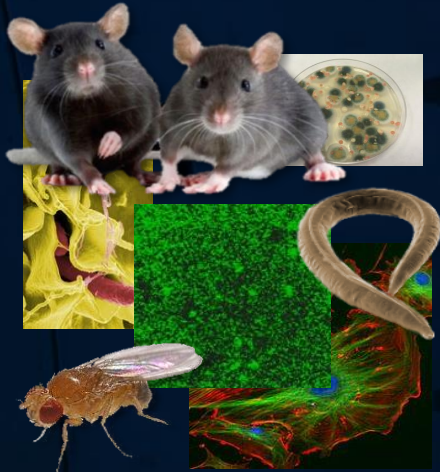
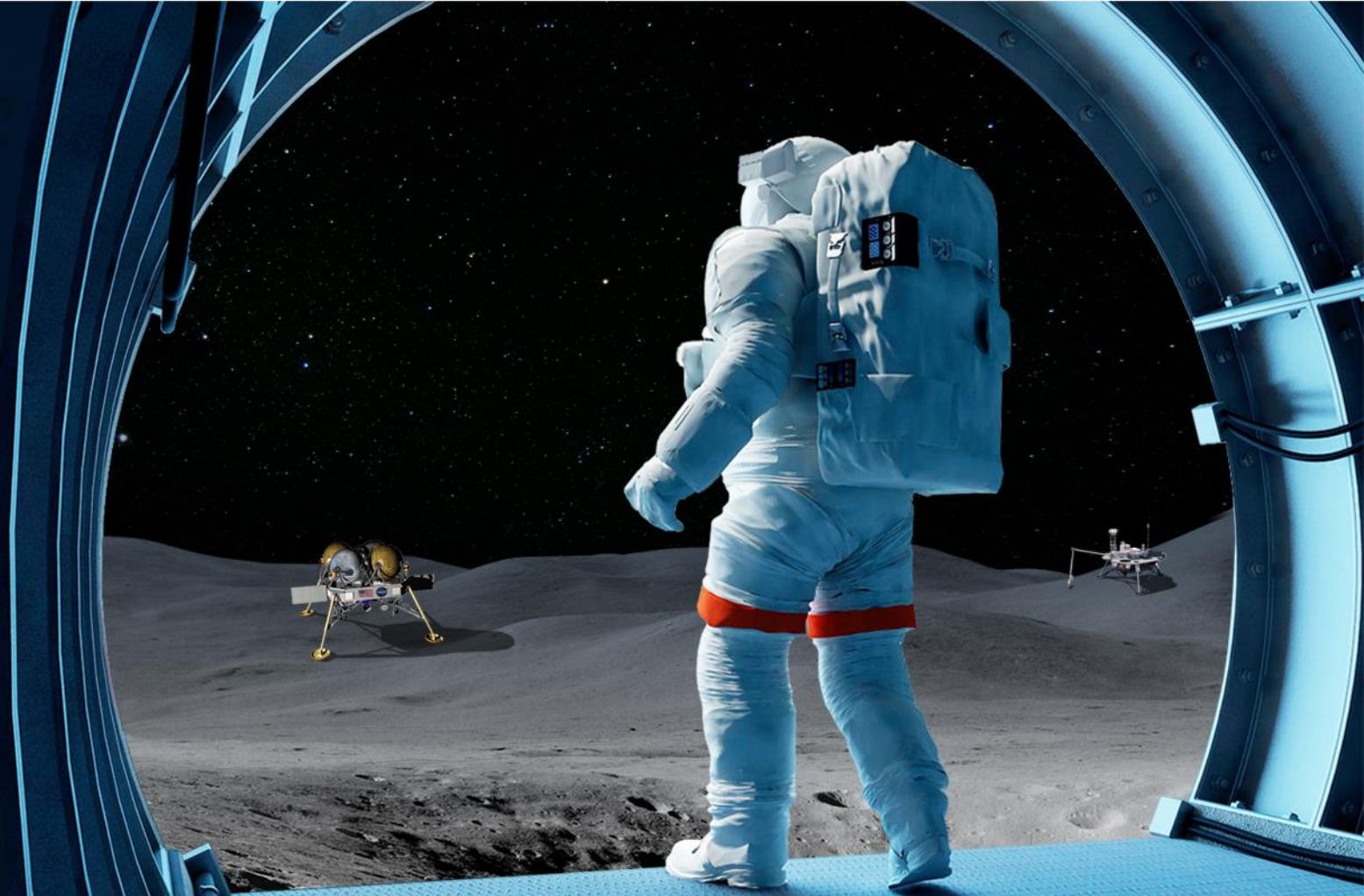


