About ICB and ICB-5

ICB stands for Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas (Biomedical Sciences Institute). The Institute is part of the University of Sao Paulo, and UMMS has an MOU signed with them. They currently have 4 units at the main Campus of the University, in the Western Region of São Paulo called Butantã, and 1 unit in Rondônia state, in the city of Monte Negro, in the heart of the Amazon Forest (see map below).

The ICB was created in 1969, during the dictatorship in Brazil. The idea was to isolate most of the health sciences students, faculty and staff in different buildings, and away from the Medical School (where they used to be locate up to then), to weaken the academic community and to avoid political organization and opposition.

Some facts about ICB:

- 183 research labs
- 165 faculty members
- Two undergraduate programs: Fundamental Sciences for Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Teaches Biomedical Sciences courses to approx. 10,000 students/year
- Approx. 800 fellows
- Approx. 100 funded undergraduate students doing research training

ICB-5 was created in the late 1990s, in partnership with IPEPA (Instituto de Pesquisa em Patologias Tropicais – Research Institute for Tropical Diseases) and FIOCRUZ (Fundação Oswaldo Cruz), as a response to the increasing cases of malaria in the Amazon region and to address other neglected tropical diseases, such as Chagas disease, filariasis, systemic mycosis and leishmaniasis. Since 2006, it is recognized as an ICB off-site location.

Some facts about ICB-5:

- Located in Monte Negro, 250 km from the capital of Rondônia, Porto Velho
- 500 square meters of constructed area and transportation means (see details below)
- Care for the population of 15,000 inhabitants, plus people leaving at the margins of Jamary River and native Indians leaving nearby and in more remote areas of the Rondônia state.
- In house faculty: Dr. Luís Marcelo Aranha Camargo, from ICB Parasitology Department.
- Website: [http://www.icbusp.org/](http://www.icbusp.org/)
Trip from Porto Velho, Rondônia’s capital, to Monte Negro
INFRASTRUCTURE

Research laboratory – wood construction with 240 sq. meters, acclimatized, with computer, piped water with a 10,000 liter reservoir, freezers -20°C e -70°C, liquid nitrogen drums, refrigerated centrifuge, 3 laminar fluxes, BOD, microscopes and entomologic magnifier, 4 kilns, 2 autoclaves. Electric power generator and transformer.

Clinical laboratory – with 40 sq. meters, acclimatized and automatized.

Insectary – with 60 sq. meters divided into analysis room, with microscopes and magnifiers, office with computer, arthropods room and deposit room.

Transport – 2 pickups Mitsubishi L2000, 1 pickup Ford Ranger, 2 motorboats.

Housing – 3 wooden houses, acclimatized, for up to 60 people.

Auditorium – 60 sq. meters, acclimatized, with multimedia equipment (data show), internet access for up to 50 people.

Office – 30 sq. meters, acclimatized, with wireless internet access, 20 computers, 3 printers and 2 laptops.

Library – Access to virtual library via “Portal CAPES” (http://www.periodicos.capes.gov.br/).

Oral Health Center – masonry structure with 80 sq. meters, acclimatized, with 7 dentistry and 2 phonoaudiology consultation rooms, and a semi-artesian well.

Medical Ambulatory - 10 consultation rooms, acclimatized, with computer, to conduct clinical consultations and small surgeries.

How to get there:

- Fly to International Airport Governador Jorge Teixeira (best access cities in Brazil are Brasília and Rio de Janeiro). Operated by:
  - GOL (www.voegol.com.br)
  - TAM (www.tam.com.br)
  - TRIP / AZUL (www.voetrip.com.br)
- Plus approx. 3.5-hour drive, by paved single road.
Some facts about Monte Negro

- Low level of violence: 0.5 occurrences/month (crimes)
- Temperature (mean)
  - day: 25 a 35°C
  - night: 18 a 23°C
  - from May to October, there might be "friagem" episodes, i.e., 3-4 days with temperatures as low as 11°C.
  - Raining period: October to March
  - Dry period (occasional rain): April to October
- Closest cities: Buritis (80km), Campo Novo (50 km) e Ariquemes (50 km) – access by paved single roads.

Research and training opportunities at ICB-5:

- one-month M4 international electives at ICB-5 (any time of the year) for up to 2 UM students at a time
  - room and board provided
  - main areas: infectious & parasitic disease and chronic disease in the Amazonian context (hypertension, skin cancer, diabetes 2, dyslipidemia and ophthalmologic disorders)
- 3-6 weeks programs for med students at ICB-5 including a boat trip expedition to provide health care to riverine population
  - July (2 weeks working at ICB-5, 2 weeks traveling on a boat clinic) – up to 2 students/staff.
  - September (3 weeks working at ICB-5, 1 week traveling on a boat clinic) – up to 4 students/staff.
- any-length faculty visits to do joint research or participate in events and teaching and training opportunities.
Porto Velho Airport

Madeira River, in Porto Velho

Road from Porto Velho to Monte Negro

Monte Negro’s Municipal Hospital
Dr. Heisler, Dr. Aranha and ICB-5 lab manager, Juliana Camargo

Dr. Luís Marcelo Aranha Camargo in a consultation room at ICB-5

ICB-5 Health Care Center

ICB-5 Health Care Center
Clinical Analysis Lab at ICB-5 Health Care Center

Auditorium at ICB-5 Health Care Center

Dr. Heisler and ICB-5 hosts

UM visitors and hosts at the ICB-5 Health Care Center entrance
Lunch and some rest by the Jamary River

Boat trip up the Jamary River
| Dried fish stalls on the road to Monte Negro | Local fish stewed in tucupi (fermented manioc broth) |
| Wild mutum bird | Brazil nut served fresh from the tree |