



# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute

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<http://molssi.org>

*UC Berkeley*

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# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)

- Project (start date of August 1st, 2016) funded by the National Science Foundation.
- Collaborative effort by Virginia Tech, Rice U., Stony Brook U., U.C. Berkeley, Stanford U., Rutgers U., U. Southern California, and Iowa State U.
- Total budget of \$19.42M for five years, potentially renewable to ten years.
- Joint support from numerous NSF divisions: Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (ACI), Chemistry (CHE), Division of Materials Research (DMR), Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (OMA)
- Designed to **serve** and **enhance** the software development efforts of the broad field of computational molecular science.

# Computational Molecular Sciences (CMS)

- The history of CMS – the sub-fields of **quantum chemistry**, **computational materials science**, and **biomolecular simulation** – reaches back decades to the genesis of computational science.
- CMS is now a “**full partner with experiment**”.
- For an impressive array of **chemical**, **biochemical**, and **materials** challenges, our community has developed simulations and models that directly impact:
  - Development of new chiral drugs;
  - Elucidation of the functionalities of biological macromolecules;
  - Development of more advanced materials for solar-energy storage, technology for CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, etc.

# CMS Codes Are Developed and Used Globally



Gaussian



Dalton



Amber

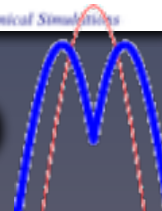


ORCA



TURBOMOLE

MOLPRO





# CMS Codes Are Developed and Used Globally



Gaussian



Dalton



These codes represent **decades** of development by thousands of programmers, and are used by **tens of thousands** of scientists worldwide.



ORCA



CHEM



GROMACS  
Groningen Machine for Chemical Simulations

TURBOMOLE

MOLPRO



# Code Complexity and Historical Legacy

- CMS programs contain **millions of lines of hand-written code** and require **hundreds of programmers** to develop and maintain.
- Incredible **language diversity**: F77, F90, F95, HPF, C, C++, C++11, Python, perl, etc.
- Incredible **algorithmic diversity**: structured and unstructured grids, dense and sparse linear algebra, graph traversal, fast Fourier transforms, MapReduce, and more.
- The packages have evolved in an *ad hoc* manner **over decades** because of the intricacy of the scientific problems they are designed to solve
- .... against a backdrop of rapidly evolving hardware and computing platforms!

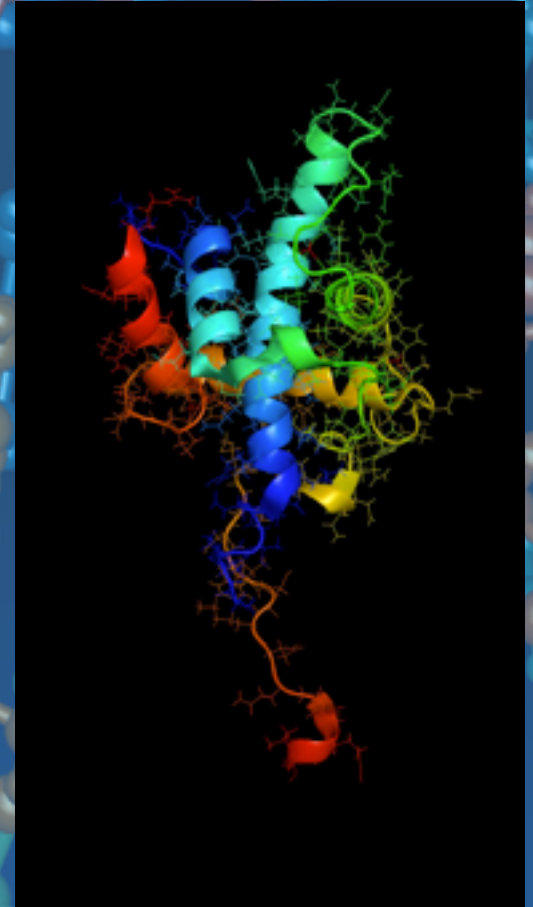
# Inertia in the Scientific Education Culture

- Undergraduate programs in chemistry and physics typically require **no training in software development** or programming.
- Graduate programs in these areas require **minimal coursework** between the bachelor and Ph.D.
- Most computer science students lack the underlying knowledge of the scientific domains to help develop creative software solutions.
- **Due credit for software development** is elusive due to a culture that judges productivity based on citations of peer-reviewed papers.
- Thus, a “**just get the physics working**” approach pervades much of CMS software development.

# What Scientific Areas *Could* We Enable?

## Structure-Function of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

- Required to understand biochemical function and disease: cellular regulation and signaling; associated with cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimers.
- New area of structural biochemistry: ~25% of proteome consists of proteins that are fundamentally dynamic in nature, with no intrinsic order.
- Computational models must fill experimental gap: IDPs confound spectroscopic characterization such that structure-function is highly underdetermined
- Importance of adequate sampling and workflows: accurate potential energy surfaces, aggressive sampling methods, probabilistic models, developed in state-of-the-art codes and analysis tools.



