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Is downtown San Diego the right place for a new Chargers stadium?

Yes.

No. They should keep looking.

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Posted date: 1/4/2010

\$18.8M in Grants to Help Institute Take Aim at Infectious Diseases

By HEATHER CHAMBERS

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL STAFF

Some of the world's most infectious diseases have eluded researchers working to come up with effective vaccines to combat them. Now, researchers with the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology will join forces with teams from Australia, Brazil and Papua New Guinea to tackle some of the toughest — dengue virus, malaria, smallpox and tuberculosis — in a five-year set of grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health.

The grants, which total \$18.8 million and were announced Dec. 17, are designed to increase the understanding of some of the world's most infectious diseases for better designing broad-based vaccines.

Smallpox, the only human infectious disease to have been eradicated, is included in the set of projects, as it represents a major bioterrorism concern.

Other diseases involved in the project, such as malaria, have no vaccines available. In the past decade, however, advances in genomic sequencing have allowed scientists a better look at the molecular blueprint of the malaria virus and other known pathogens, according to Alessandro Sette, director of the La Jolla Institute's Center for Infectious Disease and one of the project's principal investigators.

By identifying areas on the virus that trigger an immune response, Sette said his team of researchers ultimately hopes to hand over enough information to vaccine developers to one day produce an effective weapon for preventing the spread of deadly diseases.

WEEKLY EDITION

January 11-17, 2009



BRE Commercial Set to Unfurl New Flag

Real estate brokerage firm BRE Commercial San Diego is parting company with Grubb & Ellis Co. to join seven other firms around the nation to form a network of commercial brokerages to be branded as Cassidy Turley.

L.A. REIT Buys Office Complex for \$75 Million

The recent acquisition of Seaview Corporate Center, the largest commercial real estate transaction in San Diego in 2009, could be a long-awaited sign that there is once again movement in the office-space sector.

Navy's Cyber Command

“In a way, the scientific community has cut their teeth by going from relatively simple viruses to the most complex,” said Sette. “A lot of the technologies that are proposed in this new set of projects are really taking it to the next level of complexity.”

Much of the work conducted by the La Jolla Institute’s scientists will focus on identifying epitopes, or areas on a virus that cause the body’s immune system to launch an attack. Last year, the institute unveiled what it called the world’s largest collection of epitope data, which is available free online to researchers. The site, iedb.org, provides data on more than 65,000 epitopes.



Founded in 1988, the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology is a biomedical research nonprofit focused on improving human health through increased understanding of the immune system. Its research staff includes more than 100 Ph.D.s and M.D.s, according to its Web site.

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Deal Or No Deal: CareFusion Corp., a publicly held spinoff of Cardinal Health Inc., recommended on Dec. 17 that shareholders turn down a deal to offer their shares to TRC Capital Corp. for \$23.50 apiece, or 5 percent

below the prior day’s closing price.

A Carmel Valley-based medical device maker, CareFusion said TRC has made other unsolicited offers for shares of other companies in the past. The mini tender offer called for the purchase of up to 4 million shares representing almost 2 percent of the company’s outstanding shares. The offer expires Jan. 14.

Shares of CareFusion, traded under the symbol CFN on the New York Stock Exchange, have traded between \$17.25 and \$26.99 in the past 52 weeks.

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Office Creates Business Opportunities

San Diego executive Tony Nufer reaches back to the 1950s for a way to describe the military’s new offices dedicated to cyberwarfare.

VA, Kaiser Share Digital Medical Records

A new electronic health records initiative between Kaiser Permanente and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will allow physicians to share information about a patient’s allergies, medications and medical condition for the first time without delay.

WEEKLY EDITION

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