

# Materials Genome Initiative & Materials Innovation Platforms

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Program Director: MRSEC, MIP, and NaFI

NSF Division of Materials Research

MRSEC Director's Meeting  
January 19, 2023

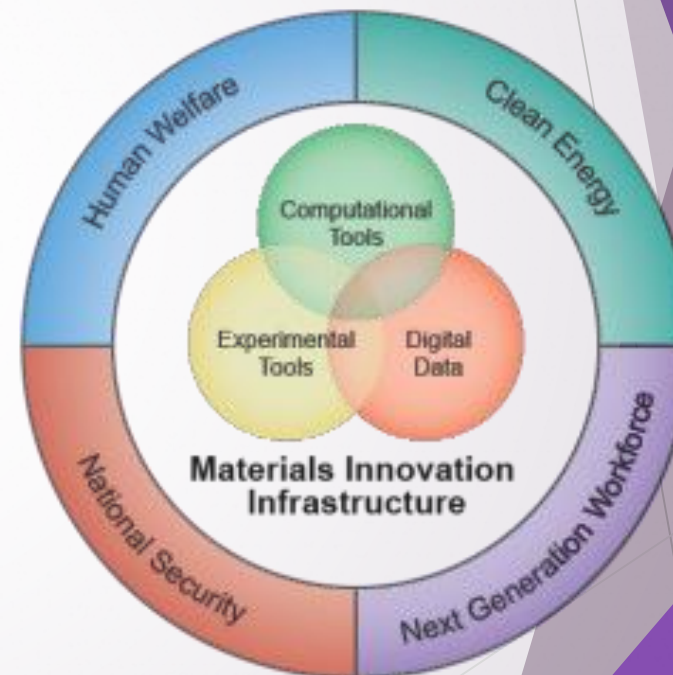


# Materials Genome Initiative (MGI)

Established June 2011

**Vision:**  
Materials innovation  
is integral to core national  
needs

**Approach:**  
Accelerate materials  
innovation through a  
*Materials Innovation  
Infrastructure (MII)*



# Materials Genome Initiative (MGI)

## MGI Strategic Plan 2011 (MGI 1.0)

1. Integrate experiments, computation, & theory
2. Make digital data accessible and useful
3. Develop materials workforce for academia & industry

### NSTC Subcommittee for MGI



Co-chair

L Friedersdorf  
OSTP



Co-chair

J Christodoulou  
ONR (retired)



Co-chair

L Sapochak  
NSF

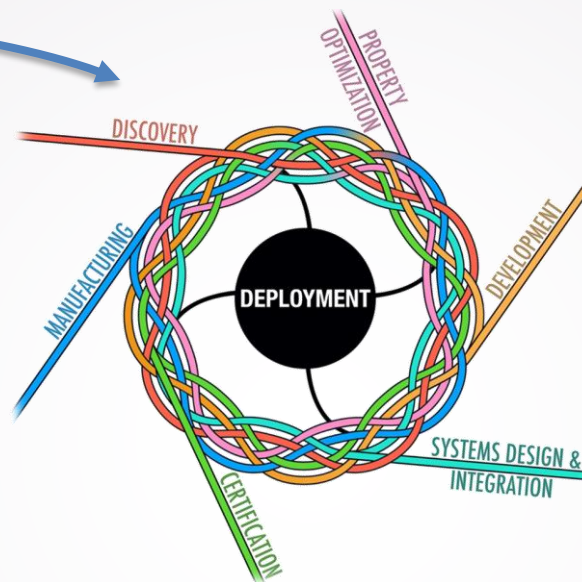
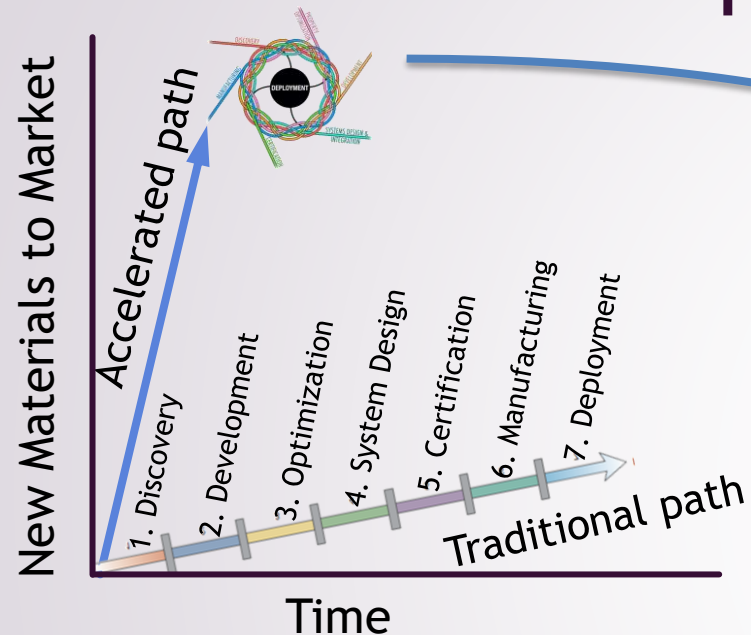


