

2022 MU VRSP mentor profile form

Mentor	Craig Franklin
Departmental bio web page.	http://vpbio.missouri.edu/faculty/Craig_Franklin.html
Other relevant web pages, as applicable. E.g., lab group/personal web page, Google Scholar/ORCID profiles, others	Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=0jXSu4wAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao
Research interests.	Rodent models of human disease; the role of the gut microbiota in health and disease
Active projects.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of differing gut microbiota in severity of disease of a mouse model of SARs-CoV-2 2. Development of tools to sample small intestinal microbiota in live animals
Research team. E.g., graduate students, post docs, technicians, other scholars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with Jim Amos-Landgraf, PhD and Rachel Olson, PhD on SARs-CoV-2 projects and Aaron Ericsson, DVM, PhD on anything microbiota 2. James Chung, lab animal medicine resident and PhD candidate <p>Two research technicians and multiple technicians of the Mutant Mouse Resource and Research Center participate in these projects</p>
About you... Education/training Personal information, as interested—e.g., hobbies, etc.	<p>DVM, PhD and lab animal medicine residency from the University of Missouri (find my pic in the hall pics if you want to know when 😊). My research has varied from infectious disease to diagnostics to the study of the gut microbiome most recently. I also have several years of experience in rodent pathology.</p> <p>I am married (Shelia) with one child (Leah, who is an assistant director at Muse Pole Fitness) and three dogs all named after Grateful Dead songs. I enjoy hiking, hashing (hash house harriers), frisbee sports (mostly disc golf nowadays, but ultimate when younger), tailgating, Blues, Tigers & Cardinals, music festivals and traveling (and have a macaroni and cheese box collection.</p>
Mentor Profile	
I am available to mentor students in career and life decisions, even if they do not choose research.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
My students are/can be involved in the creation/development of their projects.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
I expect students to contribute to manuscripts/publications.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True (don't expect but welcome it!)	

<p>Students have the option to continue to work on this project.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True</p>	
<p>My students often work closely with a research team, e.g., lab tech or other students.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True</p>	
<p>I frequently touch base with my research team—e.g., students, technicians, etc.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True</p>	
<p>My mentoring style is very hands off.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True</p>	
<p>Current/active project profile & timeline, including clinical vs. basic science.</p>	<p>My research centers on the needs of the Mutant Mouse Research and Resource Center (MMRRC). It is our goal to continually seek to optimize mouse models so that they are optimally reproducible and translatable to human disease. Our main focus is to understand how differing gut microbiomes influence this reproducibility and translatability. Summer projects can be readily developed from these ongoing projects and can involve, work with mice including inoculations and necropsies, bench work (e.g., DNA isolation, PCR) and microbiome analysis of complex data sets. Students can also shadow studies in our Biosafety Level 3 facility, the Laboratory for Infectious Disease Research (LIDR).</p>
<p>Lab structure, if applicable.</p>	<p>The MMRRC, along with its partners, the Rat Resource and Research, the Animal Modelling Core and the Metagenomics Center are located at Discovery Ridge. I have one lab devoted to research and access to several other labs of the MMRRC/RRRC as well as a vivarium devoted to resource center activities. I also have access to the LIDR.</p>
<p>What does a typical day of research look like for VRSP scholars?</p>	<p>Days can include working with mice in either the Discovery Ridge vivarium or the LIDR, bench work such as DNA extraction, lab meetings or one on one meetings, background reading, and preparing abstracts/posters for the symposium. Scholars also can shadow or assist graduate students in the lab and any laboratory animal activities being performed by the laboratory animal medicine residents of the Comparative Medicine Program.</p>
<p>What does engagement look like for your lab/project?</p>	<p>Engagement = ownership. This is your baby. I expect students to take initiative and drive their project with questions like “I think we should do this, what do you think?” rather than “what should I do next?” This requires delving into the literature and frequent brainstorming. I want them to be comfortable expressing their ideas and asking questions as no question is a bad question. I also recognize that many have not done much research and will do my best to draw out the inherent curiosity we all have and not let them get too far off</p>

	<p>track. We will have regular meetings to ensure that mutual expectations are in place and adjusted as necessary for optimal growth for both of us.</p>
--	---