# Center for Dynamics and Control of Materials: an NSF MRSEC

Edward T. Yu, Director



### The CDCM Community of Practice

"Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly."

Wenger et al., Harvard Business Review 78, 139 (2000); STEP Leadership Workshop for NSF STEM Talent Expansion Program (2011)

#### 2020 Wolf Prize in Physics to Allan MacDonald





Nian H. MacDonaid Nolf Prize Laureate in Physics 1020

January 2020

Allan MacDonald and Madisen Holbrook at Brentwood Elementary (Austin, TX)



February 2020



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#### The CDCM Team



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3/15



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#### **IRG 1: Reconfigurable Nanocrystal Assemblies**

Eric Anslyn and Delia Milliron, co-leaders



Engineering nanocrystals, organic molecules, polymers, and biomolecules to create responsive and reconfigurable materials for photonics, water filtration, and energy storage

#### **IRG 2: Materials Driven by Light** Elaine Li and Greg Fiete, co-leaders



Using light to create new states of matter and engineer solid-state materials for photonics, electronics, and quantum information processing



#### **IRG 1: Reconfigurable Nanocrystal Assemblies**



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TEXAS

5/15



### IRG 1: Reconfigurable Nanocrystal Assemblies









[Graham AJ, Dundas CM, Hillsley A, Kasprak DS, **Rosales AM, Keitz BK**. *ACS Biomater. Sci. Eng*. 2020; 6(3):1375-1386.]

- **1.** Extracellular electron flux (EET) from *Shewanella oneidensis* facilitates biological control over radical polymerization.
- 2. Microbial polymerizations can be performed under ambient conditions with lyophilized cells.
- 3. Controlled expression of EET-relevant genes allows for genetic control over hydrogel mechanics.



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Laser heating combined with Brillouin scattering in  $Y_3Fe_5O_{12}$  enables creation and characterization of nonequilibrium phonon and magnon (spin wave) excitations with distinct temperatures

Formulation of magnon chemical potential enables quantitative assessment of temperature-driven and potential-driven spin currents



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### IRG 2: Materials Driven by Light



[ZD Chu, ..., AH MacDonald, XQ Li, CK Shih, KJ Lai, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 117, 13908-13 (2020).]

Light-assisted microwave impedance microscopy (MIM) enables localized characterization of electrical conductivity, photoconductivity, minority carrier diffusion, carrier trapping dynamics at submicron length scales



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# IRG 2: Materials Driven by Light





[J Choi, WT Hsu, ..., CK Shih, X Li, WH Chang, Sci. Advances 6, eaba8866 (2020).]

Rotational misalignment in transition metal dichalcogenide bilayers creates periodic potential modulation in Moiré superlattices

Exciton energy spacings and optical selection rules modulated by Moiré superlattice periodicity and local variations in atomic alignment between layers

Moire potentials offer route to highly controlled engineering of exciton confinement and diffusion at the nanoscale



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### 2018 SuperSeed: Universal Chemometrics for Living and Non-Living Materials







Machine learning for analysis of biotic and abiotic materials, e.g., from NMR spectra

abiotic characterize surface structure

Cronin pathway complexity quantifies assembly complexity of molecules and materials, and correlates with molecular weight, mass spectra, NMR, and other experimental measures

Creation of training data set combined with machine learning (DP4-AI source code) being used to explore patterns in biotic and abiotic materials, connecting to NSF Big Ideas on "Rules of Life" and "Data Revolution"

'Sense' materials by using statistical correlations between their chemical composition, oligonucleotide arrays that physically bind to them, and proximity of binding to create a DNA sequence space 'fingerprint' of the material

[Anslyn, Ellington, Marcotte, Korgel, Milliron]

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### 2018 SuperSeed: Universal Chemometrics for Living and Non-**Living Materials**



Confirmation that expected sized PLA products are being generated

Exploration and refinement of motif analysis goals and approaches for material distinction

Assessment of additional experimental and sequence information required for training the analyses

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### Education and Outreach – Reaching Broad Audiences