Exec Sec

J A Warren  
NIST



# Materials Development Continuum

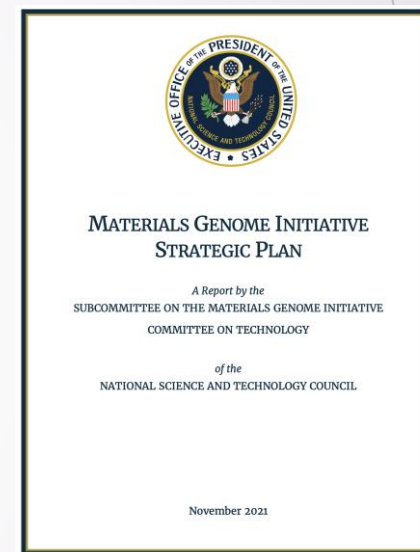


Traditional path is too slow

- Linear
- One-directional

Accelerated path

- Multifaceted
- Iterative



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## MGI Strategic Plan 2021 (MGI 2.0)

1. Unify the materials innovation infrastructure
2. Harness the power of materials data
3. Educate, train, and connect the materials R&D workforce

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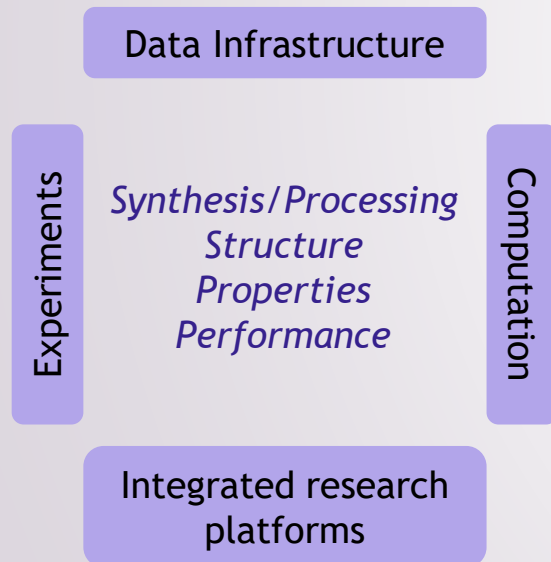
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MGI is a culture shift

