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ISMPA Receives \$1 million from the State

The ISMPA recently received \$1,000,000 dollars from the state of Washington. This funding was made possible by the effective leadership of Senator Lisa Brown, Speaker Frank Chopp, House Majority Leader Lynn Kessler and Representative Timm Ormsby. Our community conducted an extraordinary campaign in a short session guided by the ISM leadership with assistance by Joe King, our ISMPA lobbyist. Many thanks to everyone involved!

As an indication of the developing relationship and positive support by Washington State University for the ISM, WSU has agreed to act as fiscal agent for the funding provided by the state to assist and support the successful development of the institute.

ISM Delegation meets with UW President Mark Emmert

A delegation representing the ISM recently visited with University of Washington President Mark Emmert. In attendance were: Judy Cole (AVISTA), Chris Marr (EHS), Dr. Brian Pitcher (WSU), Tom Miller (PHC), Bruce Butler (EHS), Gerry McDougal (PWC), John Stone (ISM), Lewis Rumppler (ISM) and Joe King (ISM). The delegation was joined by Dr. Leroy Hood from the Institute for Systems Biology, who has been serving as a principle science advisor to the ISM. Dr. Emmert was joined by Dr. Phyllis Wise, the new Provost for the UW. In the meeting Dr. Emmert emphasized that the UW was interested in collaborating with “world class” institutions and noted that systems medicine will require “inter-institutional and multidisciplinary research”.





Drs. Emmert, Wise and Hood all agreed that the concept met these important criteria and that the UW could provide expertise in the areas of computer science, engineering, mathematics and molecular biology, and apply them in a collaborative venture. We invited Dr. Emmert to consider the UW becoming a founding member of the ISM. Dr. Emmert was also asked to consider contributing UW faculty expertise to assist in the design of the institute. The meeting concluded with both parties committed to communicate further about the offered proposals.

Delegation meets with Arizona Governor Napolitano



Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano invited representatives from the ISM and the Governor's office to visit Phoenix to learn about the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) and the strategy of Arizona to compete successfully in biomedical research.

Lee Huntsman, President Emeritus of the UW and Executive Director of the Life Sciences Discovery Fund Authority (LSDFA) and Marc Baldwin, Sr. Policy Advisor for Economic Development represented Governor Gregoire of Washington State. Mayor Dennis Hession of Spokane, Judy Cole and Tom Paine (Avista), Marty Dickinson (Downtown Spokane Partnership), Dennis Dyck (WSU), John Pariseau (Win Partners), Mick McDowell (TFB) and Lewis Rumppler represented the ISM. Meetings were held at TGen and the office of Governor Napolitano. Dr. Jeffery Trent, President of TGen and Dr. Michael Berens, TGen's first scientist provided the attendees with insights about the critical success factors in forming the Institute: recruiting the best people and focusing on research that touches patients. This was the fourth visit to TGen by a Spokane delegation with Mayor Hession stating: "I was very impressed with the success of TGen and the impact it has on the city of Phoenix. This is additional confirmation that our University District strategy is right on point"

Governor Napolitano addressed the delegation and stated the need for "big thinking and big bets" to successfully compete in the new economy.

*"...a systems approach
to medicine will create
a powerful opportunity
for the Inland
Northwest..."*
Dr. Leroy Hood



Governor Napolitano also shared that Arizona was in the process of “reinventing its economy” over the next two decades. Dr. Huntsman and Marc Baldwin inquired about topics ranging from the political and fiscal to the attitudes about state support for research. Both were impressed by Governor Napolitano’s candor and keen strategic insights and will bring back to Governor Gregoire a very bright picture of Arizona’s recent success.

Institute Planning Authority Pursues Federal Funding Request

The ISMPA, as part of a strategy to diversify financial support, has submitted to congress a multi-million dollar package for funding. The funding, if approved, would support the creation of a number of research cores for the ISM and the scientists to operate them. Cores in computational biology, genomics and proteomics were proposed to the Spokane Chamber Federal Legislative Advisory Group (FLAG) in January, chaired by Tom Paine of Avista Corp. The FLAG approved our funding and it is included in the Spokane Chamber list of federal funding priorities.

The ISMPA has hired the firm of Denny Miller and Associates to represent the ISM in Washington DC. Denny Miller has represented clients in eastern Washington including Gonzaga University. Examples of Denny Miller’s successes include the Centennial Trail, The Foley Library, and the GU environmental Science Building. Denny Miller will work closely with the ISMPA and our legislative delegation. A trip to Washington, DC is planned for late May where meetings involving Representative McMorris, Senators Murray and Cantwell and Representative Norm Dicks are planned.

WSU Prof. Mike Skinner Contributes to Scientific Design

Washington State University Professor Mike Skinner recently provided an outline of a scientific design to the ISM steering Committee at it’s recent meeting. Dr. Skinner is the Director of the Center for Reproductive Biology and Director of the Center for Integrated Biotechnology at WSU Pullman. Dr. Skinner is a leading authority on Epigenetics. Epigenetics will represent the first innovation and scientific focus for the ISM based on Dr. Skinner’s design and represents a significant opportunity to address disease occurrence based on environmental factors. Dr. Skinner is working with Lee Hood and the PWC team on design refinements. Dr. Skinner also recently helped author a proposal included in the multi-million dollar federal funding request aimed at the Department of Defense.

