



La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology

The La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology is a nonprofit biomedical research institute dedicated to improving human health and fighting disease through cutting-edge immunology research. The Institute's researchers are on a quest for knowledge that has recently produced important findings on type 1 diabetes, cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, asthma, smallpox and more - findings that could one day help to improve, or even save, the lives of millions of people.

Founded in 1988, the La Jolla Institute has emerged as a world leader in immunology research and is San Diego's only research institution focused solely on solving immune system diseases. The Institute's work has drawn significant notice in the scientific community. It was recently ranked among the top five molecular biology and genetics research organizations in the world. In addition, the Institute's scientists have garnered an international reputation for excellence with nearly 100 publications on important medical research findings per year.

The La Jolla Institute is home to 23 faculty members - all distinguished scientists who oversee efforts to analyze how immune system functioning influences a broad array of disorders - from rheumatoid arthritis to infectious diseases to cancer. Supporting these efforts are the Institute's more than 260 employees from numerous countries around the world -- half of whom hold advanced degrees at the Ph.D. or M.D. level.

La Jolla Institute receives the majority of its funding through competitive research grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is growing its philanthropic opportunities to fulfill priority needs. Such resources provide critical support to its scientists as they focus on achieving medical breakthroughs in numerous areas, including autoimmune diseases such as type 1 diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis; infectious diseases such as West Nile virus and the H1N1 flu; cancer; heart disease; allergy and asthma. In addition, the Institute launched a new research division in 2009 that is exploring genetics-based approaches against disease.

The Institute is guided by a 12-member Board of Directors, which includes two members of the National Academy of Sciences. A scientific advisory board of distinguished outside specialists conducts annual evaluations of scientific progress and reviews future research objectives.

In 2006, the La Jolla Institute moved to a new, larger state-of-the-art facility that has enabled its researchers to significantly expand their disease-fighting efforts. The facility is the first to locate in the UC San Diego Science Research Park, a resource designed to encourage collaboration between private sector organizations and the University. While the La Jolla Institute retains its independent finances and identity, the Science Research Park offers a dynamic environment for exchanging ideas between the Institute's preeminent immunology researchers and the University's world-renowned clinicians and faculty. This concentrates immense biomedical talent in one location, undoubtedly providing a catalyst for research discoveries and faster translation of the Institute's scientific findings into patient treatments and cures.

For more information on the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology, please visit:
www.liai.org

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