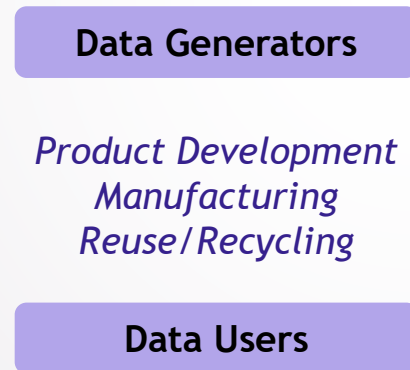


# MGI Goal 1: Unify the Materials Innovation Infrastructure (MII)

Bridge, Build, and Bolster the elements of the MII



Foster a National Materials Data Network



Accelerate adoption of the MII through National Grand Challenges

2018 NIST-Commissioned Report<sup>1</sup>  
US benefit of an improved MII  
\$123 B/yr to \$270 B/yr

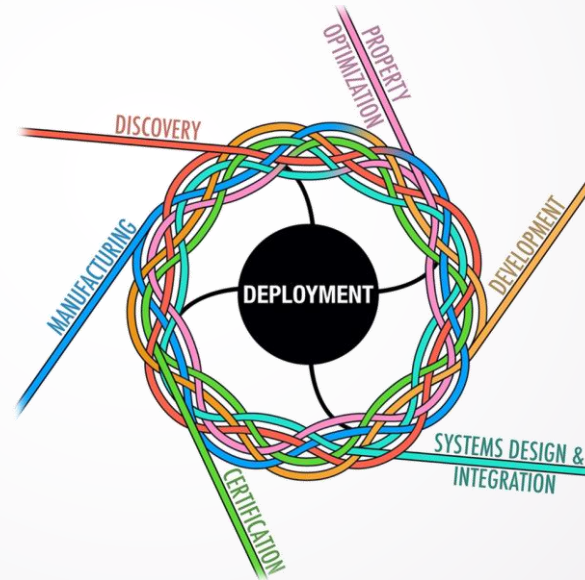
<sup>1</sup>See: <https://www.nist.gov/mgi>



# MGI Goal 2: Harness the Power of Materials Data

Accelerate materials R&D deployment through application of artificial intelligence (AI)

AI driven  
synthesis/processing  
structure  
properties  
performance  
systems-based integration





# MGI Goal 3: Educate, Train, Connect the Materials R&D Workforce

## Objective 1:

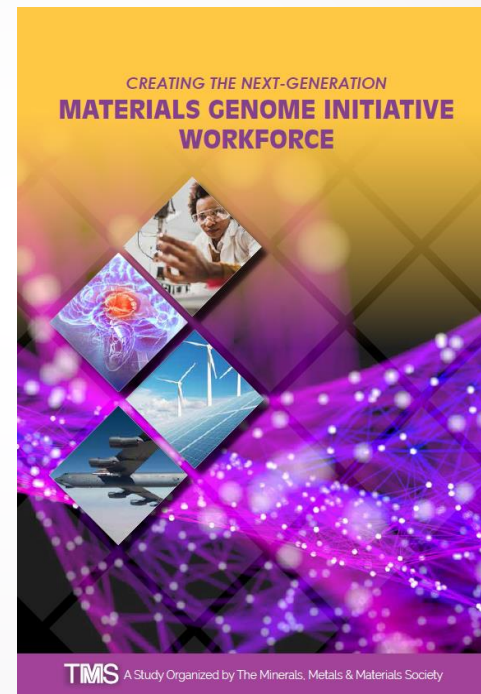
Address current challenges in materials R&D education

