



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**

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Office of Research

Dec. 7, 2022

Dear Provost Hu,

Consistent with the [University of Georgia 4.13 Policy on Centers](#), I formally request the dissolution of the Phenomics and Plant Robotics Center (PPRC). The recently launched Institute for Integrative Precision Agriculture encompasses the scope of PPRC's activities, and PPRC Director Dr. Changying "Charlie" Li will soon leave the University. In the attached memo, Dr. Li reports the PPRC Executive Committee unanimously voted to dissolve the Center. I concur that the PPRC has effectively served its intended purpose and recommend it be discontinued.

Sincerely,

Karen J.L. Burg, Ph.D., FNAI, FBSE, FAIMBE
Vice President for Research

Attachment: Letter from Dr. Li to Dr. Burg dated Sept. 26, 2022

September 26, 2022

Dear Dr. Burg,

I am writing to let you know that I will be leaving the University of Georgia by the end of this year because I accepted a new position from another institution. As such, I am stepping down from my position as the Director of the Phenomics and Plant Robotics Center (PPRC) at UGA.

The PPRC has served as the only official interdisciplinary research center focusing on agricultural technologies on campus in the past 5 years and it has played an important role in building a community and promoting interdisciplinary research in this space at UGA. This early summer, UGA has officially launched the Institute of Integrative Precision Agriculture (IIPA). In light of this, the PPRC Executive Committee decided that there is no need for the PPRC to compete with the new IIPA and UGA needs one unifying brand in this space. Therefore, the PPRC Executive Committee convened on September 22 and voted unanimously to dissolve our center because we moved to a new era and our Center has served its purpose to build a bridge leading to the new IIPA.

I want to thank you and the Office of Research for the valuable support of our Center in the past five years. I wish UGA research enterprise continued success under your leadership.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Changying Li". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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