

**MEMORANDUM**

To: University Community  
From: Andrés G. Gil, Vice President for Research  
Date: April 1, 2014  
Re: Research Space Moves into Academic Health Center buildings (AHC1, AHC3, AHC4, and AHC5)

This message describes ongoing plans for research space assignments in the Academic Health Center buildings. The AHC4 building was completed last year and the AHC5 building will be completed within the next few months.

**AHC4 Building**

Several groups have moved permanently into AHC4, others have moved temporarily, and there are several in the process of moving into the building.

The groups that are already in AHC4 are: 1) offices of the School of Integrated Science and Humanity (SISH); 2) components of the Center for Children and Families (CCF), with the other components at AHC1; 3) the team of Dr. Francisco Fernandez-Lima from Chemistry; 4) the MASSPEC Facility; 5) the team of Dr. Angela Laird from Physics; 6) offices from various units from the College of Medicine, which will move back into AHC1 and AHC2 once the AHC5 building is completed, and 7) the STEM Transformation Institute (STI), which will be occupying this space until a new space is created on the ground floor of the VH building.

The groups that are at various stages of moving into AHC4 research space are: 1) Dr. Yukching Tse Dinh from Chemistry; 2) Dr. Fenfei Leng from Chemistry; 3) Dr. Jeremy Chambers from Medicine; 4) the Integrated Biostatistics Center, which will serve the Academic Health Center and the University by providing services in biostatistics, psychometrics, research methodology, data management, and data quality; 5) five teams from Biomedical Engineering (Drs. Ranu Jung, Anthony McGoron, Jorge Riera, and Nikolaos Tsoukias) that will move all or part of their laboratories; 6) Dr. Jessica Ramella-Roman from Biomedical Engineering and Medicine, and 7) components of QBIC and the MARC-USTAR program. Additionally, a new group from the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine's genetics department may be moving later in the year, as well as an additional team from Biomedical Engineering that is currently in the recruitment phase. Some of these groups will be moving into the building earlier than others since the setup needs of the laboratories vary widely. QBIC and MARC-USTAR will occupy AHC4 temporarily, as is the case with STI, until new space for student programs is created on the ground floor of VH.

**AHC5 Building**

From an academic perspective, the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work and the Department of Earth and Environment will be moving into the AHC5 building. These two units will be

vacating space from AHC1, AHC2, the Green Library, PCA (the Architecture building), ECS, the Charles Perry building, DM, and the MARC building.

From a research space perspective, the following groups/individuals will be moving into AHC5 in a similar manner as to what is occurring at AHC4, with some taking longer than others: 1) The Extreme Events Institute, which includes the International Hurricane Center, will vacate the MARC building and the small space they occupy at DM; 2) the Community-Based Intervention Research Group will vacate the MARC building; 3) CRUSADA will vacate the PCA building; 4) the human subjects research space for Dr. Jessica Ramella-Roman (Biomedical Engineering and Medicine) will move in, and 5) the human subjects research space for Dr. Malek Adjouadi from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering will move from the Engineering Center to AHC5. Additionally, the ground floor of the AHC5 will have a behavioral/clinical lab that will be available to externally funded teams and individuals conducting human and translational research and trials.

### **Philosophy and Coordination of Research Space Moves**

All the moves of research teams into these building are made considering the research space formula, which takes into account research expenditures and graduate student productivity. Additionally, specific location for research laboratories takes into account interdisciplinary research collaboration potential, as well as the needs for and location of research core facilities. For example, the reason that Dr. Jeremy Chambers from the College of Medicine is moving from AHC3 to AHC4 is the affinity to some of the core facilities at AHC4 (MASSPEC) and collaborative potential with other research teams that will occupy AHC4. The cost of research laboratory relocation is another factor that plays a role in the decision to move any laboratories. **Thus, an important fact is that, from a research space perspective, buildings are not department or discipline bound.** As such, while the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work will move to AHC5, various research laboratories from the Robert Stempel College will remain at AHC1 and the Biscayne Bay Campus. Furthermore, future faculty hires may have their research laboratories in other buildings throughout the University.

We are also considering creating “swing laboratory space” for faculty that do not have external research funding but will need facilities for experiments to submit grant applications, as well as faculty that need to work with graduate students in laboratories. On the ground floor of the VH building, some of the research laboratories will move to the Engineering Center and the space will be remodeled to provide space for the major externally funded student training programs, such as the STI, the training grants under DOR’s Training Unit, and those outside DOR, such as QBIC, McNair and MARC-USTAR Programs.

Finally, the moves of the various researchers into AHC4 and AHC5 will vacate research space throughout the University in locations such as the Engineering Center, ECS, the MARC building, and DM, VH, AHC3 and the PCA building. As per the University’s practice with research space, the vacated space will revert to the University’s central inventory of research space. The final determination of how the vacated space will be re-allocated will be managed through Academic Affairs. From a research space perspective, it will be critical that moves and re-allocation of space be coordinated through Academic Affairs in order to maintain the integrity of the space data being managed by the University. Space data accuracy is critical and required for the University’s Facilities and Administrative (indirect) rates agreement with the Federal Government.