## Objective 2:

Train the next-generation workforce

## Objective 3:

Connect talent to opportunity

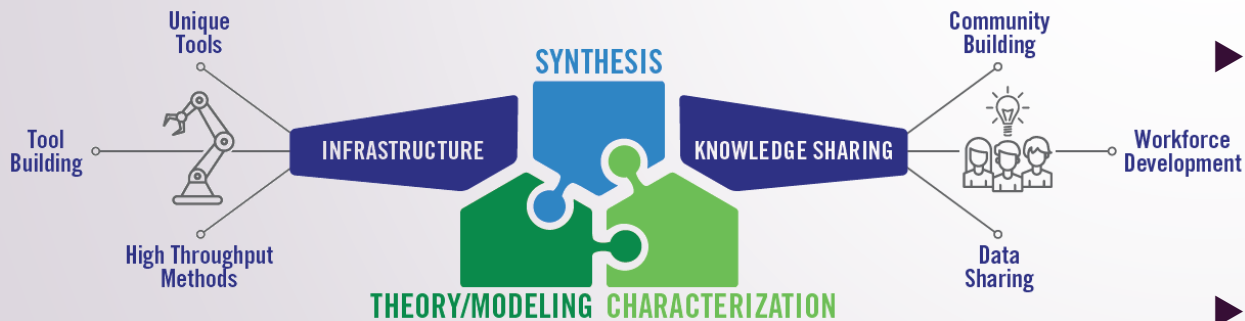
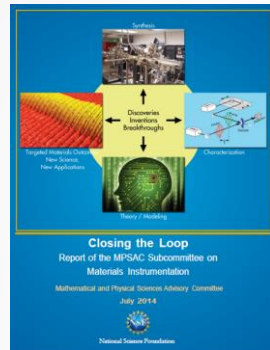
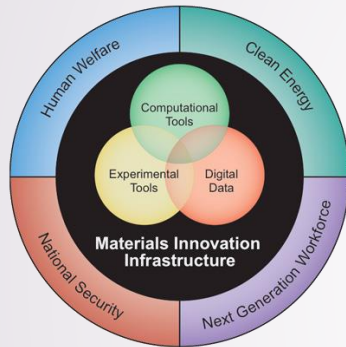
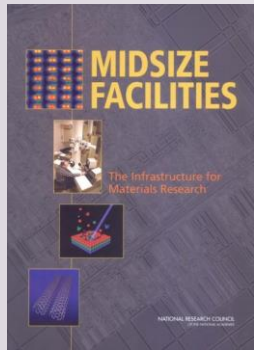


[www.tms.org/MGIWorkforce](http://www.tms.org/MGIWorkforce)





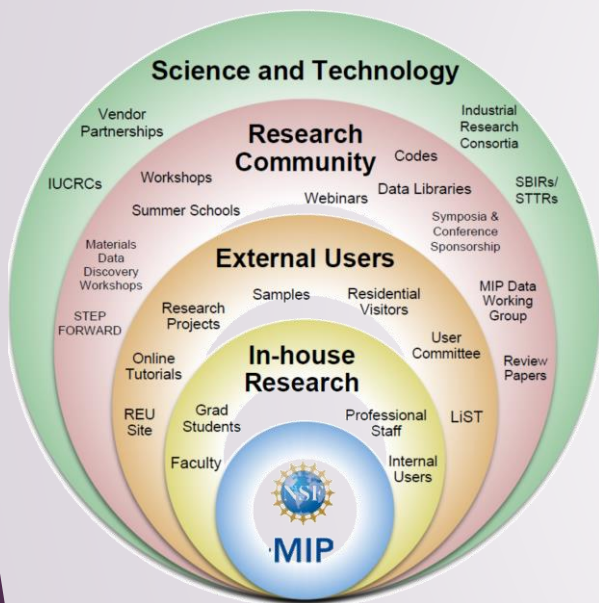
# Materials Innovation Platforms (MIP)



- ▶ A relatively new mid-scale infrastructure program in DMR: two competitions in 2015 and 2019
- ▶ Uses the Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) approach
- ▶ Designed to accelerate advances in materials research topics of national importance
- ▶ Builds and nurtures a scientific ecosystem through knowledge sharing (instruments, codes, samples, data, metadata, know-how, ...)
- ▶ Instrumentation & Technique development



# 4 Pillars of MIP Convergence



1. Use an integrated approach to meet the critical needs for research, education/training, and research infrastructure
2. Foster a culture of knowledge sharing among in-house research scientists, external users, and other scientists
3. Enable iterative, closed-loop efforts across materials synthesis/processing, materials characterization, and theory/modeling/simulation
4. Empower the merging of ideas, approaches, and technologies from widely diverse fields of knowledge (domain science fields relevant to MIP, data science, informatics, ...)

