



INSTITUTE FOR GENOMIC BIOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



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INFORMATION

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THE RESEARCH THEMES FALL UNDER ONE
OF THREE PROGRAM AREAS:

- **Systems Biology**
- **Cellular and Metabolic Engineering**
- **Genome Technology**

The mission of the Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB) is to advance life science research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and to stimulate bio-economic development in the state of Illinois. The near-term strategic objective of the IGB is to identify and promote Research Themes that will capitalize on the recent advances in genome science and technology.

Both the Systems Biology and Cellular and Metabolic Engineering Program Areas will ultimately encompass themes that use genomically sequenced microbial, plant, or animal species (including insects) as model or target organisms. The Genome Technology Area will be associated with one or more Research Themes in the other two Program Areas. The goal is to achieve integration within life kingdoms and across Program Areas, as well as higher order interactions among the Research Themes.

Research will focus on significant problems facing humanity, such as stabilizing the biosphere, managing new and emerging pests and pathogens, and maintaining an abundant and healthy food supply. Coupled to the Research Themes will be programs that will explore the ethical, legal, and social issues arising from the research.

The IGB will be housed in a \$75 million, 186,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility designed by CUH2A, a world-renowned architecture and engineering firm. Construction began in April 2004, with completion anticipated in mid-2006. The building design will facilitate collaboration between researchers and provide space to advance technology transfer, education, and engagement with partners in the field of genomic biology. Each thematic research area will be housed in a Thematic Lab Module providing laboratory facilities for Biology, Bioengineering, and Bioinformatics. The construction and daily operation of the institute will be funded by the state, while the research programs will be supported mainly through external funding from the federal government, corporations, and foundations.

Approximately 50 faculty, staff, and students from as many as 30 different campus units can be accommodated in each of the seven Thematic Lab Modules at the IGB. A cluster of core facilities, including a microscopy suite, plant growth facility, and microfabrication lab will support the scientific objectives of the Research Themes. The administrative gatehouse of the IGB will house conference facilities and teaching laboratories, a museum quality outreach center, and a café, all meant to provide a stimulating environment for conducting interdisciplinary research at the cutting edge of the life sciences revolution.