The IDP TAZ1-domain-CITED2 complex (PDB: 1R8U)





# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute

## Conceptualization Phase and Activities

# BMS: S2I2 Conceptualization Activities

- Started September 2014
  - Cecilia Clementi (Rice), Teresa Head-Gordon (Berkeley), Shantenu Jha (Rutgers) and Vijay Pande (Stanford)
  - <https://sites.google.com/site/s2i2biomolecular/>
- Two workshops at Berkeley (November 2014) and Houston (January 2015) focused on BMS engagement, requirements and the development of a **community-wide vision** for the Institute.
  - Overlap in workshop scope but different parts of the community
  - Houston Workshop had a focussed session on Cyberinfrastructure Problems in Molecular Simulation
- Informal “brain storming” and community engagement at other meetings
- CI Workshop (Rutgers) postponed due to solicitation!

# QM: S2I2 Conceptualization Activities

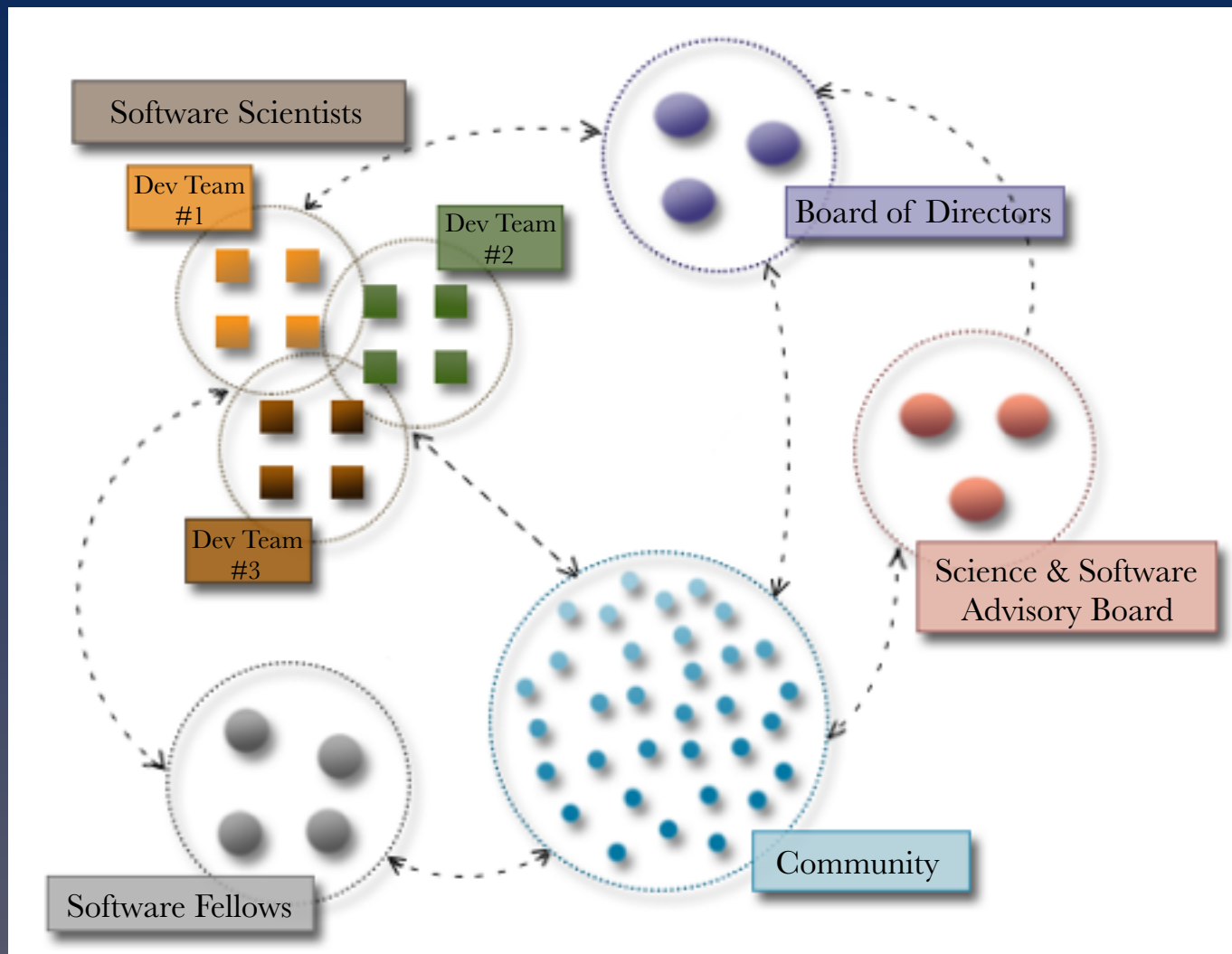
- Kick-off meeting in 2013 to develop initial vision of Institute
- Three workshops in 2013 and 2014 focused on **potential software framework targets** and community needs:
  - Portable parallel infrastructure (Manhattan, NY)
  - Code and data interoperability (Blacksburg, VA)
  - Tensor representations and algebras (Laguna Beach, CA)
- 2015 Summer Training Workshop in Biomolecular Simulations (Pasadena, CA);
- Three software summer schools (2013-15) for more than 100 students;
- Symposium at the ACS National Meeting in San Francisco (2014);
- Dozens of presentations at national and international conferences to encourage community engagement.
- Conceptualization activity separate to BMS conceptualization!
  - We're all molecular scientists (now)!



# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute

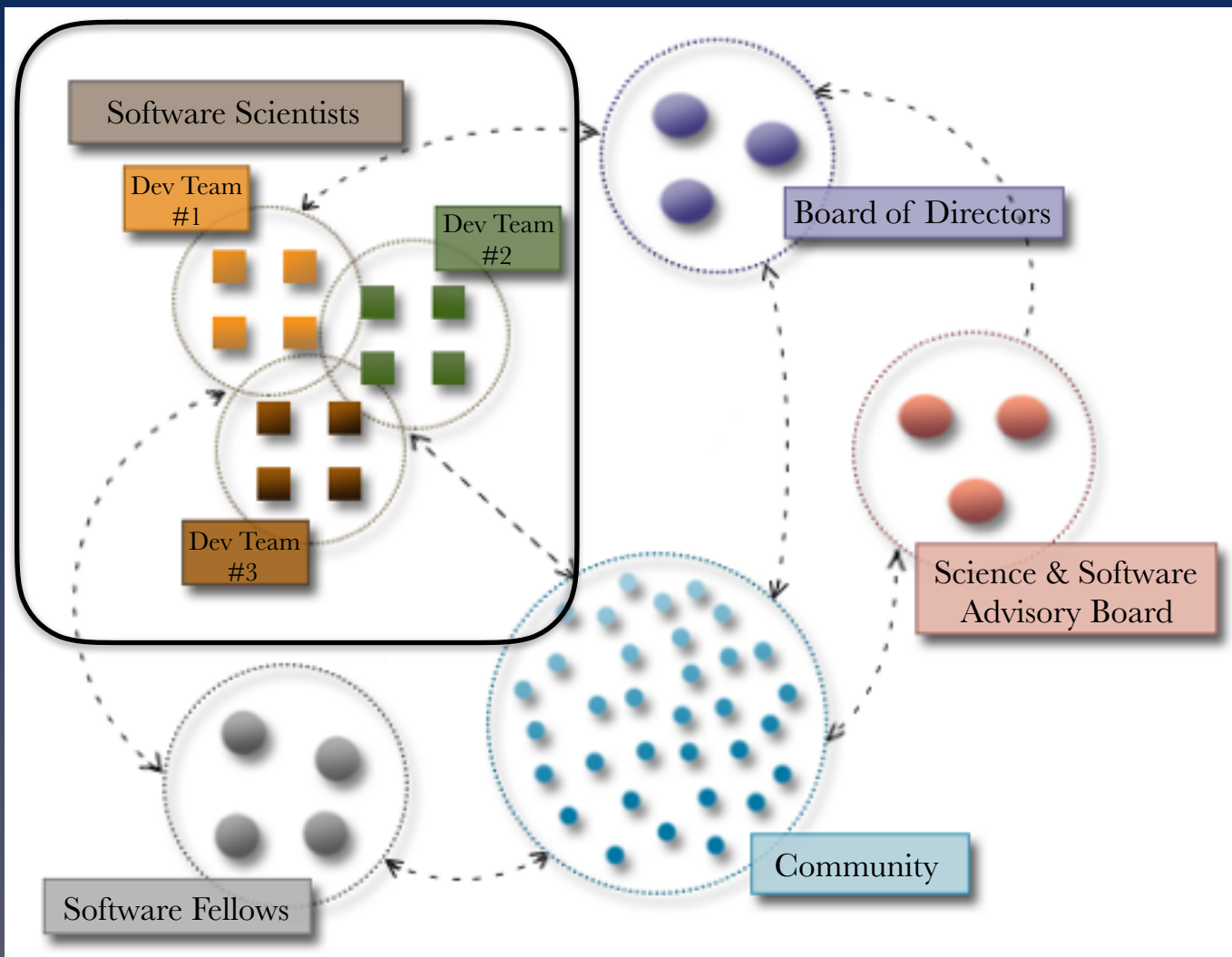
MolSSI: Structure, Functioning and  
Dynamics

# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)





