

# Applications of Nano-Bio Interfaces for Homeland Security

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# CINT is one of five U.S. Dept. of Energy Nanoscale Science Research Centers



# CINT has two facilities with extensive capabilities

## Characterization Wing

- TEM, SEM
- Low Temp Transport
- Scanning Probe Microscopy
- Ultra-fast Spectroscopy

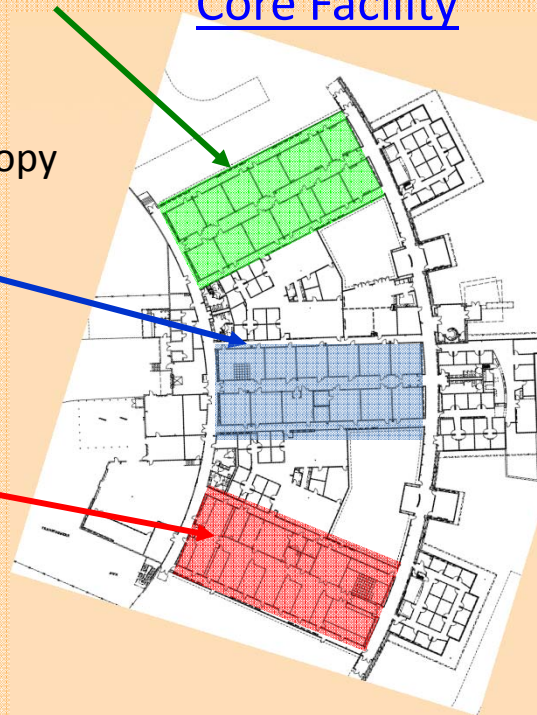
## Synthesis Wing

- Molecular Beam Epitaxy
- Chem & Bio labs
- Molecular films

## Integration Lab

- E-beam lithography
- Photolithography
- Deposition & Etch
- SEM / FIB

## Core Facility

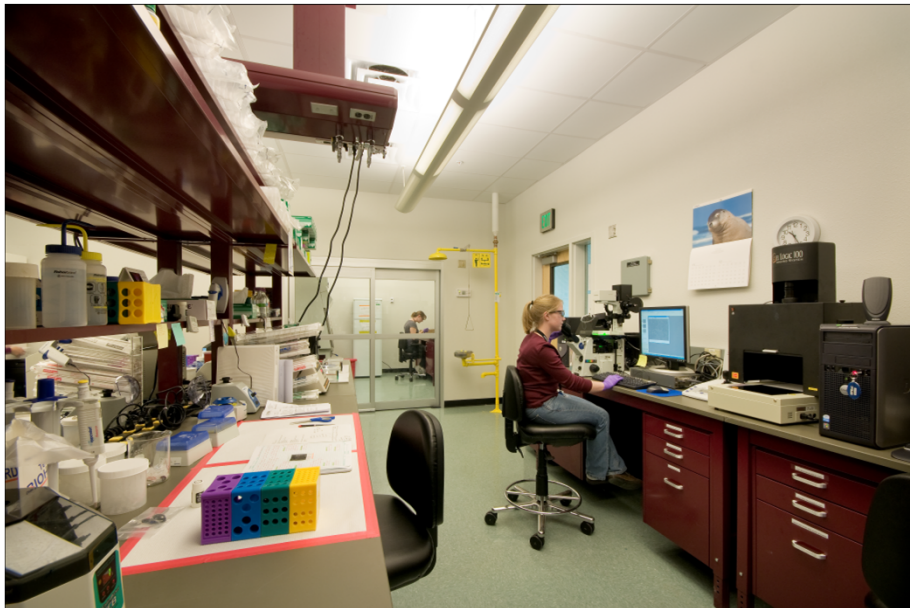
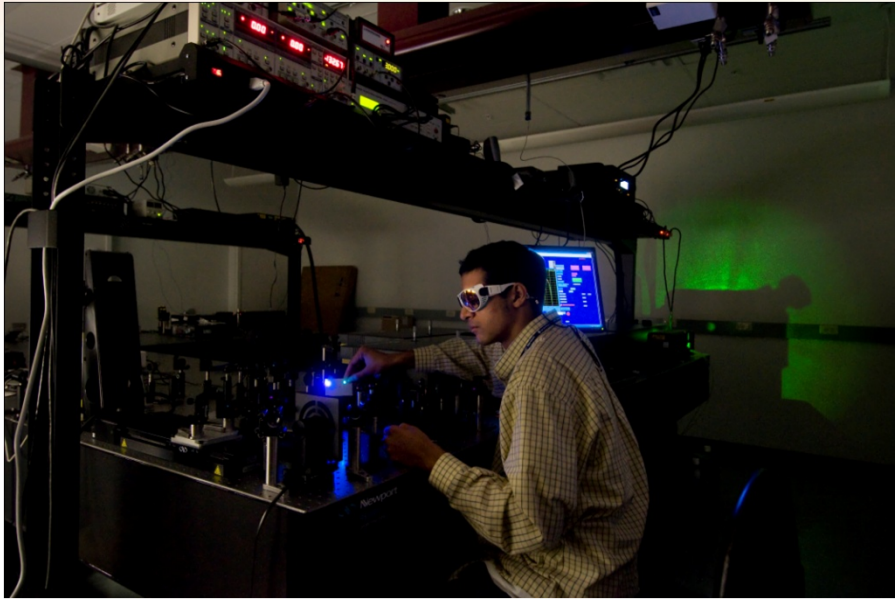