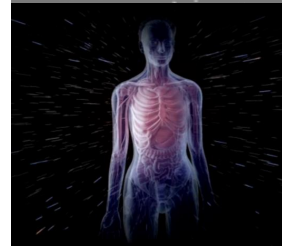
# OP3 NASA JAXA Rodent Research Collaboration Opportunities

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

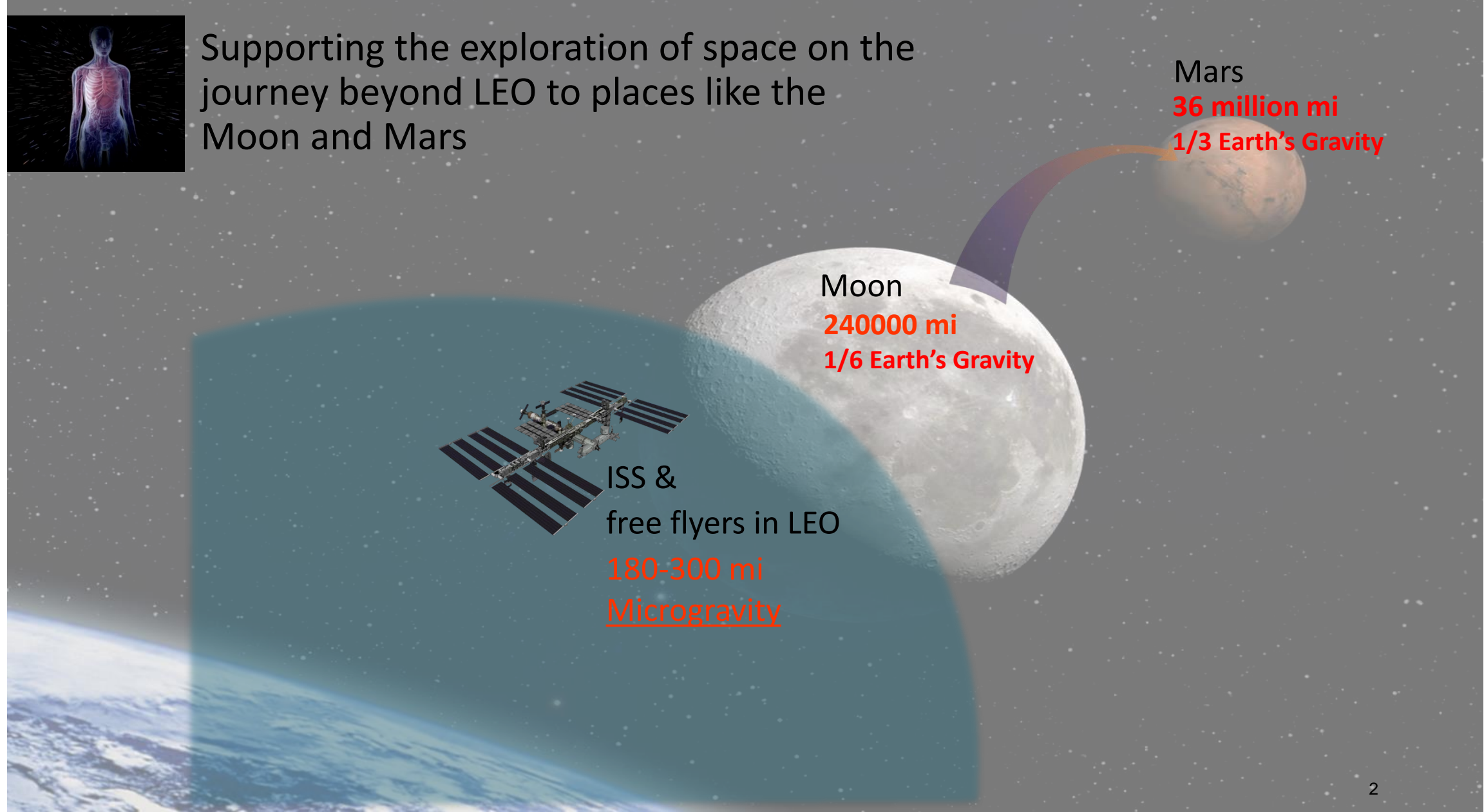


Frances Donovan, Ph.D.  
Space Biology Project, NASA Ames Research Center  
JAXA Kibo Utilization Symposium  
February 2019





