

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory

2015 Materials Research Laboratory
104 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



April 16, 2014

Dear MGI Participants:

We hope you are planning travel arrangements to Urbana, IL for the Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) Midwest Workshop. Our airport code is CMI (American Airlines only). The event will be held at the I-Hotel, 1900 S. First St., Champaign, IL 61820, phone 217-819-5000, on May 23, 2014. The agenda is online at <https://publish.illinois.edu/materials-genome/>.

In the meantime, we have a little bit of homework for you. Please respond by return email to this address by **May 2, 2014**.

1. Please tell us what kind of new materials or performance characteristics are at the top of your wish list in your area of work. What new material(s) or what new improvement in performance do you wish we could have in hand by the year 2040?
2. Please tell us what you perceive the biggest threat(s) are to continued U.S. innovation in the area of materials science and engineering, all the way from theory and experiment in a research lab to market.
3. Other regional MGI workshops have found that their participants favor the formation of a "MARPA" agency, a federal agency like DARPA that would aggressively focus on high-risk, high-reward materials research. What do you think – is this a good idea? Why or why not?
4. We have learned that other regional workshop participants have amazing stories to tell about successes in developing new materials – as well as failures that catalyzed learning and laid the groundwork for future success. If you have such a story, please write a short paragraph or two.

Sincerely,

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*On behalf of John A. Rogers, Director, Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory and
Peter E. Schiffer, Vice Chancellor for Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*