Postdoctoral Fellowship in Regenerative Biology
Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois

The Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offers a fellowship for truly exceptional young scholars who have completed their PhD within the last several years, and who are looking for a stimulating and supportive interdisciplinary environment to carry out independent and collaborative research. IGB Fellows will typically spend two or more years conducting research in one of the IGB themes. A personalized mentoring plan will be developed for each Fellow. Annual salary is $54,000, in addition to a $7,500 research allowance.

Regenerative Biology and Tissue Engineering (RBTE)
The Regenerative Biology and Tissue Engineering theme is a multi-disciplinary, collaborative research group that works at the convergence of genomics, cell biology, immunology and bioengineering. The RBTE theme pursues research to define the role played by the tissue microenvironment in processes of development, homeostasis, disease progression, and regeneration. We seek to model dynamic changes within the tissue microenvironment that occur with ageing, injury, or disease progression, as well as to develop innovative strategies to harness signals from the microenvironment as a driving force to promote therapeutic intervention and regeneration. The fellow will work collaboratively with multiple theme faculty members on a project(s) involving one or multiple of theme efforts with a focus on cancer tissue engineering. Theme faculty are developing tissue engineering platforms to investigate pathophysiological processes responsible for invasive spreading and therapeutic resistance in glioblastoma, the most aggressive and deadly form of brain cancer. Possible areas of focus include: to develop new lines of investigation to accelerate study of matrix-targeted therapeutic or immunotherapy interventions; to examine the role of reciprocal signaling (secretome, extracellular vesicles), matrisome remodeling, and/or metabolic constraint on cell activity. Additional opportunities for collaborative research include efforts in craniofacial bone and/or connective tissue regeneration to accelerate stem cell recruitment or modulate post-injury immune/inflammatory response to aid healing.

The Fellow will also be expected to take a leadership role in organizing group events and especially in teaching and mentoring students and other junior members of the team. She/He will participate in group meetings, communicate project progress, and interact with collaborators within the IGB and greater Illinois research community. The fellow will have an opportunity to work on side projects and to develop novel lines of research, based on their interests and background, and participate in the rich science outreach environment at the IGB.

The IGB and the RBTE research theme have a commitment to diversity in all areas and strongly encourages candidates from underrepresented groups to apply. We favor candidates who can contribute to the institute’s trajectory of recruiting scholars who will pursue a new generation of scientific inquiries that can be addressed by a diversified cohort of scholars. Candidates should highlight relevant background in biomaterial fabrication and characterization, multi-cellular co-cultures, metabolic signaling, or organ-on-a-chip platforms, particularly expertise in the execution and computational analysis of single-cell genomics experiments, primary (stem) cell
cultures, and/or computational analysis of secretome/matrisome signaling or remodeling. A track record of high impact peer-reviewed journal publications and excellent communication skills are required. Applicants should submit a CV, a research summary, and the names of three recommenders who can write letters on their behalf. This information should be sent to Professor Brendan Harley (Theme Leader), at CCapply@igb.illinois.edu in advance of the closing date. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Visit www.igb.illinois.edu for additional information.