

Jens Jürgen Istvan

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Loyola University Chicago Class of 2029

LAB EXPERIENCE

Reuben Keller Lab — *Loyola University Chicago, School of Environmental Sustainability*

I worked as an undergrad researcher studying **interspecies crayfish competition**, using various techniques of **behavioral analysis** such as **BORIS** and **ToxTrac**, and **Excel**.

Slavica Petrovic Djuronovic Lab— *Washington University Medical School*

I interned at a **molecular biology lab** where I practiced techniques such as **gel electrophoresis**, **PCR testing**, **culturing**, and **research presentation**.

Environmental Science and Chemistry courses

In my intro to environmental science and chemistry courses, I practiced techniques such as **sample collection**, **calorimetry**, **chromatography**, and **titration**, **garden maintenance**, **biomass calculation**, and various methods of **pH and solubility testing**.

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice

In 2024, I attended the IFTJ and spoke to **Missouri senators** Josh Hawley and Eric Schmitt's offices, **advocating for environmentally sustainable policies** such as improvements to nuclear power and sustainable agriculture reforms.

Prep News

I wrote for my **high school's newspaper**, a student run, weekly, print newspaper. I practiced **reporting**, **writing**, and **interviewing skills**, gaining experience with written communication.

Sustainability Club

In my high school's sustainability club, I acted as a liaison between the administration and the student body, **communicating the school's new sustainable policies**, and served on a **board of advising** to the administration's sustainability committee.

Triathlon Team

I co-founded Loyola University Chicago's **first triathlon team**. **Communication** and **fundraising** were crucial in the effort to spread my favorite sport to the community.

EDUCATION

Loyola University Chicago

- (2025-Present)
- Honors program
- School of Environmental Sustainability

St. Louis University High School

- (2021-2025)

WHY?

Whenever I asked my dad to drive to kindergarten instead of bike, he would always respond the same way: "So you want to kill polar bears?". While this is a fun story to tell, these interactions formed the foundation for my **lifelong passion for sustainability and ecology**. Now that I'm not a kid biking to elementary school, **I want to do more** than simply ride my bike to class to make a difference in my community and world.

