

FY 2007-2011 ASU-UA Joint Biomedical Research Fund
Arizona State University
The University of Arizona

September 1, 2009

Arizona State University and the University of Arizona jointly administer the TRIF-funded *Collaborative on Biomedical Research Grant Program* with ten awards originally scheduled to total \$2,000,000 (\$1,000,000 each) in FY07 and \$1,000,000 (\$500,000 each) per year in FY08-FY11.

These projects are collaborative in nature and may also include other biomedically oriented organizations such as the Translational Genomics Research Institute (T-Gen), the Critical Path Institute (C-Path), the many health-related institutions in the state, and Northern Arizona University. This investment will accelerate development of the research enterprise associated with the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix in partnership with Arizona State University and the state-wide development of biomedical research. The funds are targeted to support joint research ventures among the institutions, and translating from basic to clinical research.

The main objectives of the program are to provide seed funding to:

1. Support the development and strengthening of collaborative research ties between ASU and UA as a basis for enhancement of state-wide interaction among research institutions; and,
2. Support the development and submission of proposals for external funding of research from competitive granting agencies (e.g., NSF, NIH, DOE, etc.) and industry.

To administer these funds, ASU and UA have established a coordinating committee to set the scientific and technical criteria for selection and to make the awards. The coordinating committee includes the Presidents and Vice Presidents for Research from ASU and UA. Review of proposals includes input from faculty at these universities. While some projects in the first year were selected specifically to enhance collaborative ties between ASU's Biodesign Institute and UA's BIO5 Institute, as a general practice, projects are solicited through a broad Request for Proposals, and are selected according to the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence;
- Collaboration of faculty members from more than one institution as principal investigators;
- Likelihood of success in securing long-term, significant federal or other (e.g., Science Foundation Arizona) funding;
- Clear demonstration of the value-added significance of the inter-institutional collaboration required;
- Potential for significant impact on our understanding of basic biomedical mechanisms or translation of research results to the clinical setting; and,
- Potential for impact on overall State-wide strength in biomedical sciences.

The program awarded \$2,000,000 in FY07 and \$1,000,000 in FY08 to the ten projects through a competitive process. Due to the economic downturn and growing shortfall in TRIF revenues, the projects were ended in FY09 and drew to a close in June 2009 with the principal investigators having submitted their final reports. UA and ASU are working with the principal investigators of the BIO5 Institute and the Biodesign Institute to continue the creation of collaborative research projects between our institutions.

The TRIF support resulted in 68 scientific presentations and publications and the submission of proposals valued at \$19.5M for external support for the continuation of these projects.

Title	PI	Total TRIF Award	Total Publications and Presentations	Total Pending Proposals and Awards
Proteomic and Metabolomic Biomarker Investigation of Type 2 Diabetes ⁽¹⁾	Nelson-ASU Lau-UA	\$250,000	11	\$5,853,000
Geno- and Immuno-Signatures in Acute Asthma	Johnson-ASU Martinez-UA	\$297,977	8	\$3,421,175
Development of a Rapid Immunosignature Diagnostic Test for Valley Fever	Magee-ASU Shubitz-UA	\$320,000	0	\$1,520,431
Molecular Therapeutics Collaborative Program between BIO5 and BioDesign Institutes	Hecht-ASU Hurley-UA	\$325,000	3	\$0
Rapid Biomarker Analysis for Emergency Medicine	Posner-ASU Wirth-UA	\$325,955	2	\$2,020,737
A Network-Science Approach to Normal- Tissue Organization and Carcinogenesis	Lai-ASU Gatenby-UA	\$325,955	7	\$0
A Digital Media Based Biofeedback System for Neural Rehabilitation	Rikakis-ASU Baldwin-UA	\$325,955	10	\$5,100,425
Evaluating the Role of VDR Polymorphisms and B-Catenin Signaling in Colorectal Adenoma Risk	Jurutka-ASU Thompson-UA	\$177,248	15	\$1,250,000
Selective Modulation of Basal Ganglia Excitability: A Potential Gene Therapy for Parkinson's Disease	Tillery-ASU Falk-UA	\$325,955	6	\$0 (planned NIH-R01 application in 2010)
Novel Superluminescent LEDs and Ultrahigh-resolution for OCT for Medical Imaging Applications	Zhang-ASU Barton-UA	\$325,955	6	\$382,044

⁽¹⁾ Patent Disclosure M8-049L, U.S> Provisional #61/069,674, International PCT application #PCT/US2009/037369 for Biomarkers and assays for Diabetes

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