Current Developments

Northern Idaho Institutions Explore Participation in the ISM

Leadership of the ISM has recently met with Joe Morris of Kootenai Medical Center and President Michael Burke of North Idaho College. The meetings were productive exchanges of ideas and both leaders expressed a keen interest in the Institute for Systems Medicine. Requests were made to continue discussing potential areas of collaboration.

PWC Releases First Draft of ISM Prospectus

Managing Director Bill Dracos delivered a first draft of the ISM prospectus. The prospectus has been in development for many months and will be a crucial piece in communicating the value proposition of the Institute. The first draft is being reviewed internally and will be released to the public shortly.

Camas Institute Leadership and Spokane Tribes Support the ISM

David Bonga, President of the Camas Institute voiced his support of the ISM on behalf of the United Native Americans of Spokane Public Development Authority at the Steering Committee meeting on May 3rd. David articulated his view of the importance of biomedical research in the region and in particular to the diseases of native Americans. “The disease prevalence amongst the tribes is very high, particularly diabetes and renal cancer, and we look forward to working with the ISM on finding new solutions to these devastating health problems.” The Camas Institute is funded by the Kalispell Tribe, and supports education for all the tribes in eastern Washington.

Institute for Systems Medicine Signs Letter of Intent for the lease of the SIRTI Technology Center

Negotiations spanning several months have led to the signing of a letter of intent with the SIRTI Technology Center for the lease of the main floor to temporarily locate the ISM. The ISM has been looking for space and the STC was found to have a good mix of office and lab space. Details of the lease and timing of the move are still being worked out.

Save The Date! Governor Gregoire to Make Important Announcement

Governor Christine Gregoire will be in Spokane on June 27 to make an important announcement about the ISM. More information will be provided as a time and location are identified and everyone is urged to attend. We will be sending out more information about this great news soon!

Friends of the Institute

Business Community

John Stone, Principle, Riverstone Development
Scott Morris, President Avista Utilities
Tom Paine, VP of Government Affairs, Avista
Roger Woodworth, Sr. VP Avista Corp
Kim Pearman-Gillman, Vice President, Itron
Jack Faris, President, WBBA
Chris Marr, WSU Regent, EHS Board Chair
Dave Curry, CEO of World Wide Packets
Tony Bonanzino, CEO of Hollister-Stier
Tom Turner, CEO of Itronix, General Dynamics
Fred Brown, CEO of NextIT
John Luger, JDL Enterprises
Don Lightfoot, Founder of GenPrime
Tom Tiffany, CEO of PAML
Rich Umbdenstock, Exec. VP of Sys. Support Serv., PHS
Skip Davis, CEO of Providence Health Services
Jeff Nelson, CEO of Empire Health Services
Bruce Butler, CFO of Empire Health Services
Lisa Shaffer, Co-Founder Signature Genomics
Bassem Bejjani, Co-Founder Signature Genomics
Bob Hamacher, Founder of BHW1
Pardner Wynn, CEO of Lumify
Peter Allison, CEO of Biogenensis Corp
Steve McGrew, President of New Light Industries
Dan Roarke, CEO of Matrical
Dave Sabey, Principle of Sabey Corp
Mick McDowell, Principle of McDowell Development
Dr. Jack Ossello, Dentist, Investor
Jack McCann, President, Jack McCann Company Inc,
GU Trustee
Jim Simmons, President, ICM Asset Management
John Pariseau, General Manager, WIN Partners LLC
Kevin Cable, Founder, Cascadia Capital
Jay Wright, President, Pacific Northwest Biotechnology
Joe Harding, VP, Pacific Northwest Biotechnology
Larry Larrison, Chairman, Columbia Paint & Coatings
Denny Hague, Retired General, Air National Guard
Tammy Schneider, Principle, Tammy Schneider Investments

Political Leadership Contacted

Governor Christine Gregoire
Senator Larry Craig
Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Congresswoman Cathy McMorris
Senator Lisa Brown
Speaker Frank Chopp
Representative Timm Ormsby
Representative David Buri
Spokane Mayor Dennis Hession
County Commissioner Phil Harris
County Commissioner Todd Mielke
County Commissioner Mark Richard
Coeur d'Alene Mayor Sandi Bloem

