



UMBI
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

NEWS

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UMBI's College Park Center Effects Leadership Transition

College Park, MD—Today UMBI President Dr. Jennie C. Hunter-Cevera announced that Donald Nuss, Ph.D., will step down as Director of UMBI's Center for Biosystems Research (CBR) effective July 30, 2006.

“Dr. Nuss is a leading scientist and has served CBR through periods of significant change and growth over 11 years,” stated Hunter-Cevera. “As a researcher, Dr. Nuss’ work on the chestnut blight fungus has been recognized as an environmentally sustainable pest management advance and has offered hope for restoring an ecologically important and economically significant natural resource.”

CBR's size and budget grew more than 200 percent during Nuss' leadership. Nuss provided a significant leadership role in transitioning CBR from the original Center for Agricultural Biotechnology and later helped build the UMBI Shady Grove facility, a complex of interdisciplinary research scheduled to open in September 2006. Nuss will continue to serve as a UMBI researcher at CBR.

Dr. Hunter-Cevera announced that CBR Associate Director Greg Payne, Ph.D., will become Acting Director on August 1. Dr. Payne has 19 years experience at UMBI and is a leading researcher in biomolecular engineering. “Dr. Payne has my confidence and will ensure that the quality and productivity of CBR research continues,” stated Hunter-Cevera.

One of five centers forming UMBI and established in 1987, CBR is located in the Plant Sciences Building on the campus of the University of Maryland, College Park. CBR facilities include the University System of Maryland's primary DNA Sequencing Facility and a DNA microarray production and analysis core facility.

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-ranked 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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