## Gateway to Los Alamos Facility

- Biomaterials & Chem synthesis
- XRD, SEM
- UV-vis, ellipsometry
- Nano-indentation
- Nanoscale optical probes
- Microscopies
- Physical Synthesis
- Pulsed Laser Deposition
- Ultra-fast Spectroscopy
- Computer Cluster
- Visualization Lab

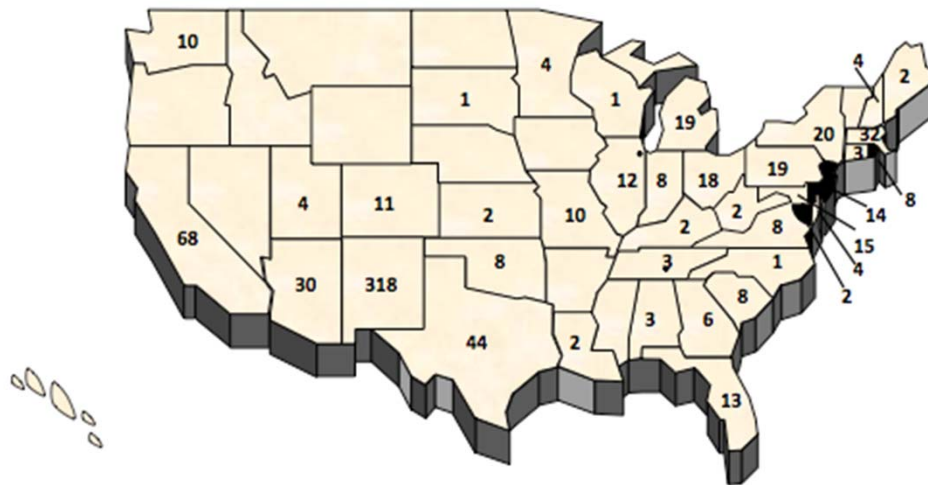


## CINT has two facilities with extensive capabilities



## CINT receives approximately 200 User Proposals each year

| <u>Cycle</u> | <u>Submitted</u> | <u>Accepted</u>    | <u>Rapid Access</u> |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2006         | 175              | 130 (74%)          |                     |
| 2007         | 101              | 79 (78%)           | 11 (2007 total)     |
| Spring 2008  | 172              | 160 (93%)          |                     |
| Fall 2008    | 119              | 107 (90%)          | 31 (2008 total)     |
| Spring 2009  | 109              | 95 (87%)           |                     |
| Fall 2009    | 67               | 56 (83%)           | 29 (2009 total)     |
| Spring 2010  | 115              | review in progress |                     |

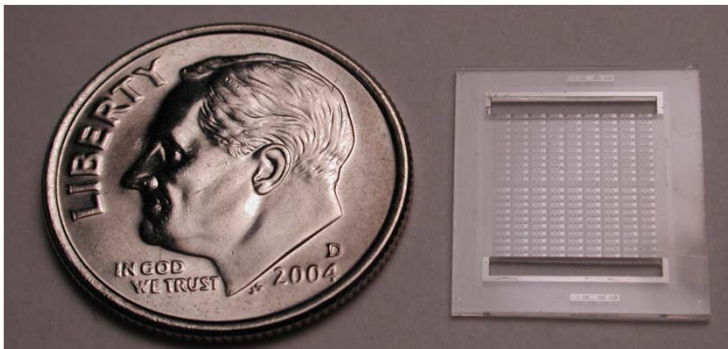
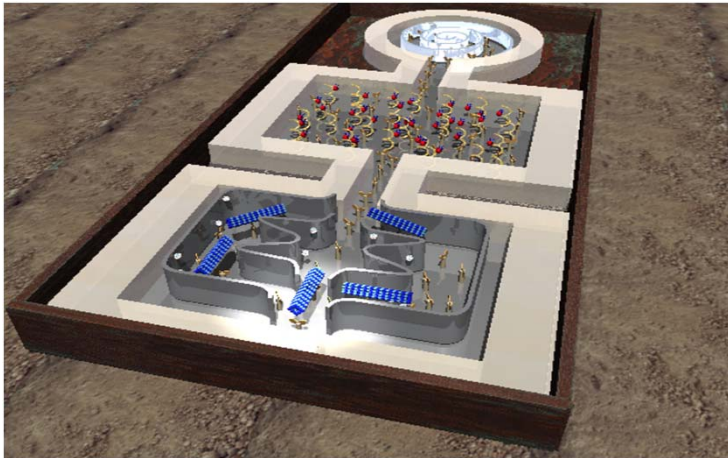