# What Does a MIP Do?

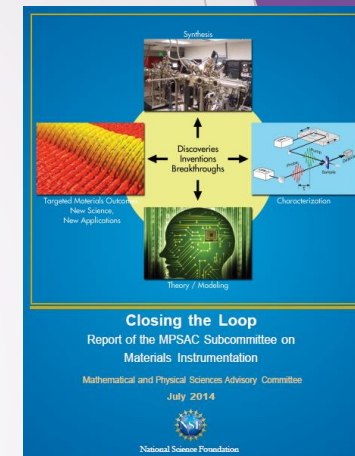
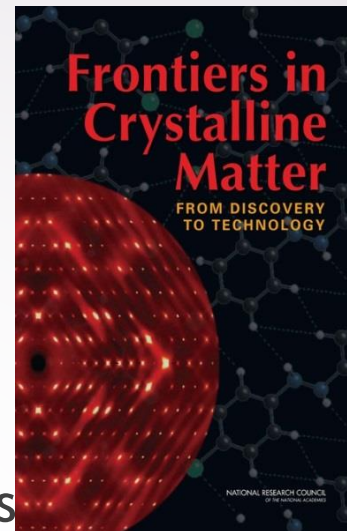
- Develop next-generation experimental and computational **tools**, as well as advancing the capabilities of the current state-of-the-art tools
- Conduct **in-house research** by a transdisciplinary team in a focused topic designed to address a grand challenge of fundamental science and meet a national need
- Operate a **user facility** that provides unique materials research tools, samples, data, and technical services open to a diverse community of external researchers and institutions
- Serve as an educational focal point for **training** the next generation of tool developers and users

In this manner, a MIP will build and nurture a **scientific ecosystem**, which includes in-house research scientists, external users and other scientists who share tools, codes, samples, data, and know-how in order to strengthen collaboration among the scientists and enable them to work together in a new modality.



# The First MIP Competition

- When: 2015
- Topic: Bulk and thin-film crystalline hard materials
- Statistics:
  - ❖ 4 finalists invited to reverse site visit at NSF in August 2015
  - ❖ 2 awards made in March 2016 (5 years, plus a 5-year renewal based on performance. 10 years maximum)
    - ✓ PARADIM and 2DCC
- Both 2016 MIPs successfully renewed in 2021





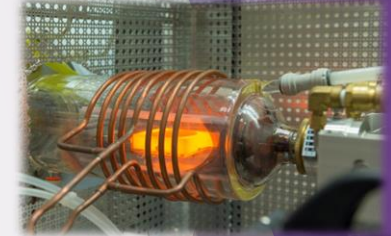
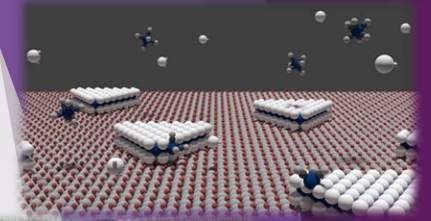
**2D Crystal Consortium**  
NSF Materials Innovation Platform

[www.mip.psu.edu](http://www.mip.psu.edu)



**PennState**

- **Focus:** Layered chalcogenide crystals and related 2D materials
- Major User Facilities (all at Penn State University):
  - ❖ Thin-film growth: CVD, MBE with STM, SEM & **laser ARPES (new)** in HIVE, and confinement heteroepitaxy (upcoming)
  - ❖ Bulk crystal growth: Bridgman & chemical vapor transport furnaces
  - ❖ Theory and simulation: growth kinetics, characterization, *etc.*



➤ Major Activities:

- ❖ Accept user proposals year round
- ❖ Sample, **data**, and **ReaxFF** request options
- ❖ Annual *Graphene and Beyond* workshops
- ❖ Webinars (all recorded and available online)
- ❖ **Resident Scholar Visitor Program**
- ❖ **Data:** Lifetime Sample Tracking (LiST) and LiST 2.0 (artificial intelligence), STEPFORWARD





