Research Centers and Institutes

The university's interdisciplinary institutes and centers provide opportunities for graduate training and research. Members hold faculty positions in related academic departments. Students who want to work in one of the institutes as part of thesis or dissertation research must satisfy the graduate degree requirements of the related department through which they earn their degree.

Students who want to work in any of these fields may obtain information about the programs and financial aid from institute and center directors as well as online (http://research.uoregon.edu/content/uo-research-centers-and-institutes) .

Center for High Energy Physics

James Brau, Director
541-346-4898
uoregon.edu/~chep

The Center for High Energy Physics enhances the physics research activities at Oregon by sponsoring seminars on topics in high-energy physics, hosting visiting scientists, supporting graduate student research, aiding interaction between experimental activities and theoretical investigations of Oregon scientists, and fostering communication of research to the broader community.

Center for the Study of Women in Society

Michael Hames-Garcia, Director
541-346-5015
csws.uoregon.edu

This multidisciplinary research center generates, supports, and disseminates research on gender and all aspects of women's lives. A member of the National Council for Research on Women, the center is one of ninety-five women's research and policy facilities in the United States and among 300 such centers in more than eighty countries.

Center on Brain Injury Research and Training

Ann Glang, Director
541-346-0593
cbirt.org (http://csws.uoregon.edu)

The center conducts research and training to improve the lives of children and adults with traumatic brain injury, and research focuses on developing interventions to improve issues related to their education, employability, and quality of life. Training activities promote the use of best practices among educators and other professionals who serve individuals with traumatic brain injury.

Center on Teaching and Learning

Hank Fien, Director
541-346-3562
ctl.uoregon.edu

The center is a community of scholars who conduct and disseminate research that focuses on the solutions to serious but practical problems in school systems. It seeks to advance the understanding and use of the most rigorous scientific evidence and research-based practices to prevent the academic difficulties that many school-aged children experience. The primary focus of research is the role of curriculum, instruction, and assessment as individual elements that affect student advancement in school systems.

Committee on the Advancement of Women Chemists

Geri Richmond, Director
541-346-0116
coach.uoregon.edu

The committee is a grassroots organization working to increase the number and career success of women scientists and engineers. In addition to providing avenues for networking and mentoring of scientists and engineers at all levels, it works closely in an advisory capacity with many institutions, government organizations, and departments to create a professional workplace that provides an equal opportunity for discovery.

Environmental Science Institute

Dan Gavin, Director
541-346-4532
esi.uoregon.edu

The institute was founded on the recognition that solving complex environmental problems requires the knowledge and expertise from multiple disciplines. Its mission is to promote interdisciplinary research and graduate education in the environmental sciences. Members primarily come from the Departments of Anthropology, Biology, Geography, and Geological Sciences. Research of the faculty and graduate students spans the gamut from the geophysical to the organismal, from scales microbial to global, and from periods geologic to contemporary.

Institute for a Sustainable Environment

Cassandra Moseley, Director
541-346-0675
sustainable.uoregon.edu

The Institute for a Sustainable Environment performs funded research projects related to regional analysis for managing landscape change due to population growth, climate change, economic change, and policy change. The institute also undertakes consulting projects and investigations related to these problems, helping governments and corporations adapt their policies and practices to better cope with rapidly evolving sustainability issues and challenges.

Institute of Cognitive and Decision Sciences

Frances J. White, Director
541-346-4941
icds (http://icds.uoregon.edu) .uoregon.edu

The Institute of Cognitive and Decision Sciences is dedicated to exploring the workings of the mind and brain and how they affect human behavior and social interaction. Its goals are to advance the empirical study and theoretical understanding of cognition, culture, and communication from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Institute of Ecology and Evolution

Scott Bridgham, Director
541-346-4532
ie2.uoregon.edu

The Institute of Ecology and Evolution, established in 2002 as the Center for Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, promotes and facilitates research and graduate education in ecology and evolutionary biology. The institute encourages scientific interactions among its members and between members and the wider academic community.

Institute of Molecular Biology

Ken Prehoda, Director
541-346-7992
www.molbio.uoregon.edu

The University of Oregon offers a wide variety of research and training opportunities in contemporary molecular, structural, cellular, and developmental biology. The Institute of Molecular Biology fosters research and training in contemporary biology at the molecular level by bringing scientists from biology, chemistry, and physics into a common intellectual and physical space.

