MASH Mission & Scope

MASH will support the CHIPS and Science Act to enhance America's strength in semiconductors and microelectronics and promote economic development.

The goal of MASH is to create the world's largest nanofabrication, packaging, and characterization facility by linking and enhancing the facilities in the region. The MASH "distributed" network of facilities will support technology transition to manufacturing and offer redundancy of resources and immediate access to a huge amount of technical expertise in semiconductors.

MASH will focus on helping the semiconductor industry to transition materials into systems, which is a critical industrial need of many emerging applications such as advanced communications, non-volatile memory, More than Moore devices, Industrial Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, edge computing, wireless communications, quantum devices, environmental sustainability, and materials and substrates.

MASH activities will center around three cross-cutting areas: Si-adjacent technologies, advanced packaging, and virtualization of semiconductor processes.

MASH will develop skills-based educational and workforce development plans to provide companies with an agile system to meet staffing requirements, and at the same time, enhance racial and socioeconomic diversity.

MASH will be a hub for regional and national activities to promote professional education and training, educate the public on semiconductors and microelectronics, share and coordinate materials standards, identify funding opportunities, and build networks and technology road maps.

MARYLAND

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MISSION & SCOPE







Comprising four major facilities, the Singh Center for Nanotechnology is vital to the research and educational programs at the University of Pennsylvania and are leveraged by partner institutions and local industry within the Mid-Atlantic region.

Unifying these central resources fosters the exchange of scientific ideas and the development of nanoscale science and technology, brings together crosscutting capabilities and the staffing to support these tools, and provides the modern infrastructure necessary to establish a regional center for nanotechnology.



QNF: fabrication

QUATTRONE NANOFABRICATION FACILITY

The Quattrone Nanofabrication Facility (QNF) operates a ~11,000 sq.ft. cleanroom with cutting-edge equipment, including electron-beam and optical lithography, deposition techniques, processing tools, metrology, and device characterization. Additionally, QNF offers a complementary facility for soft lithography for soft materials and laser micromachining, catering to diverse materials processing, microfluidics, and lab-on-chip activities. To complete the cycle, QNF provides backend equipment for device packaging and hybridization, encompassing wire bonding, wafer bonding, electrical testing, and wafer dicing.

CONTACT: QNF Director, Eric Johnston, ericdjæseas.upenn.edu

SOFT LITHO: fabrication

SOFT LITHOGRAPHY LAB

The QNF Soft Lithography Lab facilitates PDMS device fabrication for microfluidics and microcontact printing. Equipped with essential tools like an ABM mask aligner and Anatech barrel asher, the lab provides photoresist, PDMS, and necessary supplies. The lab addresses the growing demand for miniaturized liquid-based assays in research, diagnostics, and sample analysis. Soft lithography enables diverse applications, including particle separation, cell culture, chemical mixing, and organ mimetics. It is also instrumental in non-fluidic devices like micro-contact printing and cellular force measurement, exemplified by microfabricated culture devices for long-term neuronal studies.

CONTACT: QNF Director, Eric Johnston, ericdjæseas.upenn.edu

NCF: characterization and measurement

NANOSCALE CHARACTERIZATION FACILITY

The Nanoscale Characterization Facility (NCF) at the Singh Center offers cutting-edge electron- and ion-beam analysis tools. The facility includes an integrated sample preparation laboratory with complete sample coating and plasma cleaning capabilities and cryogenic TEM sample preparation equipment. A computer suite for offline image and data analysis and office and meeting space for staff and industrial users round out the facility in the Singh Center.

CONTACT: NCF Director, Douglas Yates, dmyates@seas.upenn.edu

SLPF: microscopy

SCANNING AND LOCAL PROBE FACILITY

The Scanning and Local Probe Facility (SLPF) is a comprehensive user facility of scanning probe microscopes and confocal Raman microscopes allowing characterization of morphology, mechanical properties (friction, stiffness, adhesion), electrical properties (surface potential, conductivity, piezoelectric force), and chemical structure in over a range of environment. Some instruments combine techniques, such as fluid cell AFM + fluorescence microscopy for in situ measurements and AFM + Raman for tip-enhanced spectroscopy.

CONTACT: SLPF Director, Matt Brukman, mbrukman@seas.upenn.edu

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