| BES User Category | 2007       | 2008       | 2009       |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Badged            | 122        | 189        | 240        |
| Off-Site          | 67         | 83         | 114        |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>189</b> | <b>272</b> | <b>354</b> |

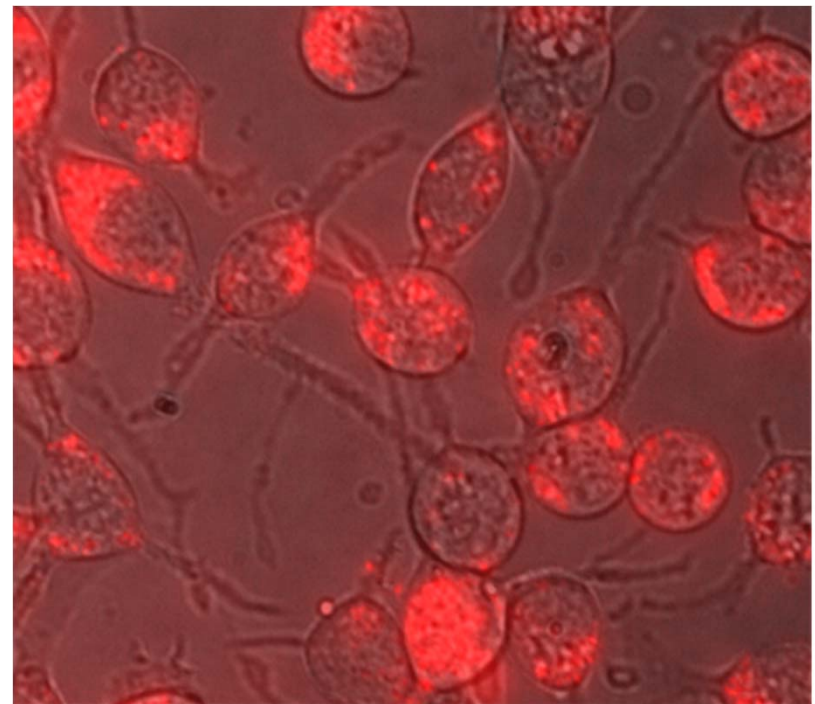
354 users, 610 researchers involved in 258 current projects,  
representing 39 States and 14 Foreign Countries

