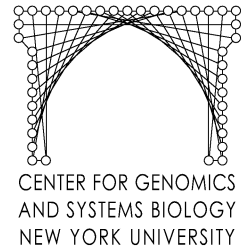


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July 31, 2017

Dear Dr. Larrondo, Dr. Gutiérrez:

I am writing to express my interest in participating as Senior Advisor in your proposed Millennium Institute for Integrative Systems and Synthetic Biology. As a Senior Advisor, I would be happy to provide counseling, scientific & technical guidance to help steer the MISSB scientific mission, to help it succeed locally and internationally.

The scientific aims of this new center, to use systems and synthetic biology approaches to understand plant/fungal responses to environmental change (e.g. nitrogen nutrients, light, temperature) and the data generated from it, would fit very well into our research in Plant Systems Biology at New York University. We use network inference studies in *Arabidopsis* and crop plants to predictively model and manipulate gene regulatory networks affecting Nitrogen-Use Efficiency (NUE), a trait with impact on the environment, energy and human nutrition. The workflows and tools developed in our projects should also prove useful to the research you are proposing.

Our past collaborations have proven highly successful and I have always found the association exciting and fruitful. I am confident that this new scientific interaction will benefit both your Institute and our projects in the ways stated above and in many other unanticipated ways.

Sincerely,



Gloria Coruzzi
Carroll & Milton Petrie Professor