

December 4, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

After months of proposal reviews, deliberations, interviews and analysis, the Space Assignment Task Force for the new Multidisciplinary Research Building (MRB1) is pleased to announce an exciting milestone in our space assignment process.

Please join me in congratulating eight research teams for their recent invitation for space assignment in MRB1. A link to the list of these teams can be found at the end of this message.

MRB1 is located on the north side of the UCR campus, on Aberdeen Drive between Recreational Building South and Bourns College of Engineering. This four story facility will house research laboratories for over sixty faculty principal investigators. The mission of MRB1 is to support multidisciplinary research at the intersection of life/chemical sciences, medicine, engineering, and computation. We project occupancy of MRB1 in the winter quarter of 2019.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the MRB1 Space Assignment Task Force and the support staff involved in this process for their diligence, expertise, and commitment to our process. The list of these participants and details about the invited research teams can be found here: [MRB1 Site](#)

As we move forward with finalizing space assignments, we look forward to keeping the campus community informed of our progress. Look for continuing updates here: [MRB1 Site](#)

Thank you for your continued support of UCR's new research facility!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia K. Larive".

Cynthia K. Larive
Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor
Chair, MRB1 Space Assignment Task Force
☎: 951.827.1129 | ✉: provost@ucr.edu



MRB1 Space Assignment Task Force Members and Support Staff

Members:

- Cindy Larive, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor (Chair)
- Deborah Deas, Dean, School of Medicine
- Milagros Peña, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Kathryn Uhrich, Dean, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
- Sharon Walker, Dean, Bourns College of Engineering
- Martin Garcia-Castro, Associate Professor, Biomedical Sciences, School of Medicine
- Michael Pazzani, Vice Chancellor, Research and Economic Development
- Barbara Lloyd, Special Advisor, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Budget
- Jeff Kaplan, Associate Vice Chancellor, Capital Asset Strategies

Staff:

- Jocelyne Nguema, Sr. Director, Space Management, Capital Asset Strategies
- Patricia (Trish) Steen, IACUC Analyst, Office of Research Integrity
- Sharyl Murdock, Campus Space Manager, Capital Asset Strategies
- Kimberly Villanueva, Interim Director, Strategic Project Management, Planning and Budget Office

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Multidisciplinary Research Building (MRB1)
Selected Research Teams
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Data Science Center

The goal of the Data Science Center (DSC) at MRB1 is to become a catalyst for new research collaborations between faculty across many colleges. The DSC will enable better collaboration between experimental scientists and data scientists by better understanding and exploring data. The DSC aims to facilitate knowledge generation and new discoveries that will propel UCR into prominence.

Ahmed Eldawy, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Thomas Girke, Ph.D.	Bioinformatics
Eamonn Keogh, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Stefano Lonardi, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Wenxiu Ma, Ph.D.	Statistics
Bahram Mobasher, Ph.D.	Physics & Astronomy
Vagelis Papalexakis, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Christian Shelton, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Vassilis Tsotras, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Jon Willits, Ph.D.	Psychology
Shuheng Zhou, Ph.D.	Statistics

Environmental Toxicology Group

The goal of the Environmental Toxicology Group (ETOX) is to understand how environmental exposure leads to deaths and human diseases, as according to the World Health Organization, 25 percent of all deaths and total disease burden can be attributed to environmental factors.

Li Fan, Ph.D.	Biochemistry
John Jefferson Perry, Ph.D.	Biochemistry
Yinsheng Wang, Ph.D.	Chemistry
Sika Zheng, Ph.D.	School of Medicine
Wenwan Zhong, Ph.D.	Chemistry

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Food, Bugs, Guts & Brains

The goals of the Food, Bugs, Guts & Brains team are to form a core of faculty expertise in animal models and microbiome-interactions; stimulate further interdisciplinary interactions between diet, the microbiome, behavior, neuroscience, computational sciences, and host-pathogen communities on campus; and promote interaction and collaborative research between related groups currently dispersed across campus.