# Homeland Security & Nano-Bio Interfaces

**Goal:** Exploit active biomolecules to develop autonomous, nanoscale sensors for remote detection of CB agents



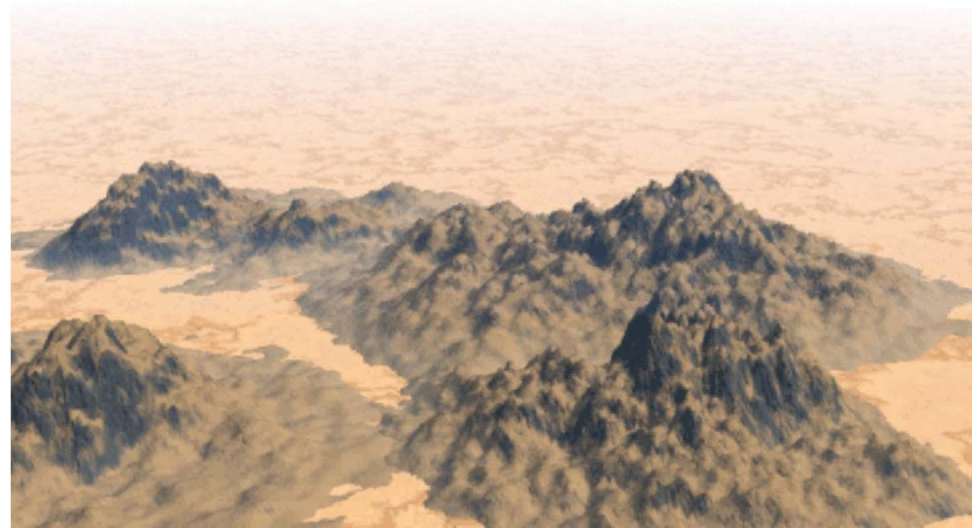
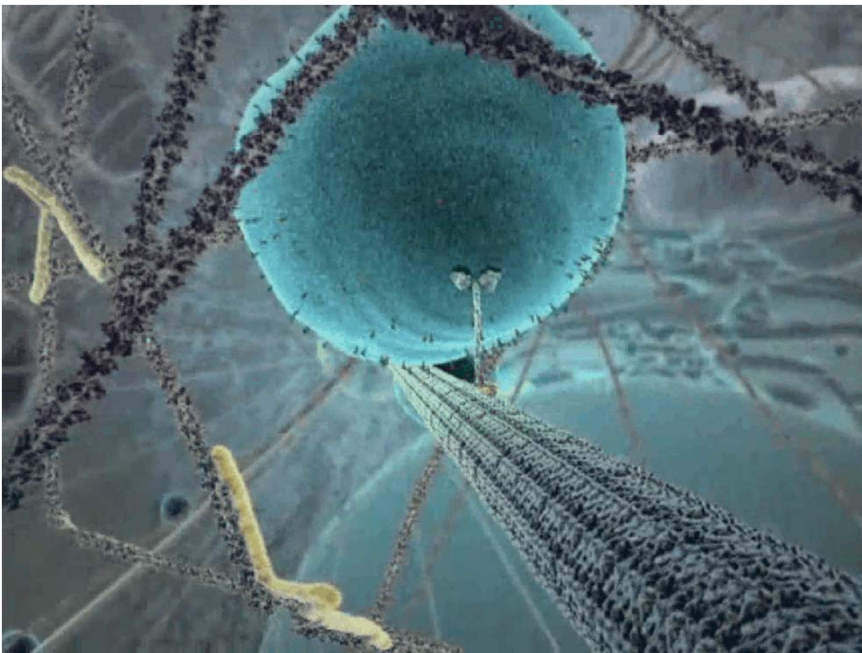
**Goal:** Understand how the chemical and physical properties of nanoparticles regulates their uptake and toxicity in mammalian cells



## Biomotor-Driven CB Nanosensors

**Problem:** Most CB sensors require electrical energy to perform on-chip processing, which significantly increases the size and weight of the sensor

**Goal:** Exploit active biomolecules to develop autonomous, nanoscale sensors for remote detection of CB agents

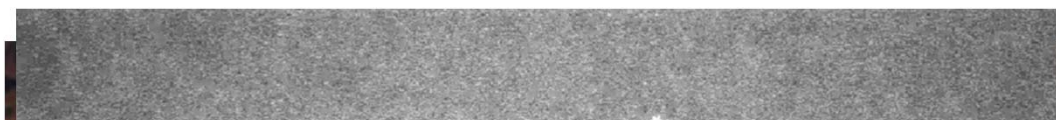


Can we engineering biomotor-powered nanosensors for CB agents?

# Biomotor-Driven CB Nanosensors

**Problem:** Most CB sensors require electrical energy to perform on-chip processing, which significantly increases the size and weight of the sensor

**Goal:** Exploit active biomolecules to develop autonomous, nanoscale sensors for remote detection of CB agents



## Challenges to integrating motor proteins in nanoengineered systems

- Stability: intracellular operation vs. synthetic systems
- “User” control: biochemical networks vs. simple switches
- Interface: biological molecules vs. inorganics
- Others: ???



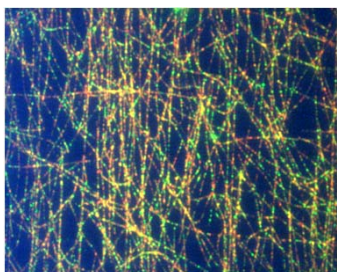
# Biomotor-Driven CB Nanosensors

## Outcome:

- Biological active transport systems engineered to capture a wide range of bioagents

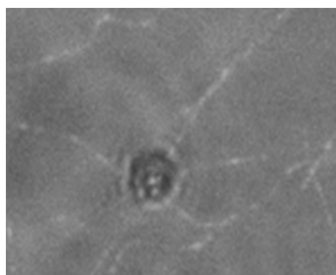
## Limits of detection for various analytes

