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SEARCH

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

NEWS | SAN DIEGO

La Jolla Institute to unveil new discovery wall

By ELIZABETH MALLOY, The Daily Transcript
Wednesday, October 28, 2009

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On Thursday, the **La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology**, is scheduled to dedicate its new Elam Discovery Wall and Type 1 Diabetes Center, which will focus on research into novel immunological-focused approaches to type 1 diabetes.

The technology the wall is made of is designed to give institute researchers the ability to see cells and other research images in extremely wide scope with unprecedented clarity via a large, interconnected wall of HD monitors driven by sophisticated computer software. During the dedication event, guests will see cellular images of type 1 diabetes activity via the Elam Discovery Wall, while speakers discuss the goals of the institute's new center for type 1 diabetes research.

The discovery wall is being dedicated in memory of William N. Elam Jr., M.D., a longtime family physician.

Led by Dr. Matthias von Herrath, M.D., recipient of the American Diabetes Association's 2008 Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award, the center will accelerate research toward new therapies to better treat, prevent or cure type 1 diabetes.

"Our mission is to be a premier center of immunological excellence in type 1 diabetes research," said Dr. von Herrath.

The center will focus on new, immune-based approaches and is the first such immunologically focused research center for type 1 diabetes in Southern California.

Type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile diabetes, is a serious, chronic disorder that affects more than 2 million Americans and occurs when the immune system mistakenly destroys insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas.

During Thursday's reception, guests will get an up-close view of beta cell destruction via high-resolution images on the new Elam Discovery Wall. The Wall technology was developed by the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2) at the University of California, San Diego.



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