

## CeRCaS News Blast 10/15/21

### Ring 1: It's Official! UC Davis/UC Berkeley Awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> Site of CeRCaS

Professors Gates and Katz have received the official notification from NSF of the award of their joint third site of CeRCaS. For the IAB, this means another nearly half-million dollars of leverage of your membership fees. For the CeRCaS faculty, this means access to a deep pool of catalysis research with complementary expertise in synthesis. And wait, hold on, what's that? As UCD/UCB had done in the initial stages of their association with CeRCaS, Washington State is also recruiting member companies as it aspires to join as a fourth site. Yet more complementary expertise. More funding, more projects. There's always room at this party for that.

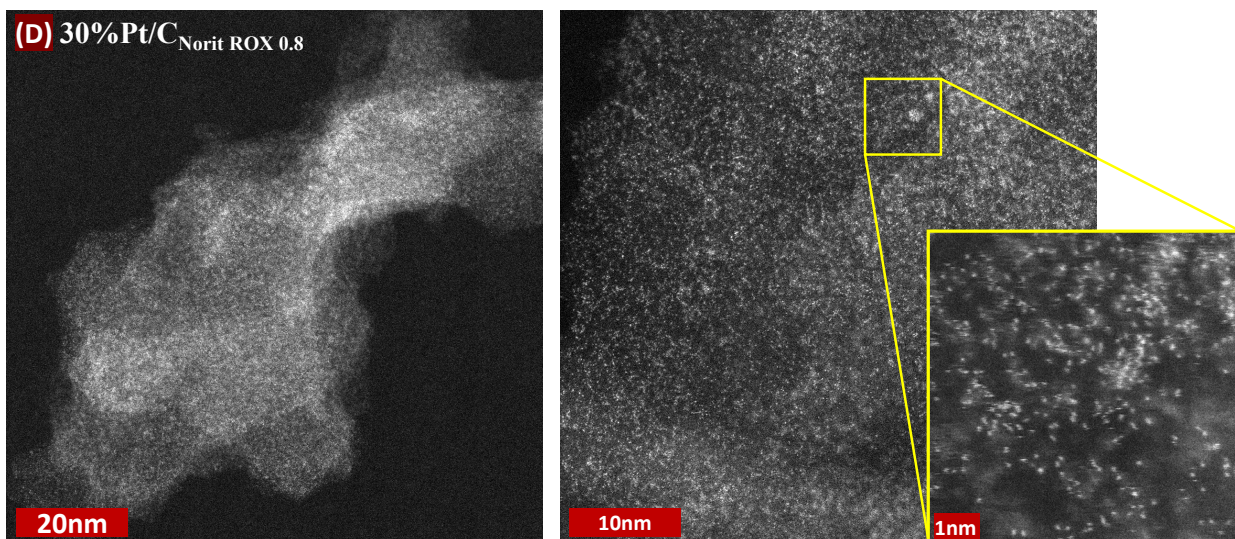
### Ring 2: Project Development for the New Funding Cycle (Year 2 of Phase 2) Is Beginning.

Calling all IAB members and CeRCaS faculty! Now is the time to develop the one-page white papers for our next round of funding, which will occur at our December meeting. If you are an IAB member and have in mind a project you'd like to see undertaken, now is the time to find the appropriate faculty members (remember, at least two faculty must be involved; if it is a simple, single PI project it does not belong in a

center) to put the idea on paper. If you are a CeRCaS faculty, now is the time to team up with other faculty to propose new projects. As always, inter-site participation is highly encouraged.

We anticipate giving the IAB about four dozen projects to down select to the 20-24 projects which will be pitched at the meeting. A timeline is given below; details to follow via email.

You can bet there will be several projects related to the recent development in the center of a new method to anchor isolated atoms of a catalyst metal at heretofore unachievably high metal loadings. Grad students (and husband/wife team) Nabi Shakouri and Horie Adabi, working with Profs. Mustain, Williams and Regalbuto at UofSC, have dubbed their method “Chelate Fixation.” Metals can be loaded up to at least 1 atom/nm<sup>2</sup>; for a 1200 m<sup>2</sup>/g carbon support, this yields 30 wt% Pt of isolated atoms. Is this not one of the most remarkable images of a catalytic material you have ever seen? Are you not entertained?



In the meantime, keep up to date on all our current projects at the CeRCaS website, [www.che.sc.edu/centers/cercas/](http://www.che.sc.edu/centers/cercas/).

### Ring 3: Virtual Fall CeRCaS Meeting (December 15-17<sup>th</sup>, 2021): New Project Slate to be Chosen.

Due to the latest wave of the pandemic, our Fall Meeting will be held virtually during the mornings (Eastern time) of Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Kindly put these dates on your calendar now. Here’s a rough time frame of project development and proposal selection:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Project development:	starts now	huddle with faculty!
White papers due:	Friday, November 12	about 50 projects anticipated
Pre-LIFE down-select:	November 15-19	20 - 24 projects chosen
Video pitches made:	Nov. 24 – Dec. 7	8-minute pitches
IAB LIFE assessment:	December 8-14	done online, pre-meeting!
Project discussion:	December 15,16	detailed IAB-faculty discussions
Project selection:	December 17	in closed door IAB meeting

We anticipate funding to support at least ten projects. From fifty white papers, about two dozen will be selected for presentation (in the virtual form of 8-minute videos), from which our new slate of projects will be selected by the IAB. Come one, come all, to the world’s greatest attraction (in heterogeneous catalyst preparation)!

For more information:  
<http://www.che.sc.edu/centers/cercas/>