Proteins



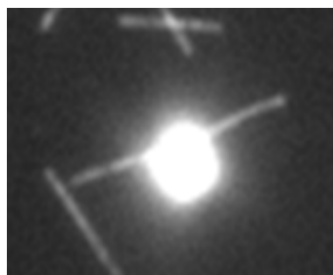
1.5 ng / device

Bacterial spore

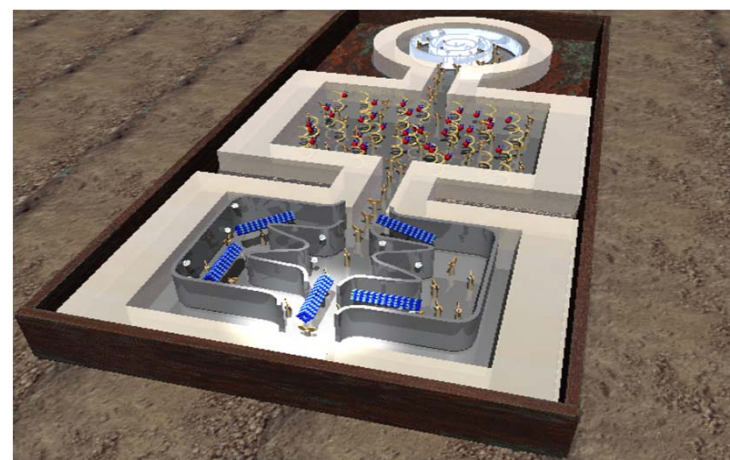


100 spores / device

Viruses



$10^7$  viruses / device



- Genetically engineered motor constructs developed (e.g., molecular “ignition” switch added).
- Prototype sensors – proof-of-principle devices demonstrate successful application of technology for remote sensing



Funding from Defense Advanced Research Projects, Defense Sciences Office



# Engineered Nanoparticles & Homeland Security

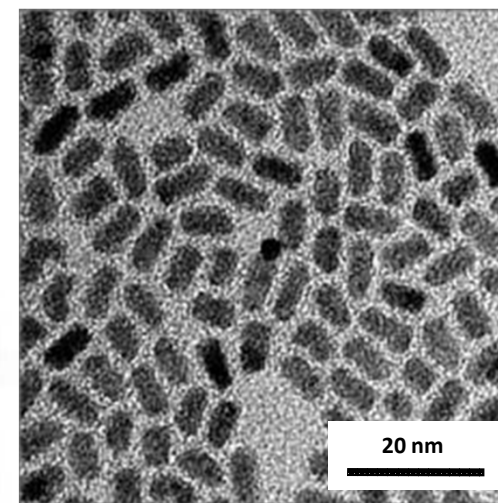
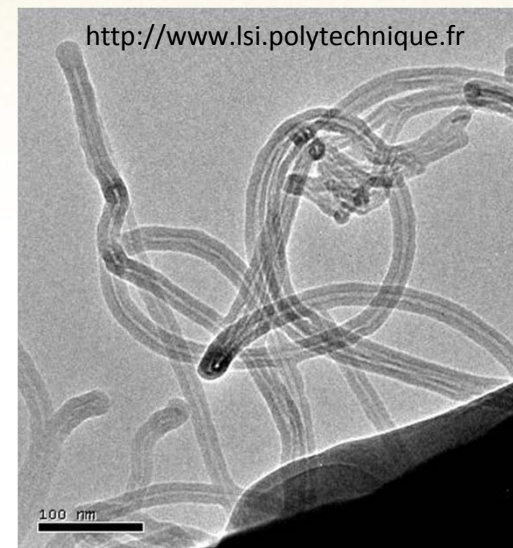
**Do engineered nanoparticles represent a “special” hazard?**

