

This Tuesday, February 4

The Millennium Café

10 a.m., Millennium Science Complex 3rd Floor



Shashank Priya



J.-P. Maria

“Funding for Big Team Science: Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI)”

Shashank Priya | Associate Vice President for Research

J.-P. Maria | Materials Science & Engineering

The Multidisciplinary University Initiative (MURI) program is considered as one of the top opportunities for conducting team-based fundamental science investigations. MURI projects involve teams of researchers investigating high priority topics and opportunities that intersect more than one traditional technical discipline. A typical team consists of 4 – 6 researchers. Projects are funded for 5 years with total funding ranging from \$5 – 7.5M. Each year 20 – 30 projects are funded under this program. This presentation will provide an overview of the MURI program and discuss strategies for Penn State researchers to develop stronger efforts. Team formation, past track record and innovation is key for proposing these projects.

“A Nanocontrol Freak’s Guide to Making Any Nanoparticle You Want”*

Ray Schaak | Chemistry

We all like to dream about “what could be.” As chemists who make materials, this often takes the form of drawing pictures of what we want, based on our predictions of what the material might do. The challenge then becomes actually making what we designed. We can now design, and then actually make, a large mega library of nanoparticles with previously unimaginable complexity, all using simple benchtop chemistry and standard laboratory glassware. This begins to shift the narrative from “what is possible to make” to “what do we want to make.”