is it to learn about something and then do it? And then make it happen? At least for me that's really exciting.



Allysia Chin

My two main mentors are Laura Smith, a PhD student, and Dr. Shoichet, and I think first and foremost, being mentored by women in STEM is something that's very, very important to me. I really want to be a great mentor, for especially young black girls. Growing up not really seeing people that look like me or that talk like me in that space was a little discouraging. But in thirty years, a young black girl who looks like me can say, I see someone who looks like me and talks like me in that space, and so I can do that, too. I think that's something that really motivates me in science, and also in my other endeavours.