Institute of Neuroscience

Terry Takahashi, Director
541-346-4556
www.neuro.uoregon.edu

The Institute of Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary research group of scientists, with faculty members and students drawn from the Departments of Biology, Human Physiology, and Psychology. Its laboratories offer graduate and postdoctoral training in the neurosciences with projects that address the development of the nervous system and human cognitive processes.

Institute of Theoretical Science

Dietrich Belitz, Director
541-346-4738
uoregon.edu/~its

The Institute of Theoretical Science is a center for research in several interrelated disciplines that encompass mathematics, theoretical chemistry, and theoretical physics. Research interests of the institute's members include particle physics, astrophysics and cosmology, gravitational physics, condensed matter physics and statistical mechanics, group representation theory, geometric analysis, atomic physics, nonlinear dynamics, optical physics, biophysics, and the foundations of quantum mechanics.

Materials Science Institute

Richard P. Taylor, Director
541-346-4307
materialscience.uoregon.edu

The purpose of the Materials Science Institute is to study the structure and properties of materials, to educate in the sciences of materials, and to serve Oregon as a resource in these sciences. Since 1985, the institute has more than tripled the size of its research program, developed four new graduate programs in materials, and contributed to the state's prosperity through collaboration with more than twenty-five Oregon companies.

Industrial Internships for Master's Degrees in Chemistry or Physics. The Materials Science Institute sponsors internship programs in photovoltaic and semiconductor device processing; organic synthesis and organometallics; polymers and coatings; and optical materials and devices. These programs offer interdisciplinary training at the physics-chemistry interface and are designed to make students more effective problem-solvers in the industrial environment. Students begin the program during summer session with three to four graded 4-credit courses. Students who successfully complete these courses interview for internships with local and regional industries. Students selected by these companies complete a nine-month internship with salaries ranging from $2,000 to $5,400 a month. Participants have typically moved quickly into permanent employment during or after the internship. Students remain enrolled at the university throughout the program. They meet regularly with faculty advisors and report on their internship experience. Students can earn a master of science degree in chemistry or physics by completing an additional 12 graduate credits of course work at Oregon or at a college or university close to their internship location.

Neuroinformatics Center

Allen D. Malony, Director
541-346-0534
www.nic.uoregon.edu

The center researches the application of computer science and numerical computation to problems with brain modeling and imaging. High-performance computing plays a significant role in the research at the center, which is part of the University of Oregon's Brain, Biology, and Machine Initiative.

Northwest Indian Language Institute

Janne Underriner, Director
541-346-0730
www.uoregon.edu/~nwili

The institute provides teachers, community members, and UO students with training in the teaching of Native American languages and linguistics. With tribal partners, it supports and strengthens language preservation and restoration efforts by establishing collaborative projects that meet the specific needs and desires of each language community.

Oregon Center for Optics

Jeff Cina, Director
541-346-4528
oco.uoregon.edu

The center encompasses research in basic and applied aspects of optics in physics and physical chemistry. Members of the center are instructors in physics and chemistry; associate members are from these departments as well as from institutions outside the university; students —undergraduate, master's, and doctoral—are involved in all aspects of research at the center.

Oregon Humanities Center

Paul Peppis, Director
541-346-3934
ohc.uoregon.edu

The center is the sole interdisciplinary umbrella organization for the humanities at the University of Oregon. It seeks to promote and strengthen the humanities both on campus and in the broader community by supporting faculty research and teaching, fostering collaboration among the disciplines, and sponsoring a wide variety of public programs.

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology

Craig M. Young, Director
541-888-2581
uoregon.edu/~oimb

Founded in 1930, the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology is the third-oldest marine laboratory on the Pacific Coast. The 130-acre campus, located about two hours from Eugene, maintains housing and research facilities for visiting investigators and students from other institutions. Members of the resident faculty are from the UO Department of Biology, conducting research on the development, ecology, evolution, and physiology of marine organisms worldwide from the intertidal zone to the deep sea.

Prevention Science Institute

Elizabeth A. Stormshak, Director
541-346-9396
psi.uoregon.edu

The Prevention Science Institute at the University of Oregon is a multidisciplinary institute focused on understanding human development, preventing behavioral health problems, and implementing effective interventions in community settings. The institute evolved from the Child and Family Center (http://cfc.uoregon.edu) , which remains as a center within it. The core mission is to improve the lives and well-being of at-risk children, individuals, and families throughout the lifespan. It is a research institute designed for collaboration among faculty members across disciplines, including psychology, social and affective neuroscience, development, education, and others interested in prevention.