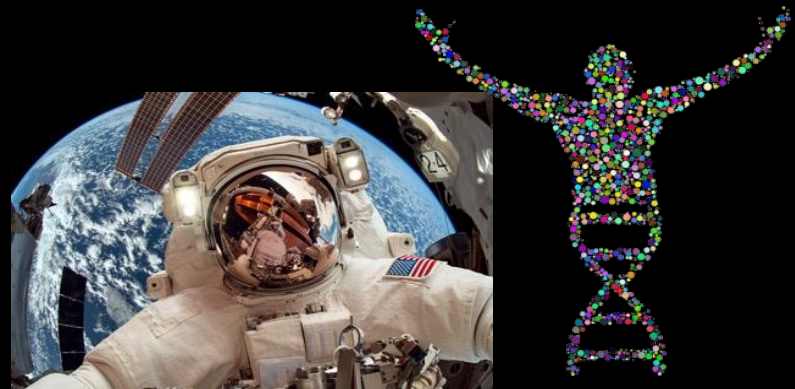
Supporting the exploration of space on the journey beyond LEO to places like the Moon and Mars



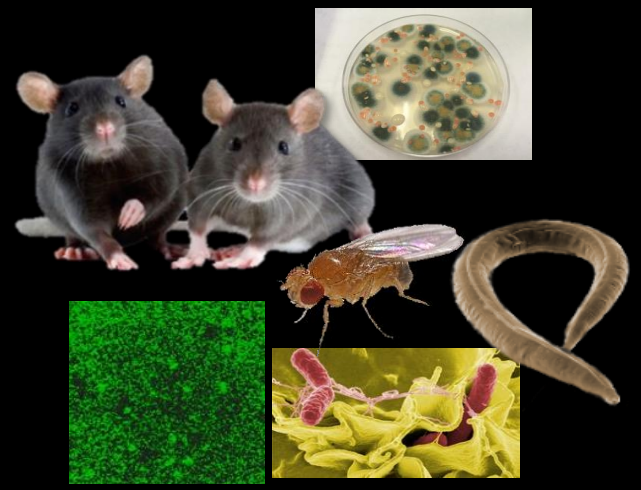
ISS &  
free flyers in LEO  
**180-300 mi**  
Microgravity

Moon  
**240000 mi**  
**1/6 Earth's Gravity**

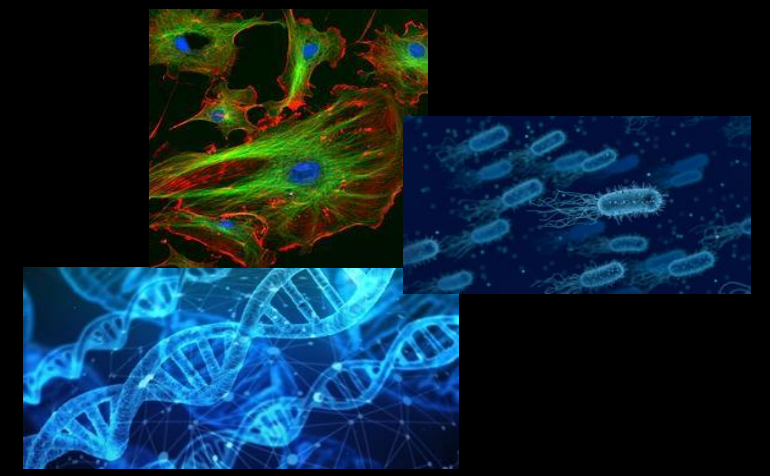
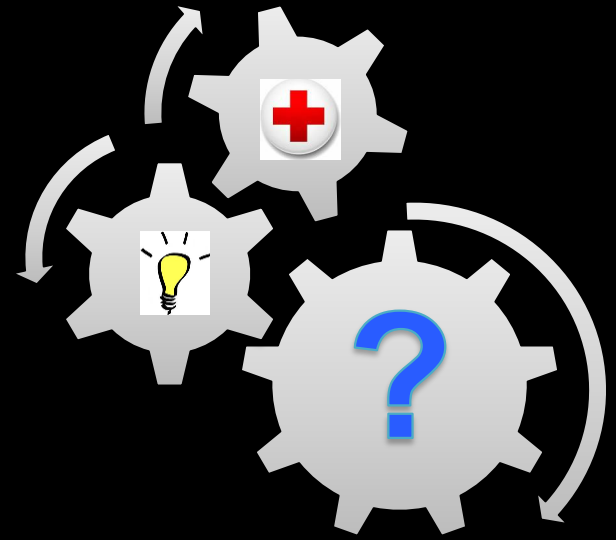
Mars  
**36 million mi**  
**1/3 Earth's Gravity**



