



NEWS

Contact: David Bobbitt
(410) 385-6315
Bobbitt@umbi.umd.edu

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CARB II Ribbon Cutting Announced for September 21

Rockville, MD—Today UMBI President Jennie C. Hunter-Cevera announced that the new expansion of UMBI's Center for Advanced Research in Biotechnology (CARB), CARB II, will open with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 21 at 10:30 a.m. Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Senator Patrick J. Hogan, Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan (invited), MdBio President C. Robert Eaton, NIST Director William A. Jeffrey, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development Secretary Aris Melissaratos (invited), USM Regents Chair Clifford M. Kendall, and USM Chancellor William E. Kirwan will join Hunter-Cevera and CARB Director Edward Eisenstein for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

“This facility will help keep Maryland among the top biotechnology locations in the world,” said Eisenstein, a noted researcher in protein structure-function relationships.

“With the strong leadership of Governor Ehrlich and champions in the state legislature including Senators Hogan and Jennie Forehand of Montgomery County, the state has invested more than \$60 million to expand this research center,” explained Hunter-Cevera. “The planned research activities and programs will greatly benefit the State in keeping Maryland at the forefront of biotechnology.”

The new 140,000 square foot building provides additional laboratory space to house a growing UMBI research program. The facility will include

- A first-in-the-region Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) laboratory for training and the production of biopharmaceuticals for early phase clinical trials. Programs for training GMP workers are needed to meet growing workforce needs in Maryland and the United States.
- An insect transformation suite with biosafely level 3 laboratories and animal facilities to develop transgenic insects for research to block the transmission of harmful disease-causing agents.
- A state-of-the-art greenhouse with a plant transformation facility.
- Genomics and proteomics capabilities, including microarray analysis of gene expression and mass spectrometry for protein identification and analysis.
- Expanded space for the W.M. Keck Structural Biology Laboratory, a leading center for the study of protein structures using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy and x-ray crystallography.

For press credentialing, please contact David Bobbitt at Bobbitt@umbi.umd.edu or (410) 385-6315. The event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. A short primer of biotechnology terms and concepts including “genomics” and “proteomics” will be available for members of the press who may be unfamiliar with biotechnology concepts. For more information or to RSVP please call (240) 314-RSVP or reply electronically at carb2ribboncutting@umbi.umd.edu.

One of five centers forming UMBI and located at the University of Maryland Shady Grove Campus, CARB advances biotechnology by integrating molecular and biological science. CARB is a unique partnership among the University of System of Maryland, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the U.S Department of Commerce, and Montgomery County, Maryland. Located on land donated by the Gudelsky family, CARB is a catalyst for research, education, and economic development in biotechnology.

With research centers in Baltimore, Rockville, and College Park, the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute is the newest of 13 institutions forming the University System of Maryland. UMBI has 85 ladder-rank faculty and a 2006 budget of \$60 million. Celebrating the institution’s 20th year of service to Maryland and the world, UMBI is led by microbiologist and former biotechnology executive Dr. Jennie C. Hunter-Cevera. For more information visit www.umbi.umd.edu.

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