James Borneman, Ph.D.	Microbiology and Plant Pathology
Patrick Degnan, Ph.D.	Molecular Evolutionary Microbiology
Ansel Hsiao, Ph.D.	Microbiology and Plant Pathology
Joshua Morgan, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Frances Sladek, Ph.D.	CBNS/MCSB

Imaging

The goal of the Imaging team is to bring together key imaging modalities and technologies within one building with development of new advances in imaging to keep and push UCR's position among premier research institutions.

Bahman Anvari, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Devin Binder, MD, Ph.D.	Biomedical Science
Monica Carson, Ph.D.	Biomedical Science
Iryna Ethell, Ph.D.	Biomedical Science
Byron Ford, Ph.D.	Biomedical Science
Xiaoping Hu, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Hyle B. Park, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Megan Peters, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Aaron Seitz, Ph.D.	Psychology
Emma Wilson, Ph.D.	Biomedical Science

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Interdisciplinary Center for Quantitative Modeling in Biology (ICQMB)

The goal of the ICQMB team is to establish and develop interdisciplinary collaborations to understand in a quantitative and predictive way the complex patterns and organization that arise in living systems at space length scales from molecular to ecological and time scales from femtoseconds to years.

Mark Alber, Ph.D.	Mathematics
John Barton, Ph.D.	Physics
Weitao Chen, Ph.D.	Mathematics

Mind & Brain Health: Neuroinflammation, Neurotrauma and Neurodegeneration

The goal if this Neuroscience team is to take the first steps toward a strong multi-unit home base of neuroscience researchers facilitating the integration and initiation of high impact collaborative neuroscience research from all corners of our campus.

Monica Carson, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Byron Ford, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Martin Garcia-Castro, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Sachiko Haga-Yamanaka, Ph.D.	Cell Biology and Neuroscience
Peter Hickmott, Ph.D.	Psychology
Xiaoping Hu, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Edward Korzus, Ph.D.	Psychology
Huinan Liu, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Hyle B. Park, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Khaleel Abdul Razak, Ph.D.	Psychology
Martin Riccomagno, Ph.D.	Cell Biology and Neuroscience
Aaron Seitz, Ph.D.	Psychology
SeemaTiwari-Woodruff, Ph.D.	School of Medicine
Emma Wilson, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Hongdian Yang, Ph.D.	Cell Biology and Neuroscience
Edward Zagha, Ph.D.	Psychology
Sika Zheng, Ph.D.	School of Medicine

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Molecular, Circuit and Behavioral Mechanisms of Neurodevelopmental Disorders

To bring together a multidisciplinary group of UCR scientists who are interested in research on neurodevelopmental disorders (NDD) from 4 colleges (CHASS, SOM, CNAS and BCOE) and across complementary areas of expertise, including cell and molecular neuroscience, circuits, behaviors and innovative brain imaging technologies.

Devin Binder, MD., Ph.D.	School of Medicine
Jun-Hyeong Cho, MD., Ph.D.	Cell Biology and Neuroscience
Iryna Ethell, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Peter Hickmott, Ph.D.	Psychology
Hyle B. Park, Ph.D.	Bioengineering
Khaleel Abdul Razak, Ph.D.	Psychology
Sika Zheng, Ph.D.	School of Medicine

Systems Biology of Infectious Disease

The goal of the Systems Biology of Infectious Disease (SBID) team is to identify and analyze interactions of pathogens using a combination of approaches and techniques that include but are not limited to immunology of host-pathogen interaction, cellular, molecular, genetics, genomics, computer science, and statistics.

Karine Le Roche, Ph.D.	Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology
Stefano Lonardi, Ph.D.	Computer Science and Engineering
Wenxiu Ma, Ph.D.	Statistics
Choukri Ben Mamoun, Ph.D.	School of Medicine (pending; expected arrival date: 01/01/2019)
Meera G. Nair, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences
Emma Wilson, Ph.D.	Biomedical Sciences