



Emergent Mechanisms in Biology of
Robustness, Integration & Organization

“EMBRIO NEWS (eventual name TBD)”
August 10, 2022

DIRECTORS NOTE

Hello and welcome to the inaugural newsletter for all things EMBRIO Institute!

To aid in fostering communications across the Institute, we are developing an email-based news update with this being a first run. This regular update will serve to disseminate general announcements and important dates, training and professional development workshops, seminars, conferences, awards, publications, Member and Institute spotlights, trainee dissertation defense dates, recruitment/openings, and other pertinent news and action items. Members will receive a regular request for sharing these items to include in the e-News updates. Also- please contact Brent Ladd laddb@purdue.edu if you have things you'd like to include. **Please share your ideas for a newsletter name!** So far, we have several possible monikers submitted. Get your ideas in to Brent by next week.

Thanks to everyone for participating in the exciting workshop and retreat! We are excited to carry this momentum forward through the upcoming year as we continue to learn from each other, work across disciplinary boundaries, and tackle important and timely questions in signal integration and cellular defense.

- David, Chris, Stephanie, Brent, and Carl

QUICK LINKS

[Weekly EMBRIO Research & Education Meeting Zoom Link \(Mondays at 3 – 4pm\)](#)

[EMBRIO Core Values Feedback Google Slides](#)

[New EMBRIO Member Demographics Survey](#)

[Summer Workshop and Annual Meeting 2022 Materials](#)

EMBRIO HIGHLIGHT

EMBRIO Summer Workshop “Computational Cabal” & Annual Meeting



A big thank you to all who participated and served as instructors during the Institute’s first summer workshop and annual retreat! The common thread of the workshop focused on biology and learning to use appropriate modeling tools, while bringing EMBRIO experimentalists together with computationalists for integration conversation and teamwork. Hosted on the Purdue West Lafayette campus in the School of Biomedical Engineering week of July 18, 48 participated in the workshop and 56 in the annual meeting representing all EMBRIO partners.

The workshop organized three very productive days with in-depth tutorials on Introductions to Models, Scales, & Coding, Modeling & Simulation workshops on COPASI and Tellurium, and a full day workshop devoted to CompuCell3D. A special thank you to our instructors: David Umulis, Elsie Pienaar, Alejandra Magana, Jeremy Zartman, Norma Pérez, James Glazier, T.J. Seago, and James Sluka.

Our annual retreat delivered more than twenty research integration talks across the breadth of EMBRIO Research Thrusts, with strong presentations by our trainees and faculty, as well as showcased undergraduate research presentations, and a lively poster session with graduate, undergraduate, and postdoc scholars of the Institute.

Members are invited to access workshop materials, annual meeting presentations, photos, and poster abstracts in the “[Summer Workshop and Annual Meeting 2022](#)” folder of our shared Box account.

UPCOMING DEADLINES, IMPORTANT DATES, & INFO

Investigator Annual Reporting Deadlines: We are on a tight timeline to report our Yr. 1 progress to NSF. The schedule for reporting:

- Mon, August 8 Investigator draft Project Reports due to Manager(s)

- Mon August 15 Director follow up queries due to Investigators
- **Mon August 15 (Purdue only: Yr. 2 requests and plans)**
- Mon August 22 Investigator follow up responses due to Manager(s)
- Fri August 26 Final draft available to Investigators for comment
- Mon, August 29 Investigator comments on Final draft due to Manager(s)
- **Wed. Aug. 31** Completed Annual Report due to NSF

August 15th: Member Demographics Survey: For new members that have joined EMBRIO since March, please read the email request sent today from Brent with instructions from Ignacio Camarillo regarding the online survey to complete (direct link: https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5yIrHqxH1hHLL8a). This demographics information, although voluntary, greatly aids the Institute in tracking our progress on diversity initiatives. Faculty, please forward the demographics survey to any new trainees or interns that have recently joined the Institute.

August 15th Core Values Feedback. In addition to EMBRIO's Vision and Mission, our Strategic Plan includes nine Core Values that provide a guiding foundation for the culture and communities of practice we strive to build. The strategic plan is a living document, owned by all members of the Institute. Stephanie Gardner presented our shared Core Values statements at our recent annual retreat and invited all members to provide feedback and input. We invite you ALL to provide feedback and input based on your experience in the institute thus far. This will not be the last time we revisit these values to reflect and improve the institute, but we request that you offer your input by August 15. You can do so anonymously within the Google Slides set (slides 6-15): <https://tinyurl.com/5h49w85n>

August 29th: Weekly Research & Education Zoom Meetings Fall Semester, Monday's 3 – 4 pm. Following a break to focus on NSF Yr. 1 reporting, we'll continue weekly research updates August 29th at our established day and time of Monday's 3-4 pm with a focus on integration. Select sessions will be devoted to DEI topics. I'll be contacting you to schedule your research talks soon! A new calendar invite with Zoom link was sent out to members on August 8th. Please note the NEW Zoom link: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/96053485465?pwd=eVnY20wcm9kaFRtVUdPcmFHGl1UT09&from=addon>

September 14: EMBRIO THESIS DEFENSE: Ph.D. student, Matthew Thompson with the Umulis Lab will be defending his dissertation September 14 at 11:30 in MJIS 2001 on the Purdue Campus. There will be a [Zoom option](#) if anyone in the Institute wants to join!

Nov. 9 – Nov. 12: The **[Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists \(ABRCMS\)](#)** is a go-to conference for underrepresented groups in STEM fields. Scientific or professional development session submissions were due July 29.

Jan. 2 – 6, 2023: The BMES Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering Special Interest Group is seeking abstracts for the **[BMES Conference \(CMBE\)](#)** in Indian Wells, CA. **[DEADLINE for submissions is September 14.](#)**