**Maybe – in some cases**

**Toxicology & environmental impact are unknown!**

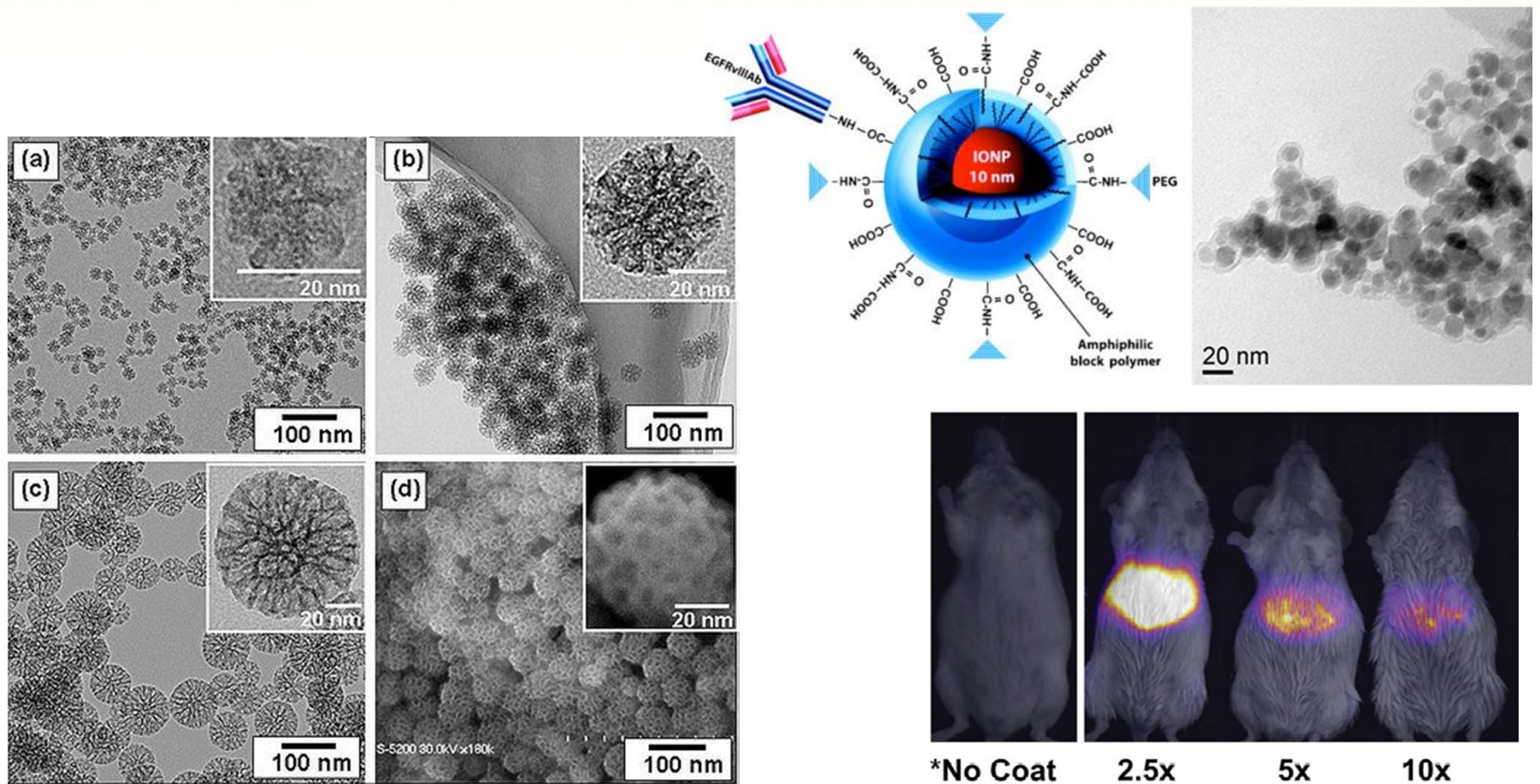
- Often exhibit novel properties not found in the bulk (e.g., catalysis in Au-NPs)
- Size enables rapid aerosolization and dispersion
- Difficult to detect release/contamination
- Similar in size to biomolecular components (e.g., proteins)
- Synthesis and modification methods produce huge range of materials very quickly

**Goal:** Understand how the chemical and physical properties of nanoparticles regulates their uptake and toxicity in mammalian cells



# Engineered Nanoparticles & Homeland Security

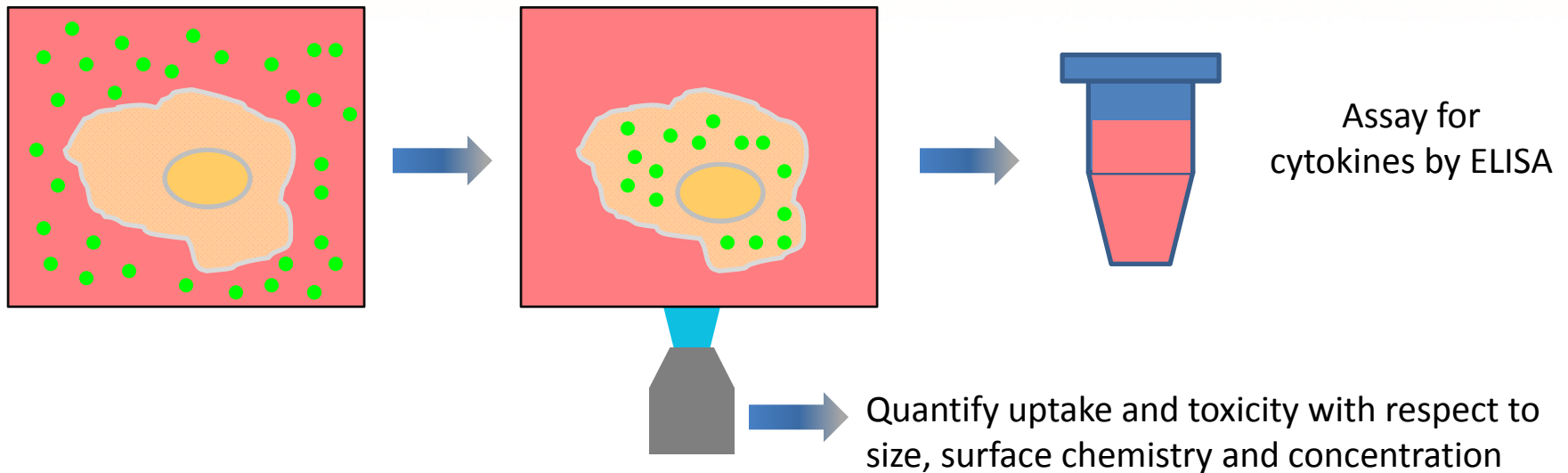
Nanoparticles are being engineered with increasing sophistication, including targeting and chemical/biomolecules release.