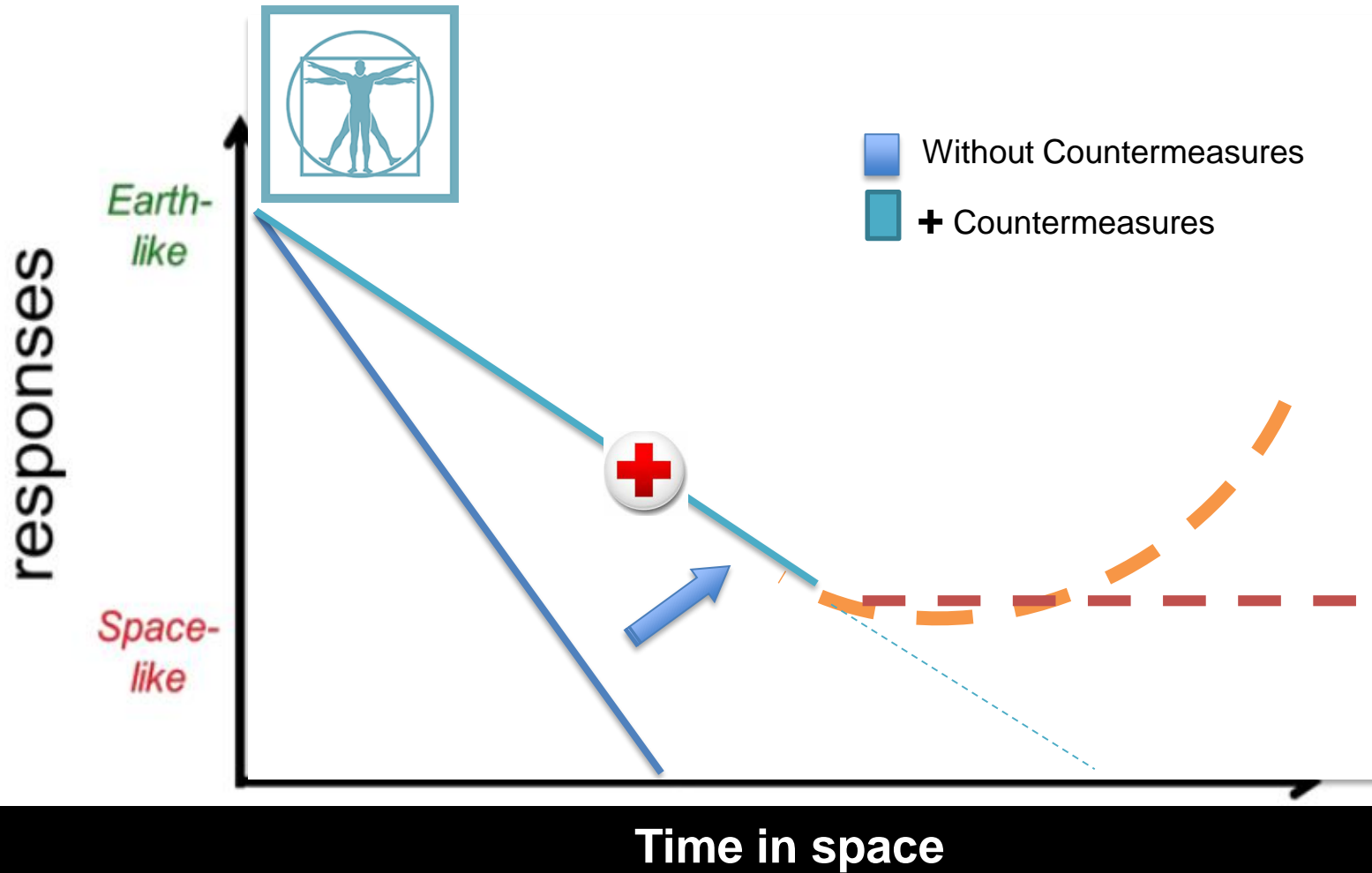
Human Biology and Health



Integrated Biological and Physiological Systems



Fundamental Biological Systems and Biomolecules



For Exploration Missions we need adverse effects to plateau or countermeasures recover the human from the effects of spaceflight

# Gravity: response to 0g, Lunar and Martian g, and Artificial Gravity as a countermeasure



9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>  
(1xg)



