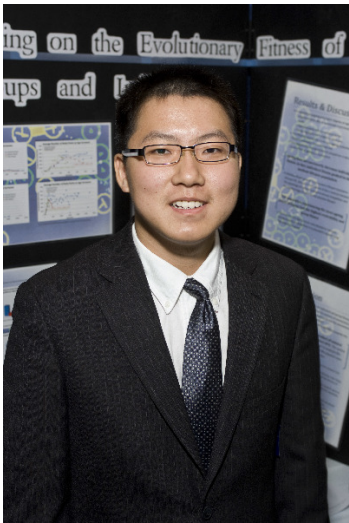


CWSF 2010 - Peterborough, Ontario



Rex Xia

The Effect of Ageing on the Evolutionary Fitness of Individuals and Populations

Division: International

Category: Senior

Region: Toronto

City: Toronto, ON

School: Northern S.S.

Abstract: The evolution of ageing is a topic that remains poorly understood. A simulated population of heterotrophs subjected to various degrees of ageing allowed its effect on individual and group fitness to be determined. Understanding the evolutionary basis of ageing has significant implications for the debate surrounding human life extension.

Biography

Rex Xia is a grade 12 student in Northern Secondary School. He has a strong interest in the life sciences and was ranked 6th out of 5,417 participants in the 2009 University of Toronto National Biology Competition. He hopes to pursue a career in biological research and is currently trying to decide between McGill and University of Toronto. In his spare time, Rex enjoys listening to jazz, following politics, and playing obscure board games such as "Diplomacy." He also reads widely in a variety of subjects, including science, history, political science, and economics.