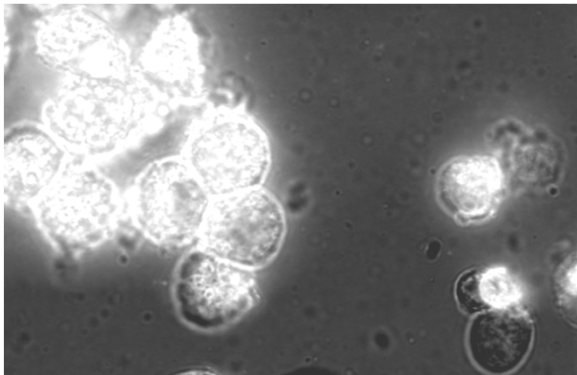
A.B.D. Nandiyanto; S.-G Kim; F. Iskandar; and K. Okuyama (2009). "Synthesis of Silica Nanoparticles with Nanometer-Size Controllable Mesopores and Outer Diameters". *Microporous and Mesoporous Materials* **120** (3): 447–453

# Engineered Nanoparticles & Homeland Security

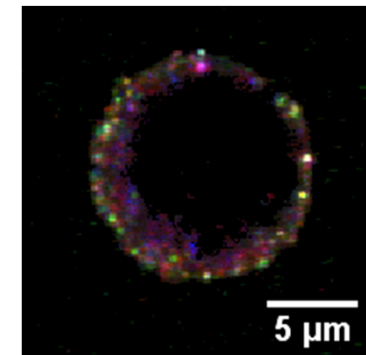
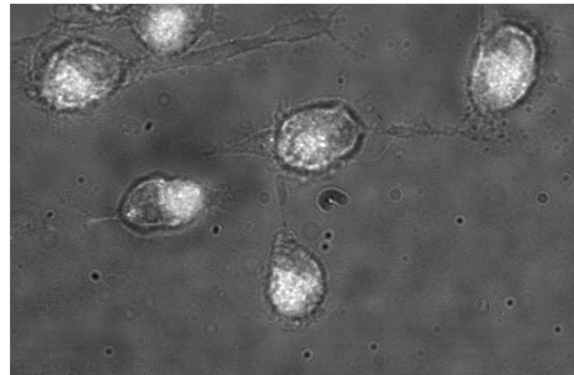
**Hypothesis:** Uptake and response in mammalian (human) cells are dependent on Qdot size, surface chemistry, and concentration.