~ 9.8 × 10<sup>-6</sup>  
m/s<sup>2</sup>  
(microgravity)



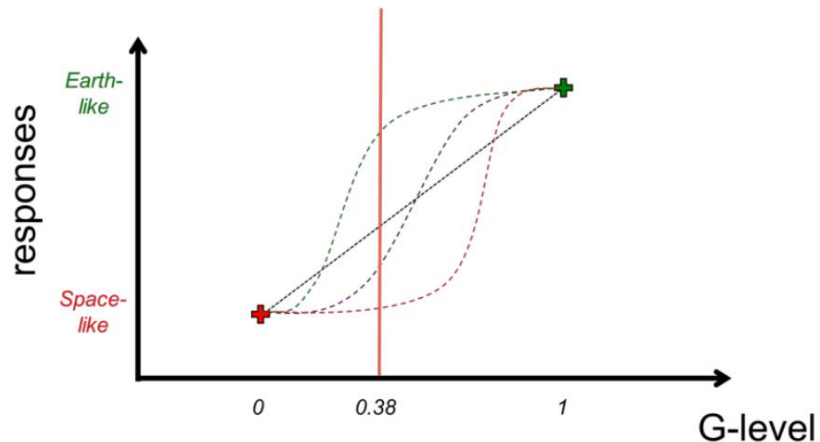
1.6 m/s<sup>2</sup>  
(1/6 × g)



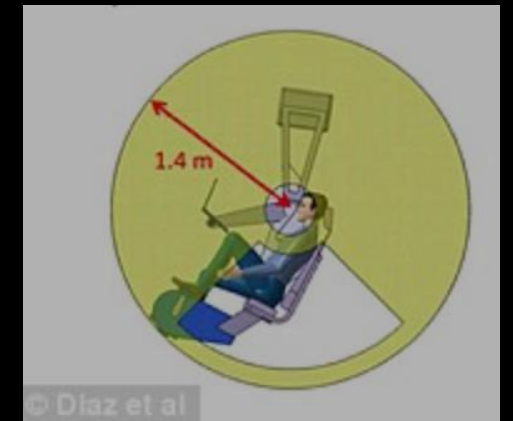
3.7 m/s<sup>2</sup>  
(3/8xg)



## Physiological Responses to Hypogravity?



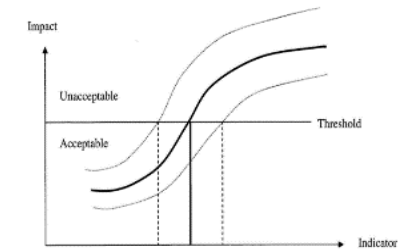
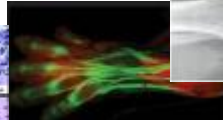
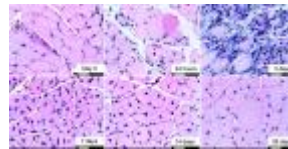
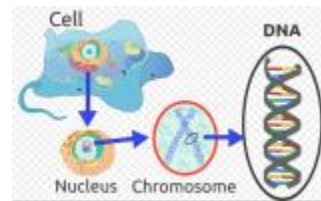
- underlying **mechanisms**
- impacts of **prolonged exposure** followed by **return/re-acclimation** to gravity
- discrete **thresholds** of gravity level
- **continuous** gravity exposure vs. **intermittent** exposures
- combined effect of **space radiation** plus changes in gravity



**Artificial Gravity?**

## The Gravity Dose Response Curve: Threshold or Continuum?

- Gravity induces biological responses at the gene expression, cellular, systems and whole organism level
- The dose response curve of any of these responses is not fully characterized



- It is not known if responses are a continuum or are based on reaching thresholds
- Its is not known if responses require continuous or intermittent exposures
- It is not known if the sensitivity/dose response changes during development

**Gravity as a Continuum ToolBox** - ground & flight research on a variety of organisms to define dose response curve & adaptation mechanisms from 0 to >2+g

