



NSF-CREST Center for Cellular and Biomolecular Machines

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED

The CREST Center for Cellular and Biomolecular Machines (CCBM) at the University of California, Merced uses an interdisciplinary approach combining physical, biological and engineering methods to understand and control the functioning of multi-scale assemblies of biomolecules and cells and to design and develop novel bio-inspired functioning machines ranging from designer cells and tissue to diagnostic and therapeutic devices.

GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS OF THE CENTER WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF:

- > an interdisciplinary graduate training emphasis in Interdisciplinary Biophysical Sciences, Biomaterials and Biotechnology (IB3)
- > training modules in nanobio fabrication, imaging and spectroscopy, and computation and modeling
- > participation in all center activities including networking and professional development opportunities, center meetings and events, career skills workshops and more
- > entrepreneurship and K-12 school outreach opportunities
- > generous academic year and summer stipends, travel fellowships and more

THRUST 1: BIOMOLECULAR MACHINES

Proteins are true cellular nanomachines that perform sophisticated biological functions by self-assembling into dynamic 3D structures that use thermal energy to change shape in response to specific stimuli. Amid their many functions, proteins make for excellent nanoscale instruments.

THRUST 2: MACROMOLECULAR ASSEMBLIES AND HYBRID DEVICES

The high rate of discovery in nanotechnology is permitting us to realize nanomaterials with interesting new properties that can be used for building hybrid devices in conjunction with biomolecules. We focus on several of these applications including novel therapeutic delivery systems and nanoparticle based biosensors.

THRUST 3: CELLULAR AND MULTICELLULAR SYSTEMS

Large scale assemblies composed of multiple cells are ubiquitous, ranging from tissue to biofilms, and exhibit striking emergent behaviors controlled by cell mechanics and cell-cell interactions. We are developing new methods to study and guide the development of bacterial communities and differentiating tissue.

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CONTACT

GRADUATE INQUIRIES

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Faculty

CENTER FOR CELLULAR AND BIOMOLECULAR MACHINES





RYAN BAXTER, chemistry

single electron transfers, electro-responsive organic materials, synthetic methods and real-time reaction monitoring

WEI-CHUN CHIN, bioengineering

polymer physics and engineering of cellular and environmental systems

MIKE COLVIN, chemistry and chemical biology

models of biological processes and molecular dynamics of disordered proteins

EVA DE ALBA, bioengineering

protein engineering and structural biology, inflammation and cell death, NMR, electron microscopy

ARIEL ESCOBAR, bioengineering

calcium in cardiac cellular signaling and techniques to study cardiac cells in vivo

ANAND GADRE, stem cell instrumentation foundry

nanotechnology, medical device development, sensor development, drug delivery

SAYANTANI GHOSH, physics

experimental condensed matter physics, magnetism, metamaterials, nanoscience and quantum systems

ARVIND GOPINATH, mechanical engineering

fluid dynamics, polymers and active soft matter - theory and simulations

AJAY GOPINATHAN, (co-director), physics

theoretical biophysics, biopolymers, transport and collective behavior

LINDA HIRST, physics

experimental soft matter physics and biophysics

BIN LIU, physics

 $bacterial\ motility\ in\ complex\ media\ and\ single-cell\ behavior\ in\ biological\ processes$

ANDY LIWANG, chemistry and chemical biology

structural biology of circadian clock proteins and nucleic acids, NMR spectroscopy

KARA MCCLOSKEY, materials science and engineering

stem cell and tissue engineering for regenerative medicine applications

KEVIN MITCHELL, physics

theoretical nonlinear dynamics, chaotic transport, atomic and molecular physics, fluids

VICTOR MUÑOZ, (co-director), bioengineering

protein folding, structure prediction and design, protein aggregation

JOEL A. SPENCER, bioengineering

biomedical optics, intravital imaging and sensing, tissue regeneration and transplantation

ANAND BALA SUBRAMANIAM, bioengineering

experimental biophysics, cellular reconstitution, experimental synthetic biology

YUE JESSICA WANG, materials science and engineering

organic electronics, multi-functional polymers, additive manufacturing for wearable electronics

STEPHANIE WOO, molecular cell biology

developmental biology, morphogenesis, cytoskeletal dynamics, gut development, epithelial development

JING XU, physics

experimental biophysics, quantitative biology single-molecule analysis of molecular

TAO YE, chemistry and chemical biology

biomolecular science and engineering, nanotechnology

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