

2022 MU VRSP mentor profile form

Mentor	Bret Ulery
Departmental bio web page.	https://engineering.missouri.edu/faculty/bret-ulery/
Other relevant web pages, as applicable. E.g., lab group/personal web page, Google Scholar/ORCID profiles, others	https://www.biomodulatorymaterials.com/
Research interests.	Biomaterials, Immunoengineering, Regenerative Medicine
Active projects.	Cancer Therapeutics, Nanoparticle Vaccines, Anti-Inflammatory Materials, GI Sampling Materials, Ocular Drug Delivery, Bone Regeneration, Neural Regeneration
Research team. E.g., graduate students, post docs, technicians, other scholars	24 Researchers – 1 Postdoc, 1 Medical Resident, 6 PhD Students, 2 MS Students, 1 Veterinary Student, and 13 Undergraduate Students
About you... Education/training Personal information, as interested—e.g., hobbies, etc.	<p>BSE - Chemical Engineering & BS - Biochemistry, University of Iowa (2006) PhD - Chemical Engineering & Grad Minor – Immunobiology, Iowa State University (2010) Postdoc – Orthopaedic Regenerative Medicine, UConn Health (2012) Postdoc – Biomolecular Engineering, University of Chicago (2014)</p> <p>I am married to my wife (Dr. Eva Ulery) who is a veterinarian and the real doctor in the family. We have two dogs (Jack the Beagle and Emory the Boxador). I am active person who likes to play pickleball and complete long-distance races, most recently having finished a Half Ironman.</p>

Mentor Profile

I am available to mentor students in career and life decisions, even if they do not choose research.

Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True

My students are/can be involved in the creation/development of their projects.

Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 - 4 --- 5 Very True

I expect students to contribute to manuscripts/publications.

Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True

Students have the option to continue to work on this project.

Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True

My students often work closely with a research team, e.g., lab tech or other students.

Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True

<p>I frequently touch base with my research team—e.g., students, technicians, etc.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 - <input checked="" type="radio"/> - 5 Very True</p>	
<p>My mentoring style is very hands off.</p> <p>Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 - <input checked="" type="radio"/> - 4 --- 5 Very True</p>	
<p>Current/active project profile & timeline, including clinical vs. basic science.</p>	<p>My projects are in varying stages of basic research to more clinically oriented projects. For example, we have some efforts that are just getting started with synthetic organic chemistry whereas others are hoping to move to canine clinical trials in late 2022.</p>
<p>Lab structure, if applicable.</p>	<p>While I have a large laboratory, I have a close connection with each of my group members. There is no hierarchy in our team where people report up a food chain to me. We are also highly collaborative both intra-laboratory and inter-laboratory. You can expect to work with people from a lot of different backgrounds when you are conducting research in our laboratory. Also, everyone has card and keyed access to our spaces, so they can work when is convenient for them.</p>
<p>What does a typical day of research look like for VRSP scholars?</p>	<p>Most days involve a lot of experimental laboratory work. We are an engineering laboratory, so there is a lot of doing things going on. That being said, the work we do is informed by fundamental science and a lot of careful thought. The work varies from day to day with opportunities to be synthesizing new materials in a chemical safety cabinet all the way to conducting surgery on medium-sized animal models like rabbits.</p>
<p>What does engagement look like for your lab/project?</p>	<p>It means getting deep into our work. No one is a bystander in our group as even high school students have their own projects. No need to worry about being thrown to the wolves though, as we are very collaborative so there is a great support system to get new members trained and on to their independent efforts quickly.</p>