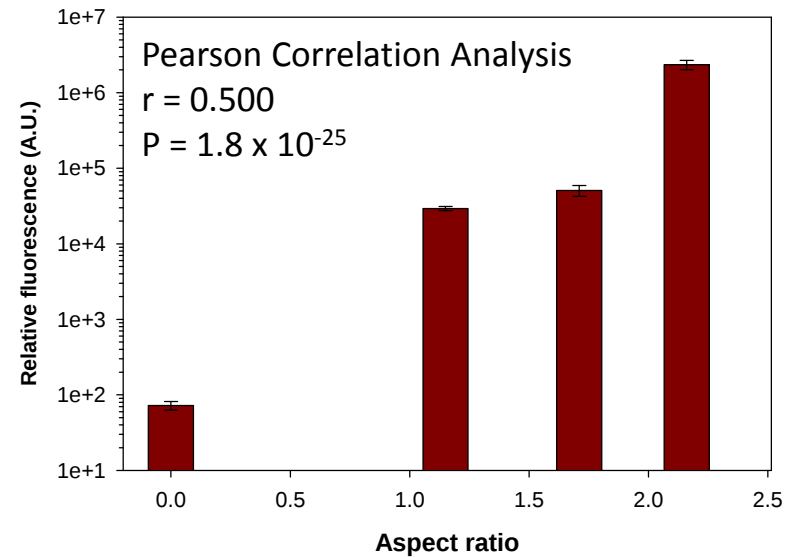
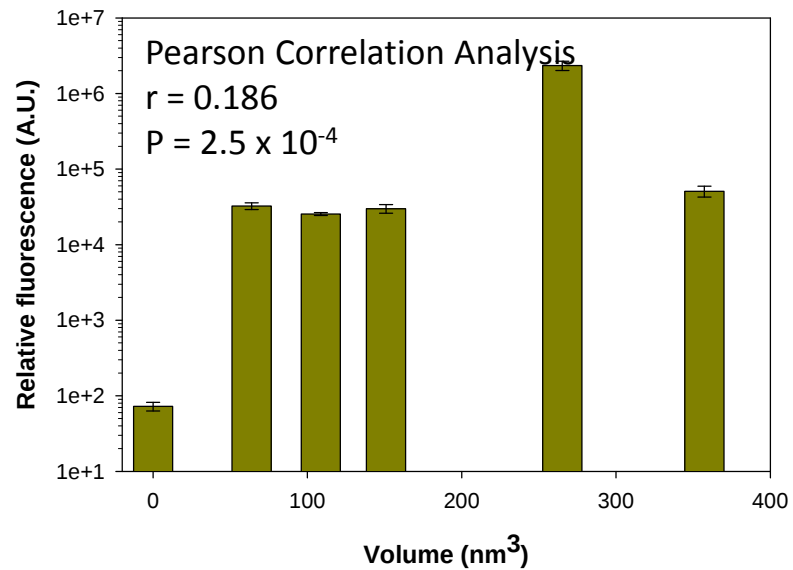
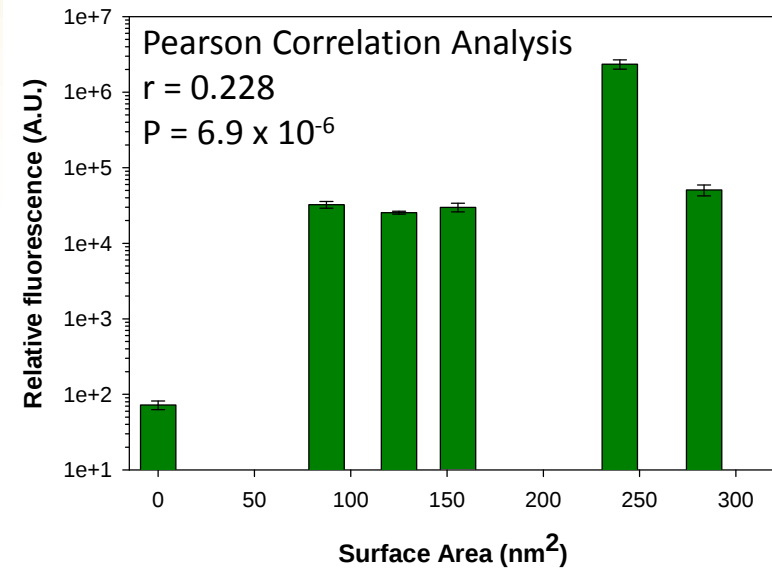
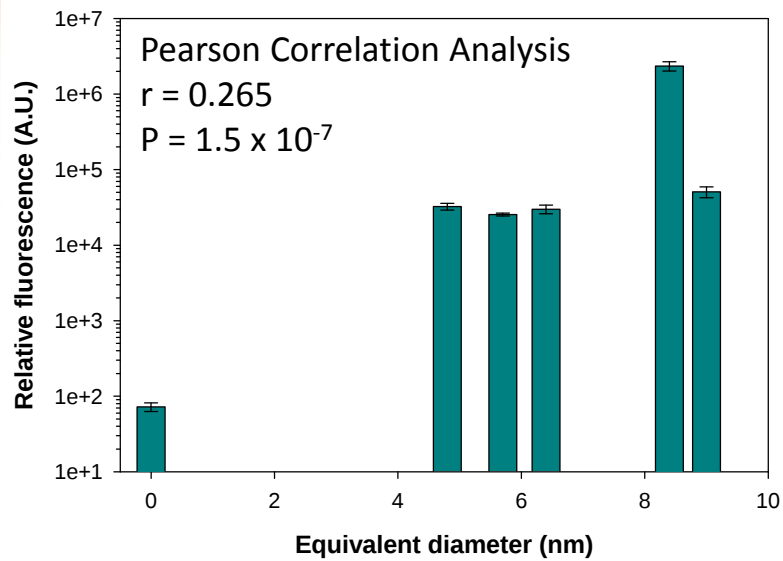
Qdot 655-COOH



Qdot 655-PEG



# Engineered Nanoparticles & Homeland Security



# Acknowledgments

## Kinesin work:

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Amanda Carroll-Portillo  
Jeri Timlin  
Jesse Aaron

