**Scientific Environment**

The Ballmer Institute for Children’s Behavioral Health at the University of Oregon (UO) is creating a new mental health profession that only requires an undergraduate degree to deliver services in schools, health care systems, and the community. This has never been done in the United States, but the research and evidence show this will be effective and will increase access to care.

Working directly in schools and community settings, clinical professors will provide undergraduates with applied training in the delivery of interventions to promote well-being and prevent mental health problems from developing and worsening in children and adolescents. Through community-engaged practice, child behavioral health specialists will increase access to high-quality mental health support for children and families.

**Training Existing Youth-Serving Professionals:** Responding to requests from educators for new techniques and tools to help meet the urgent needs of their students, the institute created a three-course graduate-level microcredential. This opportunity allows youth-serving professionals to network and connect with individuals in their field while equipping them with evidence-based practices that can be immediately integrated into their classrooms or other settings.

**Creating New Approaches to Support Child Behavioral Health:** Ballmer faculty create interventions, technologies, and services through rigorous research efforts that ensure behavioral health and wellness programs work for all children and adolescents, prioritizing youth from historically or persistently underserved communities.

The Ballmer Institute is located at the university’s new northeast Portland campus. Launched in 2022, the Ballmer Institute was made possible through a transformational gift from Connie and Steve Ballmer to support a one-of-a-kind academic and research institute with a first in the nation undergraduate degree in children’s behavioral health. The Ballmer Institute is housed in the most recently renovated building on campus – the Library and Learning Center. The institute occupies over 11,000 sqft across two floors providing ample space for the institute’s current academic and research activities. As part of the university’s commitment to the institute, a state-of-the-art research facility is under design and will be tailored to the needs of faculty within the Ballmer Institute (approx. 10,000 sqft).

**Laboratory**

Ballmer faculty have access to shared and secure lab space that includes 1,290 sqft of open office space with workstations for research staff, students and postdocs and two private rooms (total 565 sqft) that can be flexibly used for observational and intervention research (e.g., interviewing, experiments, family interventions).

There is also approx. 800 sqft of additional surge research space within the institute. Shared space between faculty promotes interaction and maximizes efficiency between our inherently multi-disciplinary researchers.

**Office**

[insert individual information on office space] dedicated individual office space in the Ballmer Institute. Academic and research programs will be self-sufficient at the UO Portland campus with primary research and academic support staff that are co-located in the same building to the extent possible.

**Computers**

The Ballmer Institute has access to the UO’s central Information Services division for desktop support and specialized-research solutions as well as use of the primary HPC-cluster Talapas, overseen by the Research Advanced Computing Services core facility. The Computing Center also employs statistical and computer consultants to assist faculty and staff with other computer needs. Faculty have a personal, password protected and University-secured computer with the necessary statistical and other software (e.g., Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat) to conduct their research. Additional relevant software available through UO include RedCap, Qualtrics, Zoom, Microsoft 365 including Sharepoint and OneDrive, and Virtual Machines and Server attached storage solutions for secure cloud storage of personally identifiable data. The University has a Chief Information Officer, a Chief Information Security Officer, and Chief Technology Officer charged with providing standardization across the University and a fully compliant environment to receive federal dollars in support of research and innovation.