

IW & MFL Merge Memo

What is happening?

The Innovation Workshop and Microfluidics Lab will be merged into one facility, enabling more efficient workflows while assuring core instrumentation remains fully accessible. The new Innovation Workshop will reside in Elings 3430. The Microfluidics Lab will consolidate into a Microfluidics Core within the new Innovation Workshop. All of our 3D printing services will be relocated to the new Innovation Workshop in 3430 and clustered together as our Additive Core to facilitate ease-of-use, especially for printing microfluidic molds

Our machine tools will be relocated to a new Manufacturing Core in Elings 2442, which will be remodeled to make more space for standing equipment. We have chosen to keep machine tools separate from the main Innovation Workshop for both space and safety reasons.

Why is it happening?

UCSB has been awarded a new \$20M NSF center with a full suite of cutting-edge equipment and infrastructure that will enable new research directions for our campus. This NSF center will be housed in CNSI. To meet its space requirements, CNSI must rapidly shift several lab spaces this Summer. One of the impacted labs is Elings 2448, the initial home of the Innovation Workshop.

What is the impact to IW & MFL tools?

We are planning to complete this merge without losing any of our high-use tools (instrumentation with regular monthly use). We are planning to find new homes for some of our larger, lesser-used tools such as the ShopBot CNC Router, the Sonoplot Microplotter, and the MiiCraft 3D Printer. If you have any feedback or questions concerning the relocation of these tools, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Dincau

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