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SEARCH

Saturday, January 15, 2011

NEWS | SAN DIEGO

La Jolla Institute names new board member

By ELIZABETH MALLOY, The Daily Transcript
Thursday, January 13, 2011

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Local business leader and community supporter Mark Fischer was recently elected to the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology's board of directors.

Fischer, a Rancho Santa Fe resident, is the president and owner of San Diego-based Sullivan Moving and Storage Company, the largest United Van Lines agent in San Diego County. Sullivan is also a shareholder in UniGroup Inc., a \$2 billion holding company that is ranked as one of the largest privately held companies in the United States. UniGroup owns United Van Lines and Mayflower Van Lines and is owned exclusively by its operating agents.

He and his company have been involved with numerous functions for Rady Children's Hospital for the last 15 years. Sullivan is listed as a Miracle Maker and a Friend of the Hospital and is a major sponsor every year for their Celebration of Champions.

Sullivan also has been an advocate and supporter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in San Diego for the past 20 years, providing trucking and warehousing services for the annual walk, bay-to-bay bike tour, and dinner charity auction.

His own experiences with multiple sclerosis, an autoimmune disease, is part of why he became involved with the La Jolla Institute. Fischer said he joined the organization's board for two primary reasons: one was his desire to become more directly involved in public service activities, as a board member for a nonprofit organization; and the second reason was because his wife, Carol, was diagnosed with MS 24 years ago, and that is one of the diseases the Institute is trying to treat and cure.

"In touring the Institute's labs, I have met a number of world-class scientists whose dedication and desire to find cures overwhelms me," Fischer said. "I am pleased to have an opportunity to sit on the Institute's board and support these vitally important efforts to combat disease."

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