**Ground-based Centrifuges**

**In-flight Centrifuges (EMCS, KUBIK, JAXA mouse centrifuge "MARS", Free-flyers)**

**Parabolic Flight**

**Ground-Based Fractional G Simulators (Clinostats, RPMs, HARVs, etc)**

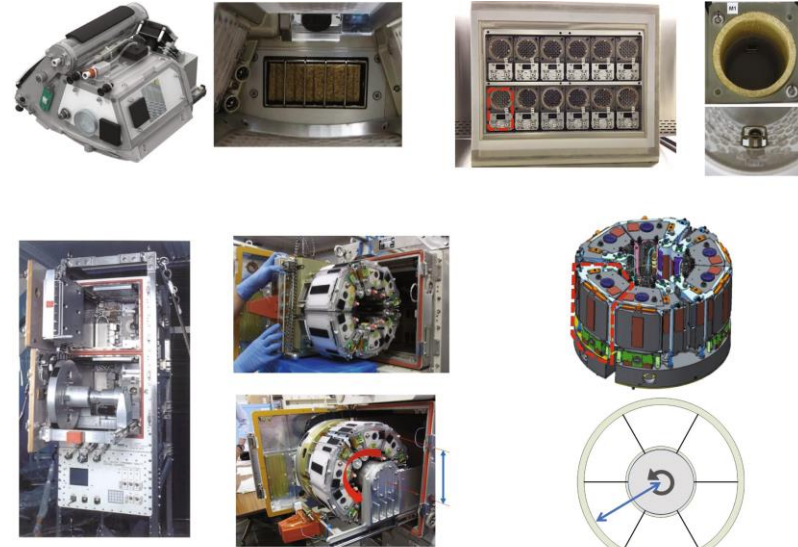
**Partial Unloading in Animals and Humans**

## NASA Research Opportunity for US investigators: new proposals to use the JAXA MARS facility

– Varying gravity level exposure using mouse

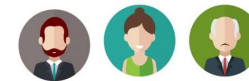
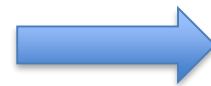


Micro g, 1/6 g, 3/8g, other?



MARS images courtesy of JAXA

Proposals were peer reviewed, and a team of three investigators were chosen to provide an integrated research proposal.





- **NASA Rodent Habitat– ISS facility, micro g only. Up to 10 mice per unit, group housed**



Rodent Habitat, Transporter, and Access Unit



- **Data can be collected by DXA for body composition/bone density**
- **Body mass can be measured with Small Mass Measuring device**
- **Grip strength can be measured with Grip Strength device**
- **Euthanasia and dissection can be performed in the Glovebox**
- **Samples Frozen and returned to earth.**



Image: Techshot





2017

2018

2019

2020

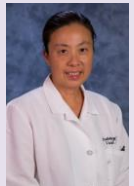
2021

2022

**RR-9: Effects of Spaceflight on Ocular Oxidative Stress and the Blood-Retinal Barrier, retinal vasculature/tissue remodeling, and hip/knee joints.**



**Dr. Delp**  
Florida State University



**Dr. Mao**  
Loma Linda University

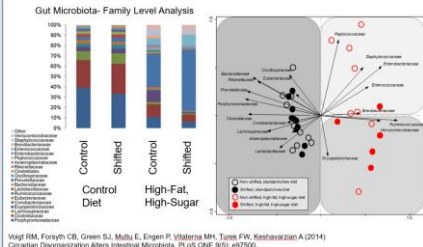


**Dr. Willey**  
Wake Forest University

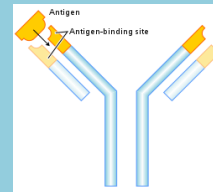
**RR-7: Effects of Spaceflight on Gastrointestinal Microbiota in Mice: Mechanisms and Impact on Multi-System Physiology**



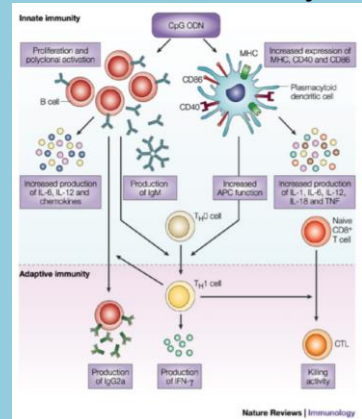
**Dr. Turek**  
Northwestern University



**RR-12: Impact of Spaceflight on Primary and Secondary Antibody Responses**



**Dr. Pecaut**  
Loma Linda University



**Future Areas of investigation:  
Bone and Tissue Regeneration  
Eye and Blood Brain Barrier  
Free Radical generation and effects  
Vascular and Reproductive Health**

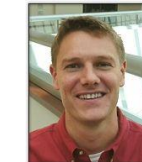


**RR-11: Vascular Health in Space: MicroRNAs in Microgravity**  
**Dr. Taylor**  
Texas Heart Institute



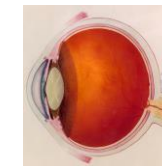
**Role of P21/CDKN1a Pathway in Microgravity-Induced Bone Tissue Regenerative Arrest**