Academic Leadership

Father Robert Spitzer, President of Gonzaga University
V. Lane Rawlins, President of Washington State University
Brian Pitcher, Chancellor of Washington State University Spokane
Jim Petersen, Vice Provost for Research, Washington State University
Dennis Dyck, Associate Vice Provost for Research, Washington State University
Mike Skinner, Director, Center for Reproductive Biology, WSU
John Nilson, Director, School of Molecular Biosciences, WSU
Bryan Slinker, Chair, Vet. and Comparative Anatomy, Pharmacology, WSU
Keith Jones, Director, Office of Intellectual Property Administration, WSURF
Yogi Gupta, Director, Institute of Shock Physics, WSU
John Weisheit, Director, Applied Sciences Lab, WSU
Terry Hassold, Professor of Molecular Biosciences, WSU
Stephen Freedman, Academic Vice President of Gonzaga University
Gary Webber, Associate Academic Vice President of Gonzaga University
Yolanta Kozyra, Assistant Director of Institutional Research, Gonzaga University
Nancy Staub, Dean of Biology, Gonzaga University
Len Peters, Lab Director, Pacific Northwest National Labs
Mike Schwenk, Director of Intellectual Asset Management, PNNL
Steve Colson, Associate Lab Dir. For Fundamental Science, PNNL
Doug Ray, Chief Research Officer, PNNL
Steve Wiley, Manager of Systems Biology, PNNL
Bill Kimmerly, Dir. of Facilities of Systems Biology and Applications, PNNL
Lee Hood, President of the Institute of Systems Biology
David Galas, VP and CSO of Systems Biology, Battelle Memorial Institute
Bill Isgrigg, COO, The Heart Institute of Spokane
Thomas Miller, VP, Medical Affairs, Sacred Heart
Kathy Tuttle, Medical & Scientific Director, Clinical Research, Sacred Heart
George Luger, Professor of Computer Science, University of New Mexico
Jack Dawson, Dean, University of Idaho, CDA
Brian Benzel, Superintendent of Spokane Public Schools Dist 81
Paul Buller, Dir. of Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, Gonzaga Univ.
Gary Livingston, Chancellor, Community Colleges of Spokane
Mark Palek, President, Spokane Falls Community College
Steve Hanson, President, Spokane Community College
Michael Burke, President, North Idaho College

Economic Development Community

Rich Hadley, CEO of the Spokane Regional Chamber of Commerce
John Eliassen, CEO of the Spokane Area Economic Development Council
Marty Dickenson, President, Downtown Spokane Partnership
Bill Kalivas, CEO of Connect Northwest
Kim Zentz, Executive Director of SIRTI
David Bonga, President of the Camas Institute
Steve Griffiths, CEO, Jobs Plus

Friends of the Institute

Michael Patterson; Lee, Smart, Cook, Martin & Patterson
P.S., Inc.

Donald Nelles, Nelco

Harry Sladich, VP and Corp. Secretary of Gonzaga Univ.

Timothy Barnard, CEO Barnard Construction

Walter Conn, CEO Charles Dunn Company

Gerri Craves, Gonzaga Board Trustee

Don Curran; Delay, Curran, Thompson and Pontarolo, P.S.

Elizabeth Hanson, Gonzaga Board Trustee

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Angelo Mozilo, CEO Countrywide

Gerald Schwalbach, Chairman, Spensa Dev. Group

Dr. Edward Taylor, University of Washington

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Daniel Hogan, Gonzaga Board Trustee

Bobbie Huguenin, Gonzaga Board Trustee

Duff Kennedy, Gonzaga Board Trustee

W.P. Laughlin, Gonzaga Board Trustee

Carl Pohlad, Gonzaga Board Trustee

Our Newest Friends

Duane Hagadone, President, Hagadone Companies

Marshal Chesrown, President, Black Rock Development

Steve Helmbrecht, CFO, ITRON

George Nethercutt, Lundquist, Nethercutt and Griles

John Hemmingson, Lakeside Capital Group

Lee Cheatham, Executive Director, WTC

David Gusdorf, Director of Development, WTC

Mary Ted Allen, Director of Research, WTC

Todd Dean, President, Keiretsu Forum

Michael Ormsby, Preston Gates and Ellis

Chris Major, CEO, The Human Potential Project

Roy Koegen, Koegen Edwards

Jason Whitely, Koegen Edward

Gary Van Assen, SVP, Washington Trust Bank

Patti McKinnel Davis, Dir. Of Governmental Affairs, WBBA

Ray O. Hamel, Ph.D, Chair, Computer Sciences, EWU

Atsushi Inoue, Ph.D, Assoc. Professor, Computer Sciences, EWU

Rob Brewster, President, Conover Bond Development

Pat Tennican, CEO, Hyprotek

Kevin Oldenburg, President, Matrical

Henry Artis, TechConnect Northwest

Scott McGann, Paine Financial Group

Jeff Bell, Partner, The Gallatin Group

Chris Carlson, Partner, The Gallatin Group

Ron Caferro, Ecolite

Paul Vanderlinde, Ecolite

Charles Hennessey, Jr., Hennessey Funeral Home

Denny Miller, Denny Miller and Associates

Sandra Miller, Denny Miller and Associates

Margaret Christian, Empire Health Services



Coming Up:

Progress Report on ISM Partners

PWC Releases Prospectus

ISM Moving to New Offices

104 South Division, Spokane, WA 99202. Tel 509-455-3005. www.ismedicine.org.