Mike Egan





MRSEC faculty visit to UT Rio Grande Valley

Bias Busting Workshop

Arts + Sciences

MRSEC Artist Talk May 2, 5-6pm, NHB 6.204 Virginia Lee Montgomery

A Virtual Discus Diversity & Inclusio	sion on n in STEM
vith Dr. Geraldine Richmond	
riday January 29th, 2021 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	CONTRACTOR
https://utexas.zoom.us/j/99826182105	St. 1 355
Richmond is the Presidential Chair in Science and Profes-	
or of Chemistry at the University of Chegon. Her research sing laser spectroscopy and computational methods	
ocusses on understanding environmentally and technologi- ally important processes that occur at liquid surfaces. Rich-	
nond is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and Fellow and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences	Dr. Ceraldre (Ceral Rohmond Cheffer Hent)
he has served in leadership roles on many international, ational and state governing and advisory boards. She is	
urrently serving as a member of the National Science Board, s the U.S. Science Envoy to the Lower Mekong River Coun-	Awards for Richmond's scientific arromolishments include the 2018
ries and as Secretary of the American Academy of Arts and iciences. She is recent past president of the American Asso-	Priestley Medal from the American Chamical Society (ACS) the Linux
sation for the Advancement of Science and Sigma Xi.	Pauling medal Award, the National Medal of Science the American Phase
hroughout Richmond's career she has worked passionately in increasing the diversity, equity and inclusivity of women	ical Society Davisson-Germer Prize,
nd other underrepresented groups in STEM. She is the	the Theoretical and Experimental
ormed in 1998 that has helped over 25,000 women scientists	from the Royal Society of Chemistry
wo dozen developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin	and the ACS Olin-Garvan Medal.
ward for Outstanding Public Service, the ACS Award for	https://richmondscience.uoregon.edu/
al Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engi-	
eening Mentoring and the National Medal of Science for hese efforts.	
D C M	mrsec.utexas.edu
For more info: https://msec.utex	as.edu/events-0 512-232-9696
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Voor	CDCM REU students			
rear	Total	Female	URM	
2018*	5	4	1	
2019	11	6	4	
2020	14	6	5	
*2 REU s	tudents fro	m 2018 are	e now	

Proactive outreach to underrepresented populations via faculty recruiting visits and REU program

Events to foster diversity and inclusion

Annual climate surveys, regular pulse checks and strategic assessments with center participants

COVID-19 specific programming to address best practices, climate, mental health and well-being

Arts+Sciences program promotes public awareness of and engagement with science

National Science Foundation

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Arts + Sciences Artist Residency Program

/isiting Artist Lecture

SIEBREN Monday, April 1 2-3PM

VERSTEEG

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## Education and Outreach – K-5 RET Program

"Many elementary school teachers, the proverbial jacks-of-all-trades, face a trio of issues when it comes to teaching science: they don't like science, they don't feel confident in their knowledge of science, and they don't know how to teach science effectively."

From R. Allen, Priorities in Practice: The Essentials of Science, Grades K-6 (2006)

#### MRSEC RET Program Impact (2018-2020)

Teachers in the RET Program	19
RET lessons created	19
Students impacted through RET lessons	>600
Conference/workshop presentations on RET lessons	8
RET class fieldtrips to MRSEC labs	5
Science Clubs initiated at RET schools	4
Past RETs serving as mentors in program	5

"This program has pushed me to think outside of the box when delivering lessons. Instead of just using canned science lessons that can often be dry and boring, it has pushed me to use up-to-date information and inquiry methods that truly get at the heart of flat sciences and excite the students into wanting to be more engaged." - MRSEC RET participant









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"If you don't get kids interested in science by the time they leave elementary school, it's usually too late."

Jo Ann Isken, Interim Program Director Teacher Education Program UCLA

Elementary school students learn science best when they are involved in first-hand exploration and investigation [...]

National Science Teachers Association http://www.nsta.org/about/positions/elementary.aspx

#### Figure 1. RET Confidence in Certain Teaching Practices on the Pre-Summer and Follow-up Surveys from 2018-2020 Not at all Slightly Moderately Mostly Completely

Your ability to integrate science or engineering...

	Pre-Summer (N=11)	9%	45%	, )	3	6%	9%	
	Follow-up (N=11)	9%		82%		9%		
	Your ability to facilitate lab-like activities							
	Pre-Summer (N=11)	9%	27%		45%	189	%	
	Follow-up (N=11)	<mark>9%</mark>		64%		27%		
	Your ability to educate students about							
	Pre-Summer (N=11)	9%	27%		45%		18%	
	Follow-up (N=11)	<mark>9%</mark>		64%		27%		
	0	%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100	
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#### Summary **Texas Materials Community of Practice** CDCM seminars & summer\_schools Industry-University Entrepreneurial **IRG's** Nexus Greenhouse seed projects external UV lase Control of Memories and The University of Texa collaborations undergraduate research Arts+Sciences 6 REU | RET aser-driver Stuff SiO<sub>2</sub> deposition partnership with UT FRI Crystalline -emiconductor fill-in student societies society at large Build arbitrary minority serving institutions 3D structures K-5 | K-12 DEAD ALIVE 8 20 8 . Biolog 0-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30 Pathway Assembly Complexity Number ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Support for this research was provided by the National Science Foundation through the Center for Dynamics and Control of Materials: an NSF MRSEC under Cooperative Agreement No. DMR-1720595. Additional support was provided by the University of Texas at Austin. Center for Dynamics and MRSEC **TEXAS RICE** https://mrsec.utexas.edu 15/15 Control of Materials: an NSF MRSEC