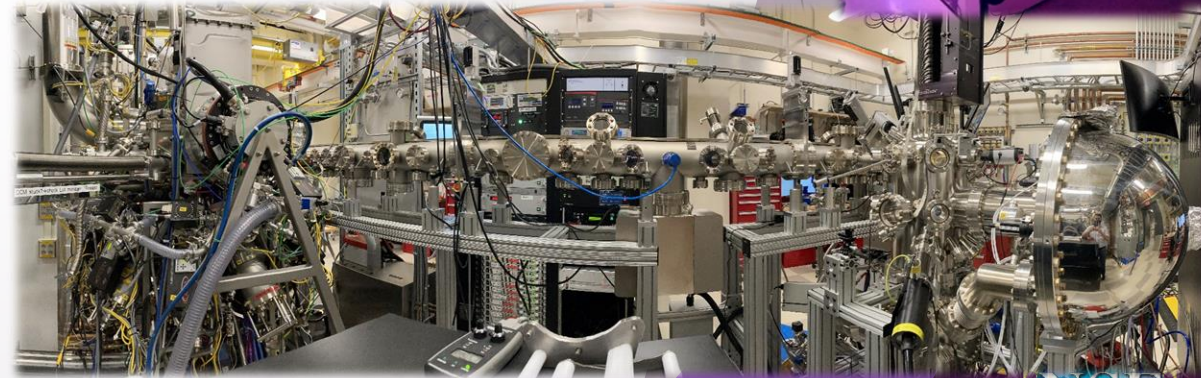
# PARADIM

AN NSF MATERIALS INNOVATION PLATFORM

[www.paradim.org](http://www.paradim.org)

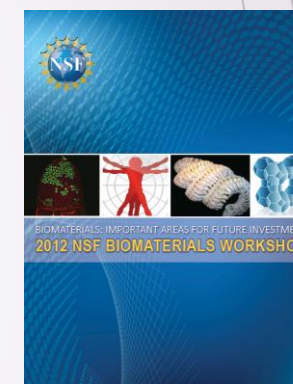
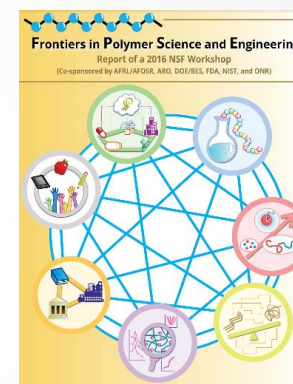
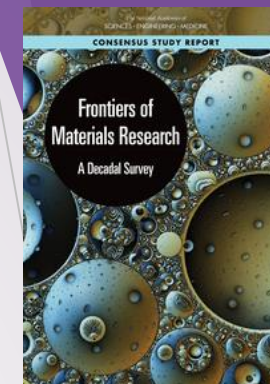
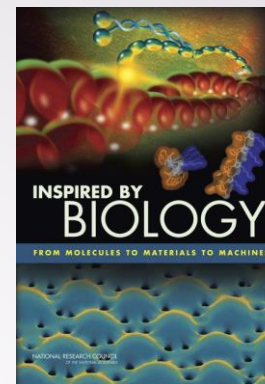


- **Focus:** Inorganic single crystals and epitaxial thin films with superior electronic characteristics, particularly interface quantum materials
- Major User Facilities (at Cornell University unless otherwise noted):
  - ❖ Thin-film growth: MBE (62 elements) with ARPES & laser sample heating (upcoming)
  - ❖ Transmission Electron Microscopy (Spectra) with 2<sup>nd</sup>-generation EMPAD (new)
  - ❖ Theory and Simulation: electronic properties and mismatched interface theory
  - ❖ Bulk crystal growth (at Johns Hopkins): world's first floating-zone furnace (FZF) with 300-atm O<sub>2</sub>, tilted laser-diode FZF, and laser-heated 1000-atm pedestal furnace
- Major Activities:
  - ❖ Accept user proposals year-round
  - ❖ Summer schools (all recorded & available online)
  - ❖ Public data sets and analysis codes associated with published papers available at PARADIM website (new)



# The second MIP Competition

- When: 2019
- Topic: the convergence of materials research with biological sciences for developing new materials
- Statistics:
  - ❖ 4 finalists invited to reverse site visit at NSF in November 2019
  - ❖ 2 awards made in August 2020 (5 years, plus a 5-year renewal based on performance. 10 years maximum)
    - ✓ BioPACIFIC MIP and GlycoMIP

