

RIMA B. FRANKLIN, PH.D.



Rima B. Franklin received her B.A. in Biology from [Bard College](#) and her Ph.D. in Environmental Science from The University of Virginia. She joined USRA's Division of Space Life Sciences as a BFSB Postdoctoral Fellow in June of 2004.

Dr. Franklin worked with Dr. Aaron Mills in the Space Life Sciences Laboratory of the Biological Sciences Office at [Kennedy Space Center](#) while carrying out her NASA postdoctoral research. The primary focus of her research was to increase the fundamental understanding of microbial communities, their composition and their functional stability in closed systems. This research contributed to the development of bioregenerative life support systems that will be responsible for the recycling of solid and liquid waste materials and carbon dioxide, as well as the production of food, oxygen, and water for human consumption on long-duration NASA missions.

After completing her two-year BFSB appointment, Dr. Franklin accepted an Assistant Professor Faculty position with [Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Biology](#).