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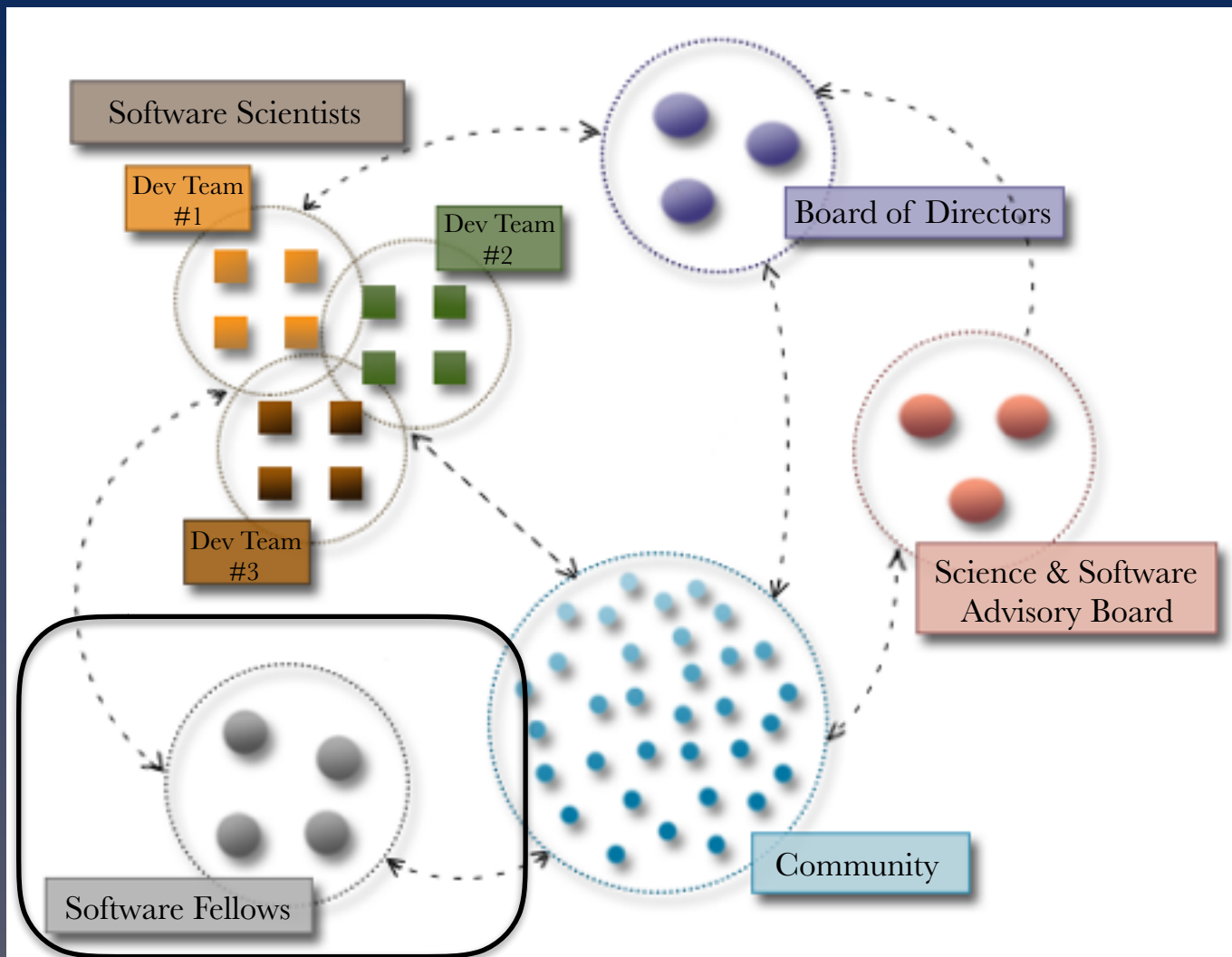


# The MolSSI Software Scientists (MSSs)

- A team of ~12 software engineering experts, drawn both from newly minted Ph.D.s and established researchers in molecular sciences, computer science, and applied mathematics.
- Dedicated to multiple responsibilities:
  - Developing software infrastructure and frameworks;
  - Interacting with CMS research groups and community code developers;
  - Providing forums for standards development and resource curation;
  - Serving as mentors to MolSSI Software Fellows;
  - Working with industrial, national laboratory, and international partners;

*Approximately 50% of the Institute's budget will directly support the MolSSI Software Scientists.*

# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)

