Mission Statement:
We aim to create a new standard for hands-on student-centered training in biotechnology.

We aim to challenge what we think is possible for undergraduate students to learn and create by enabling them to engage in a wide variety of hands-on, deliverable-based activities that encourage the development of creative expression, problem solving, innovation and “scientific soft-skills”.

Why this is important:
We continually strive to increase the educational value, for both our students and California’s varied industries and citizen stakeholders. Enabling UC Davis students reach greater heights will make them stand out in a competitive global economy and will create the next generation of problem-solvers and entrepreneurs that are vital to growing our economy.

What we’ve done about it:
We have created a mixed-use classroom, laboratory, and innovation space focused on providing undergraduate students unique opportunities to develop solutions to problems in biotechnology and bioengineering through “doing”. We envision that this resource will become the central hub for undergraduate activities in biotechnology and bioengineering at UC Davis.

What this enables:
- **Courses** - We currently offer upper-division laboratory courses in protein engineering, synthetic biology, and microscopy and will soon also host a variety of Freshman-level hands on research and engineering courses.
- **Independent research** - In collaboration with VentureWell, we offer seed funds and mentoring for student-initiated projects.
- **Innovation & Entrepreneurship** - Collaboration with the Child Family Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Venture Catalyst help students receive training in innovation and entrepreneurship.
- **Home for clubs and design teams** - We serve as home base for the Synthetic Biology Club, our iGEM team, and various Sr. Design projects.

The Space:
Four rooms - 1600 sq ft. of laboratory space in the Academic Surge Building on the main UC Davis Campus.

Equipment:
Setup for molecular genetics, protein engineering and biochemistry, shaking and cabinet incubators (incl. refrigerated), stirred-cell fermentors, flow cytometry, plate reader, -80°C freezer storage, fume hood, compound and stereo fluorescent microscopy; more. . .

What we need:
Financial support for student projects and activities; student project proposals; technical and career mentorship; entrepreneurship opportunities; opportunities for direct interaction with industry

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