Dear Graduate Students and Post-Docs (and, of course, Graduate Faculty),

Last academic year, several of our graduate student leaders (Athena Hadjixenofontos, Johnna Infanti, and Matt Phillips) conceptualized and are ready to launch in 2014-15 a new initiative, entitled Research Intersections. Through a set of knowledge-sharing activities, this initiative has the vision of creating and strengthening cross-disciplinary research collaborations (particularly those that span UM campuses). These activities will significantly promote higher impact publications, larger scale grant proposals, and wider publicity for our work. The Graduate School and Center for Computational Sciences will provide information and resources to support the initiative.

Starting with the computational arena, the UM Research Intersections initiative will facilitate connections between researchers by uncovering common grounds in the computational tools that are used across all three campuses. In order to begin these explorations, we will host quarterly, informal events led by graduate students and/or postdocs which will provide opportunities for discussion, networking, and creative problem solving. This will help young researchers connect with others who are using similar data analysis approaches, allow them to publicize their work, and provide them with opportunities to discuss their work with peers from other disciplines. It is anticipated that at least some of these discussions will culminate in cross-disciplinary grant proposals across UM.

During these events, graduate students and post-docs from all three campuses will be invited to give short, informal flash presentations of the computational tools, methods, or open datasets that they use in their research. The first event is scheduled for Thursday September 11, 2014, 6-8pm at the Wetlab on the RSMAS campus. Shuttle service will be available from the Coral Gables and Medical campuses.

If you would like more information, or if you would like to present at one of our sessions, please feel free to email researchintersections@med.miami.edu. For those interested in presenting, please see note below for instructions.

We look forward to getting to know you and your research a little better!

The Organizing Committee:
Student Leaders - Athena Hadjixenofontos (UMMSM), Matt Phillips (UMMSM), Johnna Infanti (RSMAS)
Administrative Liaisons – Dean M. Brian Blake (The Graduate School) and Dr. Sawsan Khuri (Center for Computational Science)

Note to students or post-docs interested in presenting:
Please prepare a short (no more than a paragraph) summary of your research and the topic you are tentatively planning to present. Presentations should be between 5 to 7 minutes in length, and focus on a method, tool, or analysis technique you use in your research. For example: R, GIS, open access datasets, other computational tools, etc., and how it is used in your research. Email your summary & topic to researchintersections@med.miami.edu.

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