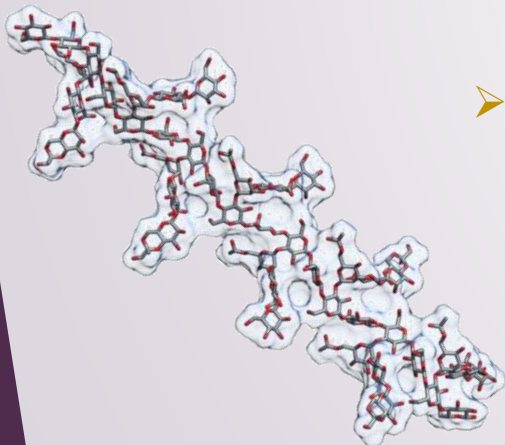




- **Focus:** Scalable production of bio-derived building blocks and polymers from yeast, fungi and bacteria. Data-driven discovery of next-generation polymers with properties and performance far exceeding those currently available in materials produced through traditional petrochemical-based methods.
- Major User Facilities: (at UC Santa Barbara and UC Los Angeles):
  - ❖ Living Bioreactor: automated gene assembly, amplification, transformation, strain growth, and metabolite analysis (UCLA)
  - ❖ Synthetic Chemistry: robotic synthesis, flow chemistry, and 3D printing (UCSB)
  - ❖ Characterization: Next-generation XRD, microRheology (UCSB); microED (UCLA)
  - ❖ Data and Computation: multiscale biopolymer simulation (UCSB)
- Major Activities:
  - ❖ Accept user proposals & sample requests year round
  - ❖ Summer schools on industry workforce development
  - ❖ BioPACIFIC MIP *Monomer* and *Pathways Libraries*



- **Focus:** Rational design and development of novel glycomaterials
- Major User Facilities (at Virginia Tech and the University of Georgia):
  - ❖ On-demand glycan synthesis: two automated glycan synthesizers
  - ❖ *De novo* structure determination: expert services on state-of-the-art spectrometers
  - ❖ Biomolecular interaction analysis: high-throughput and automated instrumentation
  - ❖ Solution-state 3D structure analysis: Raman and infrared optical activity
  - ❖ Theory and simulation: virtual user facility for glycan modeling



- Major Activities:
  - ❖ Year-round acceptance of proposals and sample requests
  - ❖ Summer schools and hands-on training courses
  - ❖ Open-access webinars and educational videos
  - ❖ Open-access databases (spectra, molecular models, synthesizer data)



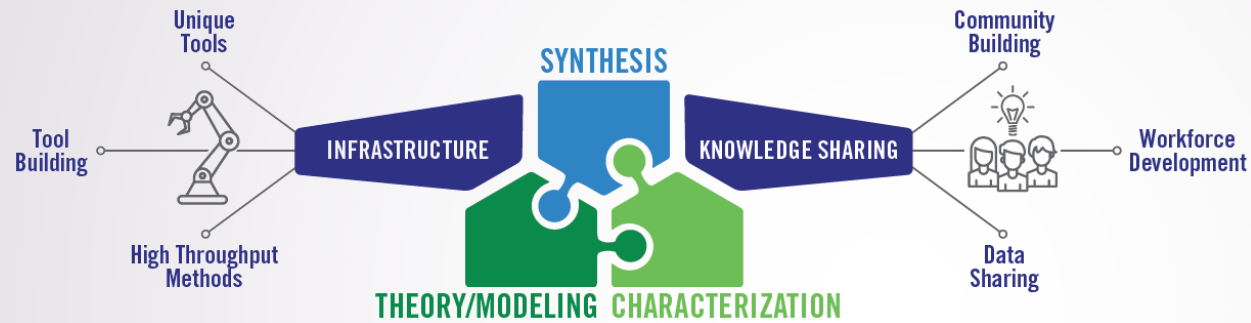


# Materials Innovation Platforms (MIP)



Charles Ying

Cosima Boswell-Koller



For more information, visit [www.mip.org](http://www.mip.org)



# Discussion

How do the MRSECs contribute to, strengthen, and bolster the Materials Innovation Infrastructure?

Are there key initiatives already underway? If so, what are they?

Are there current activities that could be leveraged and strengthened through collaborative efforts amongst many/all MRSECs?

Are there activities the network of MRSECs or subsets of MRSECs could develop?

How can the MRSECs best communicate their collective impacts in support of the materials community?



# Thank you

**Cosima Boswell-Koller, Ph.D.**

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