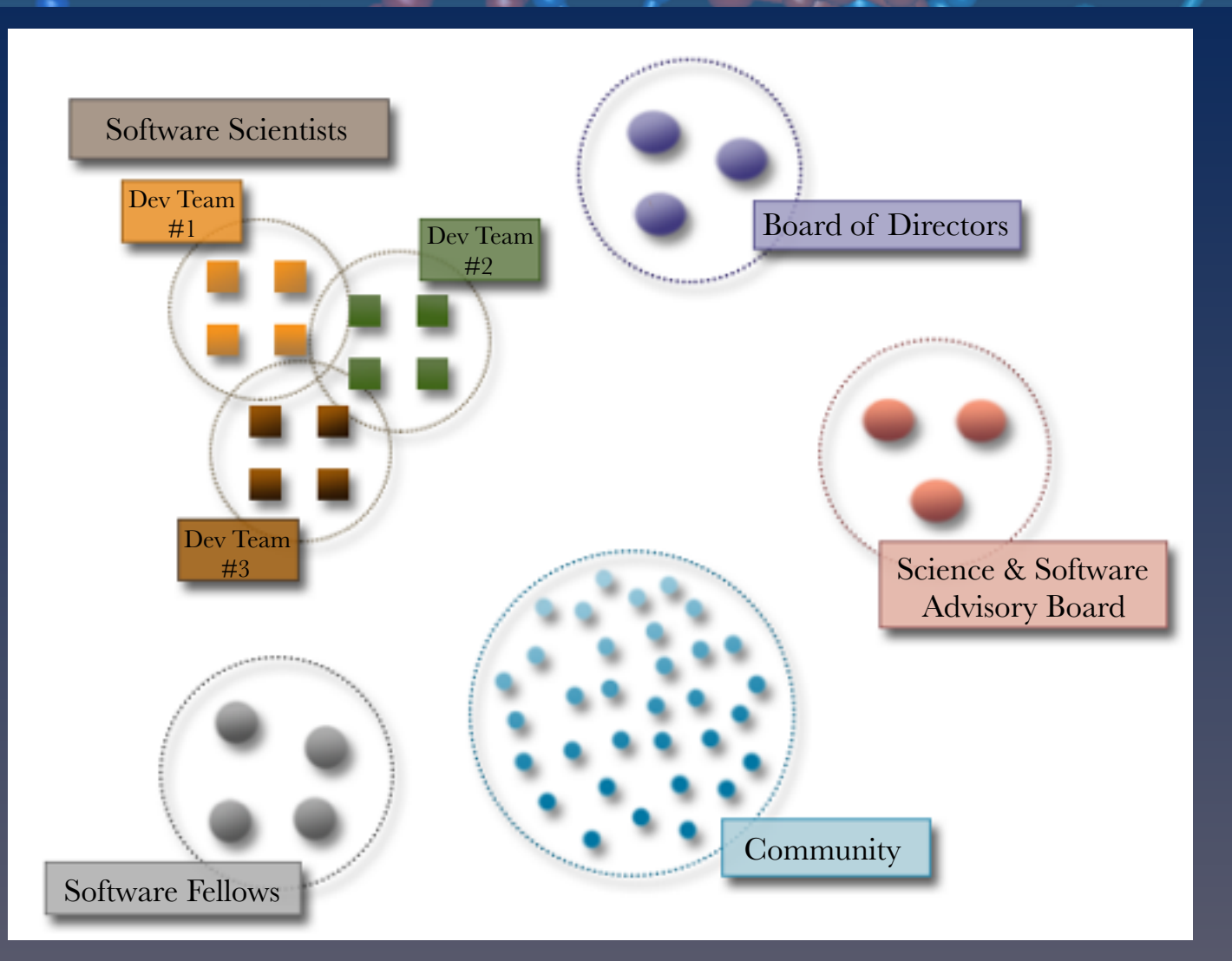


# The MolSSI Software Fellows (MSFs)

- A cohort of ~16 Fellows supported simultaneously – graduate students and postdocs selected by the Science and Software Advisory Board from research groups across the U.S.
- Fellows will work directly with both the Software Scientists and the MolSSI Directors, thus providing a conduit between the Institute and the CMS community itself.
- Fellows will work on their own projects, as well as contribute to the MolSSI development efforts, and they will engage in outreach and education activities under the Institute guidance.
- Funding for MolSSI Software Fellows will follow a flexible, two-phase structure, providing up to two years of support.

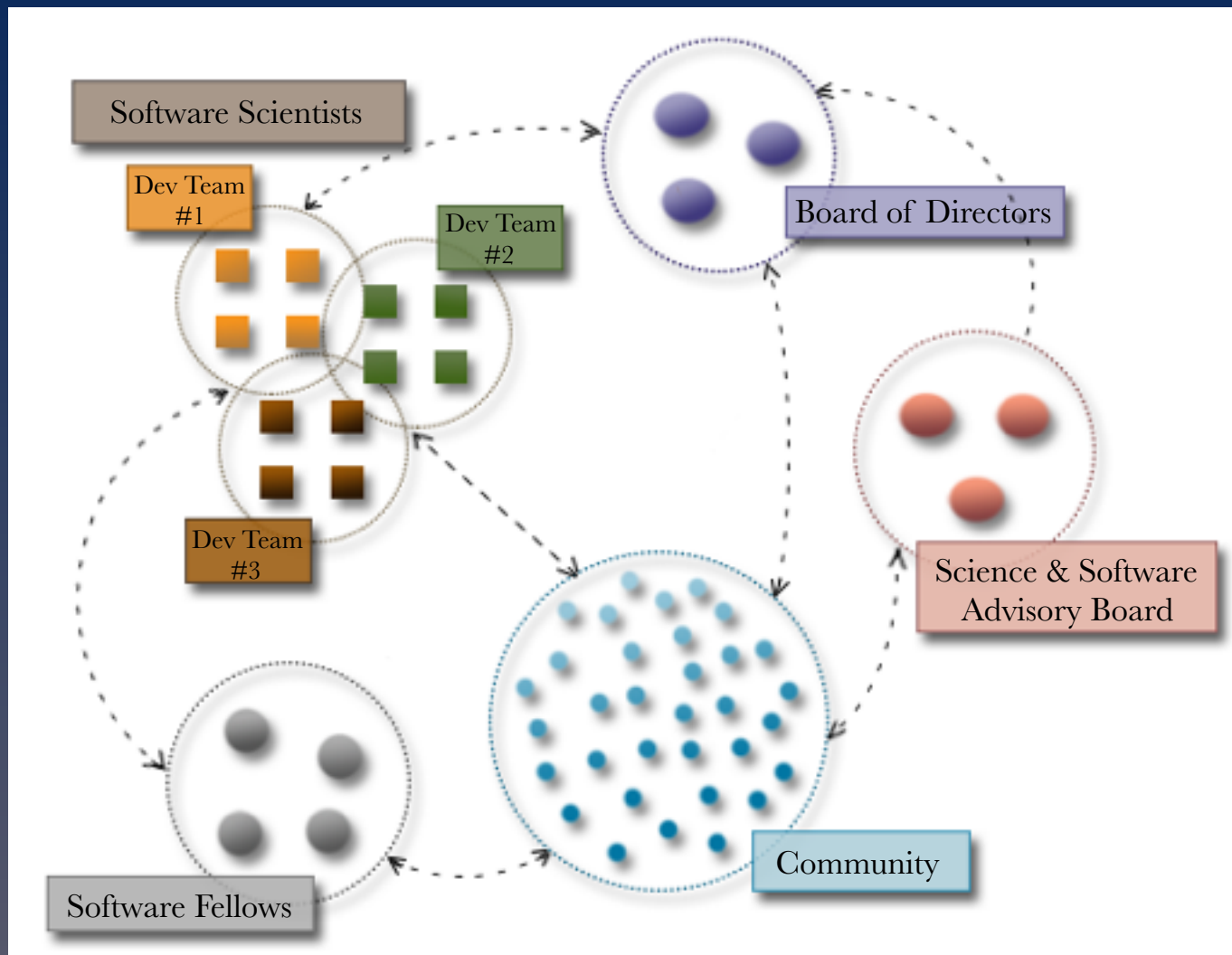
*Approximately 25% of the Institute's budget will directly support the MolSSI Software Fellows.*

# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)

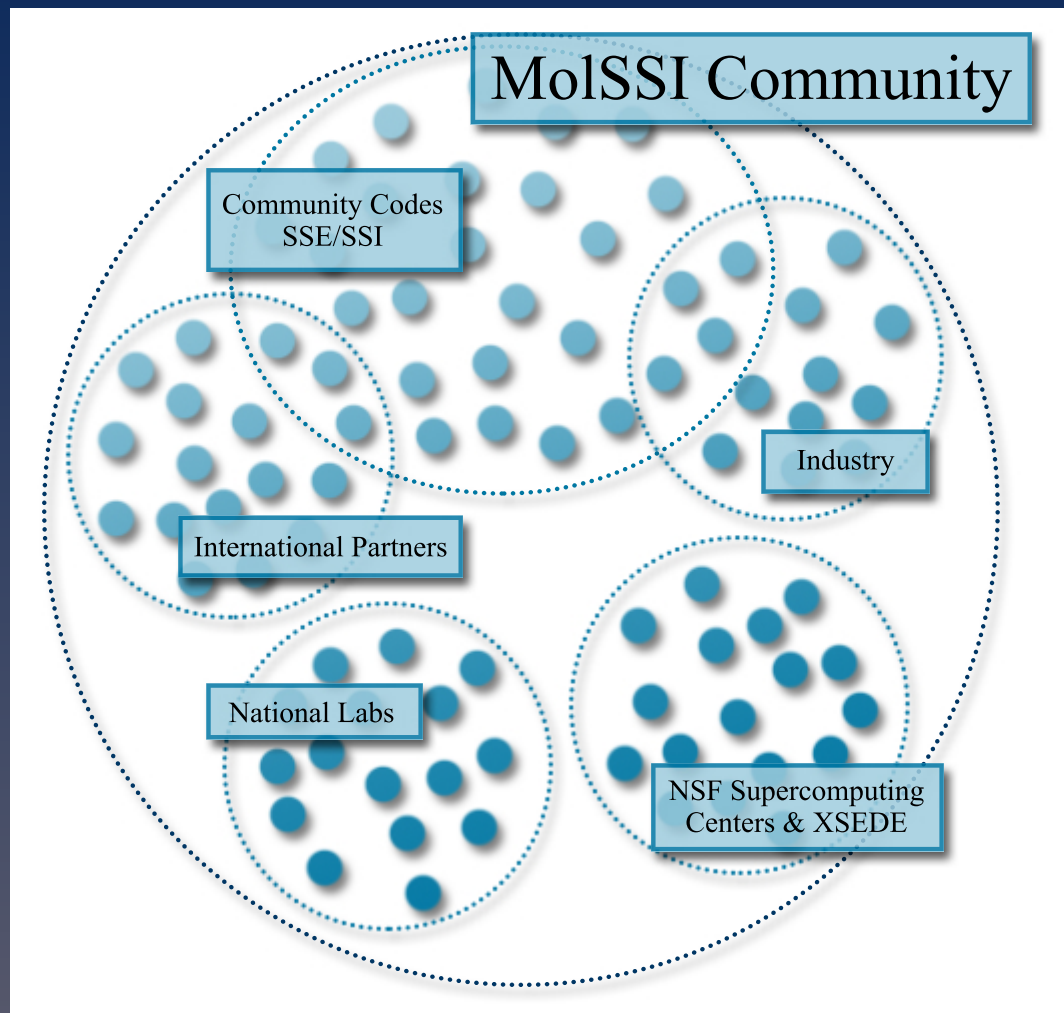




# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)



# The MolSSI Community



# Engaging Community Codes & SSE/SSI

- A principal representative from each of the following community codes has **committed to collaboration** between their development team and the MolSSI Software Scientists and leadership:
  - Gaussian
  - GAMESS
  - Molpro
  - Q-Chem
  - PSI4
  - ACESIII
  - CFOUR
  - Molcas
  - Orca
  - SISSA
  - CHARMM
  - Amber
  - BOSS
  - Gromacs
  - OpenMM
  - LAMMPS
  - Plumed
  - Turbomole
  - NWChem
  - ONETEP
  - NAMD
  - Dalton
  - Columbus
  - Dirac
  - DL\_POLY
  - Tiger-CI
  - Schrödinger
  - Quantum ESPRESSO
  - PARSEC
  - APBS
- MolSSI will coordinate with all relevant **SSE/SSI projects** to bring their software products to the community.