**Dr. Almeida**  
NASA Ames Research Center



**Foundational In Vivo Experiments on Osteocyte Biology in Space**

**Dr. Robling**  
University of Indiana



**Dr. Mao**  
Loma Linda University

**Spaceflight Environment Induces Remodeling of Vascular Network and Glia-vascular Communication in Mouse Retina**

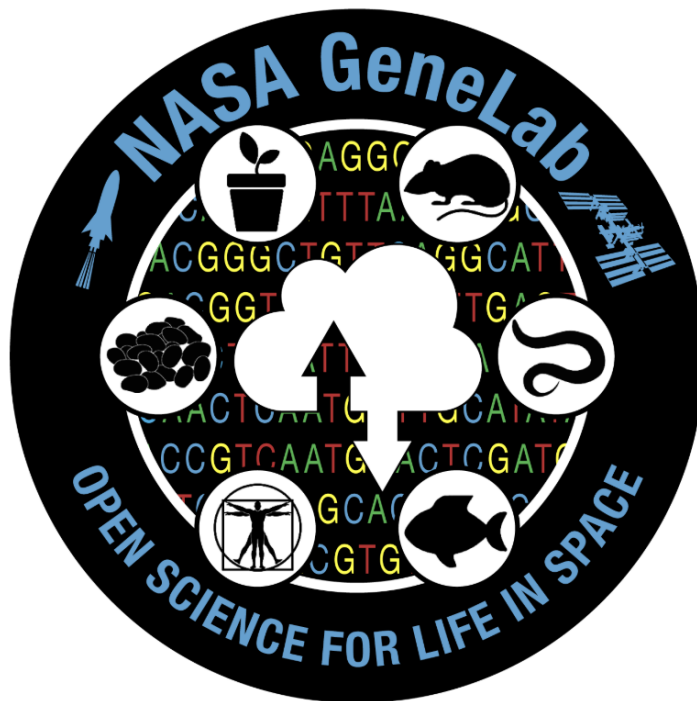


**GeneLab**

Open Science for Life in Space

[Home](#) [About](#) [Data & Tools](#) [Research & Resources](#) [Help](#)

Keywords



Welcome to NASA GeneLab – the first comprehensive space-related omics database in which users can upload, download, share, store, and analyze spaceflight and corresponding model organism data.



**Data Repository**

Search and upload spaceflight datasets



**Analyze Data**

Perform large-scale analysis of biological omics data



**Environmental Data**

Radiation data collected during experiments conducted in space



**Collaborative Workspace**

Share, organize and store files



**Submit Data**

Have space-relevant data to submit to GeneLab?

