

BCDB Rotation Selection Procedures (2020-2021)

1. Faculty are asked to fill out a one-page summary of their current lab research interests, personnel, and availability for each of the three rotations throughout the coming year. These will be collated and provided to each incoming student.
2. In addition, the Rotation Chair will arrange a meeting with only the First-Year students to discuss the nuts and bolts of the rotations system, deadlines, expectations, etc.
3. Meet with faculty you are interested in working with. You are *required* to talk to at least 3 BCDB faculty members before your first rotation. You will later be required to meet with 3 different faculty members (in BCDB or outside but must be in GDBBS) before choosing your second advisor. A form is provided to record these meetings. Use this opportunity to learn about various faculty members' research interests and ask questions.
 - a. What potential projects are available in the lab?
 - b. What are their expectations as far as time commitments during rotations, during thesis research?
 - c. How do they view their role as advisor?
 - d. Would they be able to serve as a dissertation lab for you?
 - e. Do they have adequate space and resources to carry out experiments?
 - f. Do they have time to meet with you at least once per week during the rotation?

Read publications from the lab (do this before you meet!) and most important is to talk to any current or former students and postdocs in the lab. This is best done physically away from the lab.

Your first **Rotation Advisor Selection Agreement** and the form recording your meetings with 5 potential BCDB faculty Advisors (forms below) are due by **5:00 PM on Thursday, September 6**. Submit these forms to Emily Neutens at **emily.kara.neutens@emory.edu** and **email your rotation lab choice to the Rotations Chair**, Guy Benian, **pathgb@emory.edu**. It is important that you do this by the deadline, which is before the start of each rotation, as *your choice of lab/Advisor requires approval by the program prior to the start of the rotation*.

4. Around halfway through the rotation begin thinking about and lining up the next one. Don't forget, you need to meet with 3 additional potential Advisors before the second rotation. These faculty members can be in BCDB or elsewhere within the GDBBS. Again, document these meetings using the attached form. Do not wait until the deadline to get your Rotation Advisor Selection Agreement form signed.
5. Sometime during the 1st half of January the Rotation Chair will arrange one more meeting to go over any issues arising and at which he will encourage students to compare experiences to date as well as ask any questions that may have arisen during the first 1.5 rotations. Students should feel free to discuss these with the Rotations Chair at any time but typically other students have similar concerns so also good to share.

Rotation Schedule

Each rotation lasts approximately ten weeks. Note, the second and third Rotation Advisor Selection Agreements and forms recording meetings with faculty are due before the end of the previous rotation. Rotation Reports are due on the final day of each rotation.

Rotation	Choices Due	Rotation period	Duration	Report Due
1	Monday, August 31, 2020	Monday, September 7, 2020	10 weeks	Friday, November 20, 2020
2	Monday, November 23, 2020	Monday, November 30, 2020	10 weeks	Friday, February 12, 2021
3	Monday, February 8, 2021	Monday, February 15, 2021	10 weeks	Friday, April 23, 2021

Rotation 2 includes “holiday time” surrounding the holidays and New Year’s. *Check with your 2nd rotation advisor at the start of the rotation to schedule any and all vacation time or any absences from the lab during this (or any other) time.*

Rotation Reports & Grading

Rotation reports should be submitted by the above deadlines as follows:

- a. An electronic copy with your Advisor’s signature on the front cover should be submitted to Emily Neutens via email at Emily.Kara.Neutens@emory.edu.
- b. An electronic copy should be emailed to the Rotations Chair Guy Benian, pathgb@emory.edu and Emily Neutens, emily.kara.neutens@emory.edu. *Please use as file name (Last Name, First Name_Rotation 1_Date (Example – Neutens, Emily_Rotation1_09072020)).*

Electronic copies are distributed for grading with the hard copy used as the definitive version in the event of any issues with formatting, etc., arising through computer/ software incompatibility.

Rotation reports are graded by the Rotations Committee. Their comments will be returned to you to provide detailed feedback on your reports. A grade for each rotation is determined by a combination of inputs from the Rotation Advisor (how you performed in the lab) and Rotation Committee (rotation reports). The final Rotations course grade is the average of the three individual rotation grades and will only be entered for both semesters after the end of the 3rd rotation in April.

Dissertation Advisor Selection Process

During the course of your rotations you should be exploring the possibility of doing your dissertation work in one of your rotation labs. By the end of the last rotation you should have a very good idea of where you want to continue your research. Discuss possibilities with your rotation advisors. You will be asked for your selection in late April to early May (the formal deadline is two weeks after the end of the final rotation but you do not need to wait until the last minute!).

Your responsibilities: With your Advisor, you should complete the **GDBBS Advisor Agreement Form** and **BCDB Addendum**. These documents must be submitted to the Executive Committee through the BCDB Program Office, Suite 300A Dental Building for their approval.

Note: Your Advisor of choice must consent to taking you and signing appropriate forms; however, the final approval is made by the BCDB Executive Committee and the GDBBS Director.