# Engaging the International Community

- MolSSI's Board of Directors and SSAB have established numerous community code partners worldwide.
- EPSRC: ARCHER eCSE
- EU Computational Materials Centers
- EU Center of Excellence on Biomolecular Simulation (BioExcel)
- Our S2I2 Conceptualization workshops prompted the UK's EPSRC to report on how the British CMS community could interface to MolSSI.
- The SSAB will maintain an international representative.



NOMAD

NOVEL MATERIALS DISCOVERY



archer

Horizon  
2020



The background of the slide is a complex, three-dimensional molecular structure. It features a variety of atoms represented by colored spheres: blue, red, orange, green, and yellow. These atoms are interconnected by bonds, forming a dense, interconnected network that fills the entire frame. The structure appears to be a large, complex molecule or a cluster of smaller molecules.

# Education and Training



# Professional Master's in Molecular Simulation and Software Engineering (MSSE)

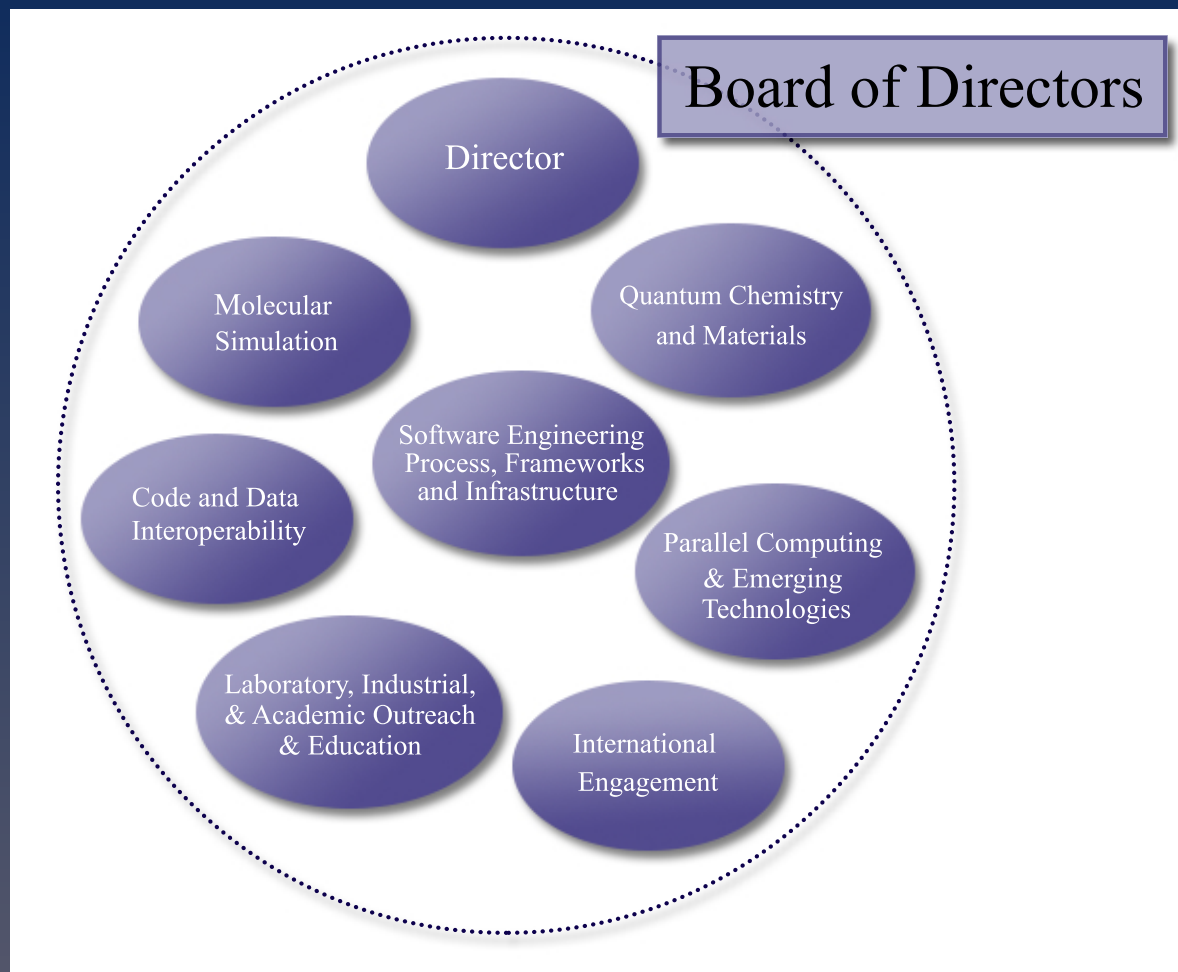


- A two-year, self-supporting, part-time Master's program comprised of 26 units including:
  - Computational chemistry
  - Materials science
  - CS294: Software Engineering for Scientific Computing (P. Colella)
  - CS267: Applications of Parallel Computers (J. Demmel)
  - Leadership, management, and communication (Fung Institute):
    - E271/272: Engineering Leadership I & II
    - E273: Ethics and Capstone Project
- MolSSI will engage with industry and government labs for capstone projects, help with outreach for admissions, and provide a career fair at the Virginia Tech Arlington Center that will include remote access.

