Professor Tina Ng's research involves plastic electronics patterned by inkjet printing instead of traditional photolithography. She is a Hartwell Investigator on biomedical devices for spasticity assessment and has been awarded second place in the 2017 Bell Lab Prize Competition for her work in organic short wave infrared detection. Prior to joining UCSD, she was a Senior Research Scientist at Palo Alto Research Center. Her work includes demonstration of bendable image sensors for x-ray medical imaging, complementary organic circuits and non-volatile memory for a sensor tape that monitors head concussions. She led the development of printed sensor platforms (a joint project between PARC and ThinFilm Electronics) -- which was awarded the 2012 FLEXI Innovation Award and named Runner-Up of Wall Street Journal Technology Innovation Award in 2012. Professor Ng received her Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Cornell University, where she worked with Professor John Marohn on (1) examining charge injection processes in organic semiconductors by electric force microscopy and (2) thermomagnetic fluctuations and hysteresis loops of sub-micron magnets for magnetic resonance force microscopy.

Dr. Henrik I. Christensen is the Qualcomm Chancellor's Chair of Robot Systems and a Professor of Computer Science at Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering UC San Diego. He is also the director of the Institute for Contextual Robotics. Prior to UC San Diego he was the founding director of Institute for Robotics and Intelligent machines (IRIM) at Georgia Institute of Technology (2006-2016). Dr. Christensen does research on systems integration, human-robot interaction, mapping and robot vision. The research is performed within the Cognitive Robotics Laboratory. He has published more than 350 contributions across AI, robotics and vision. His research has a strong emphasis on "real problems with real solutions". A problem needs a theoretical model, implementation, evaluation, and translation to the real world. He is actively engaged in the setup and coordination of robotics research in the US (and worldwide). Dr. Christensen received the Engelberger Award 2011, the highest honor awarded by the robotics industry. He was also named the "Boeing Supplier of the Year 2011" while at Georgia Tech. Dr. Christensen is a fellow of American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS) and Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He received an honorary doctorate in engineering from Aalborg University 2014. He collaborates with institutions and industries across three continents. His research has been featured in major media such as CNN, NY Times, and the BBC.
Terrence Sejnowski is the Francis Crick Professor at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies where he directs the Computational Neurobiology Laboratory and is the Director of the Crick-Jacobs Center for Theoretical and Computational Biology. His research in neural networks and computational neuroscience has been pioneering. He has turned to computer modeling techniques to try to encapsulate what we know about the brain as well as to test hypotheses on how brain cells process, sort and store information. While other scientists have focused on mapping the physical arrangement of neurons (tracing which cells connect to which), Sejnowski is interested in a more functional map of the brain, one that looks at how sets of cells are involved in processes—from filtering what we see to recalling memories. To collect data on brain function, Sejnowski records the electrical activity of select sets of cells, as well as analyzes thin slices of autopsied brains. He uses that information to create and refine computational models on how the brain stores information for different activities. Through these models, he gets a better understanding of what information different cell types encode, what molecules are needed and how signals move throughout the brain. At the same time, he learns how diseases such as schizophrenia or Parkinson’s might alter these patterns.

Dr. Pride's major interests are in developing diagnostic tests for infectious diseases, and in understanding the role of microbial communities in human health and disease. He joined the faculty at UCSD in September of 2010. His laboratory focuses on the role that microbial communities play in human homeostasis, health and disease. Dr. Pride believes that the various microbial components of human ecosystems including bacteria, viruses, archaea, and fungi are important factors that help determine the natural history of their hosts. Furthermore, their interactions with humans or their interactions with other microbial constituents in these communities likely have consequences for human health.