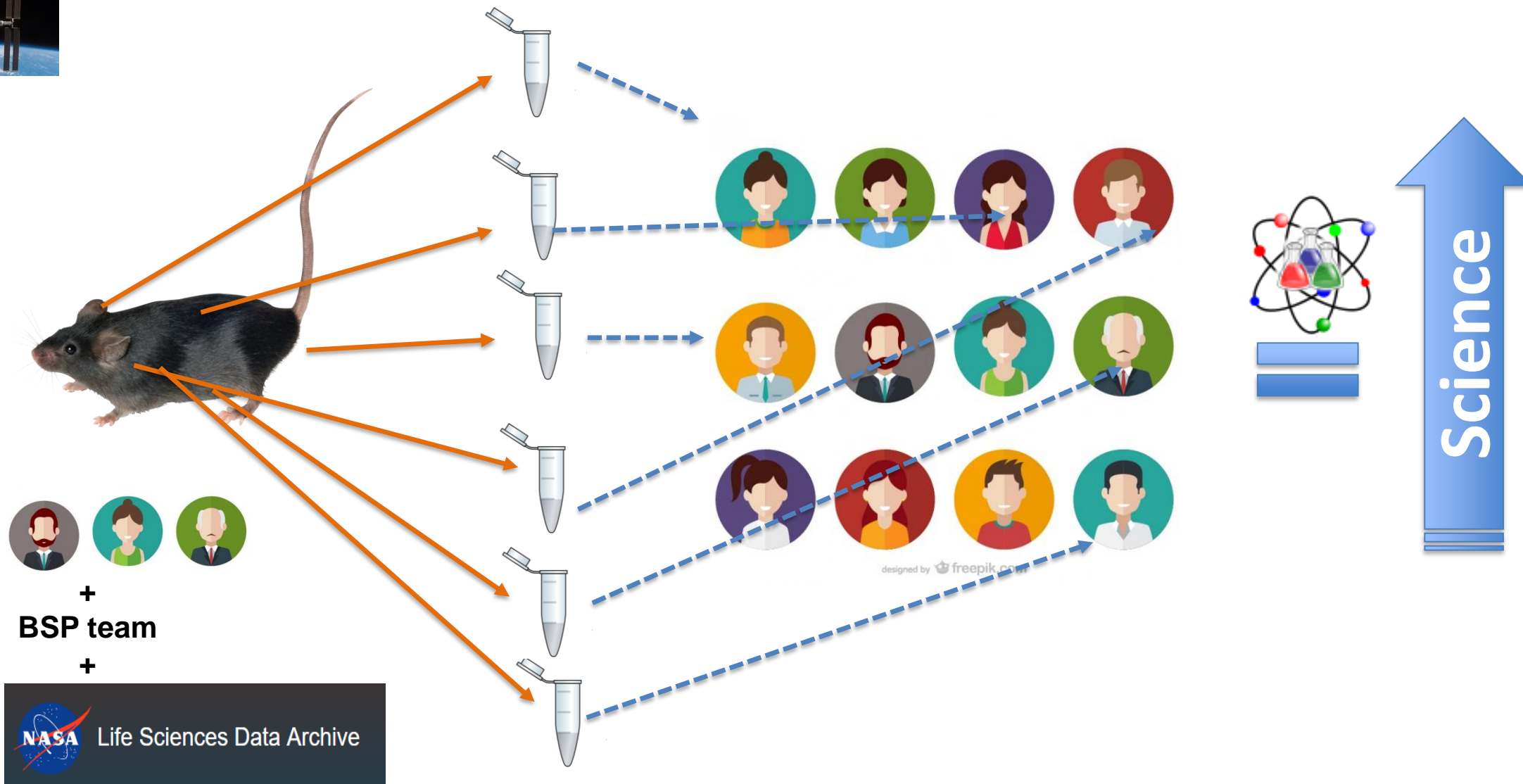


**Tutorials**

New to GeneLab?

**[WATCH: NASA's new GeneLab video - Access and analyze unique genomics data from spaceflight](#)**

# Biospecimen Sharing Program (BSP)- Maximizes Science obtained from Spaceflight Research



Upcoming BSP Milestones	Date
<b>RR-7</b> Flight and Ground Control dissections at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13 Tissue types will be collected.</li> </ul>	January-February 2019
<b>RR-12</b> Dissections at Kennedy Space Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 29 Tissue types will be collected.</li> </ul>	April 2019



**Picture:** RR-9 PI and NASA Teams at KSC.



**Picture:** RR-7 PI and NASA Teams at KSC.

- **NASA would like to thank JAXA for this historic opportunity to collaboratively study effects of partial gravity exposures to a mammalian model.**
- **JAXA/NASA Biospecimen Sharing – an ongoing effort**
  - Exchange of rodent tissues from NASA Rodent Research experiments and tissues from JAXA MARS facility
  - NASA rodent missions are leading to bio banking of spaceflight tissues we hope will be useful to our international partners

***This effort is supported by the Human Research Program, the Space Biology Program, and the ISS Research Integration Office under the Space Life Sciences Research Applications Program.***

***Thank you***



# BACK UP charts





Mary Bouxsein, Ph.D.



Charles Fuller, Ph.D.



Martha Vitaterna, Ph.D.

### Bone, Neuromotor Performance and Muscle Function.

### Circadian Rhythm

### Microbiome

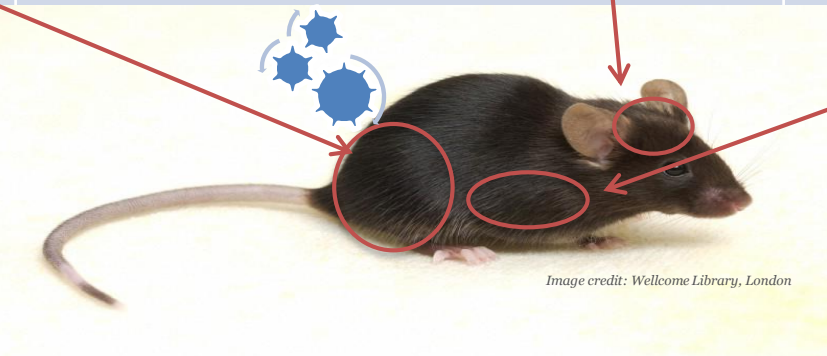


Image credit: Wellcome Library, London