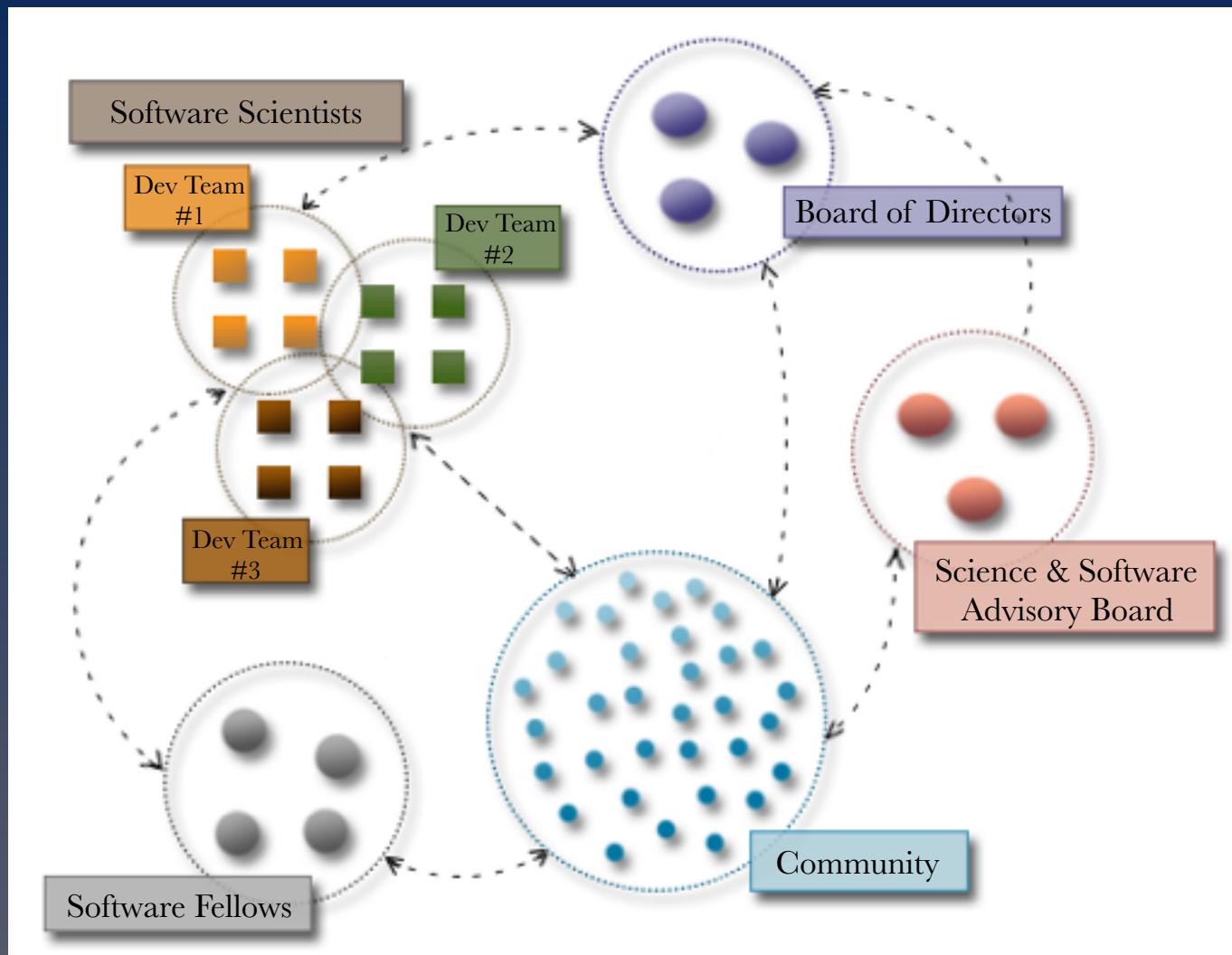


# MolSSI Management and Oversight

# The MolSSI Board of Directors



# The Molecular Sciences Software Institute (MolSSI)



# Potential Initial Software Frameworks and Use Cases

- **Interoperability frameworks** between QM/MM codes:
  - Code interoperability – set APIs that allow algorithms to be easily migrated from code to code;
  - Data interoperability – data structures and mathematical definitions of key quantities for easier sharing;
- **Parallel task managers** and DSLs targeted toward many-body methods;
- **Load-balancing infrastructure** for advanced sampling methods;
- Use cases outlining **interaction schemes** between multiple QM and MD codes;
- Use cases derived from current and future **SSE/SSI projects**;
- DSLs that hide **multi-model and multi-code tasks** from the user enabling new science.



# Acknowledgements

- Daniel Crawford, Cecilia Clementi, Robert Harrison, Teresa Head-Gordon, , Anna Krylov, Vijay Pande, Theresa Windus
- The dozens of members of the CMS community who helped to develop the vision for the Institute over the last five years
- NSF ACI-1547580

Watch [molssi.org](http://molssi.org) for the latest information!