



## SUE AND BILL GROSS STEM CELL RESEARCH CENTER

### KEY FACTS ABOUT STEM CELL RESEARCH AT UCI

#### SCIENTISTS AT UC IRVINE ARE PIONEERS IN STEM CELL RESEARCH

- ♦ New frontier in medicine. Center scientists echo the medical community in believing that all aspects of stem cell research should be explored - within strict ethical limits - to develop new treatments and cures for devastating diseases and injuries.
- ♦ Nerve repair and regeneration. In 2007, patients newly paralyzed by a spinal injury are expected to be the first recipients of an experimental cell therapy using embryonic stem cells. This pioneering clinical trial is made possible by the work of Dr. Hans Keirstead, Co-Director of the Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center.
- ♦ Self-healing brain. Dr. James Fallon was among the first to demonstrate that adult stem cells can be mobilized for brain repair, opening new treatment avenues for Parkinson's, stroke and other brain diseases.
- ♦ Preparing for future treatments. Naturally-occurring brain chemicals may help prepare embryonic stem cells for transplant therapies, a finding by Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center Co-Director Dr. Peter Donovan.
- ♦ Community of scientists. These researchers are among the 60 UCI scientists incorporating stem cells into their studies.

#### STRICT ETHICAL PROTECTIONS GOVERN STEM CELL RESEARCH AT UCI

- ♦ Ethics on solid ground. Safeguards governing stem cell research at UCI and elsewhere adhere to long-standing principles of medical ethics.
- ♦ Adherence to applicable laws. UCI abides by all Federal and California statutes governing stem cell research, including statutes governing the donation of biological materials and patients' right to privacy and safety.
- ♦ Forward-thinking oversight. UCI was among the first California institutions to establish a Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee to monitor adherence to these safeguards.

#### A SUCCESSFUL STEM CELL RESEARCH CENTER AT UCI BENEFITS THE ORANGE COUNTY ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY

- ♦ Regional stem cell center. Collaborative facilities will provide research space to scientists from neighboring institutions, making Orange County a hub for life-saving research.
- ♦ Stimulate economic activity. Each dollar coming in to the Center from external funding sources is expected to create \$2.25 in local economic activity and stimulate venture capital investment in and around UCI, including at the \$187 million University Research Park.
- ♦ Job creation. Sue and Bill Gross Center Stem Cell Research Center currently houses a highly-skilled workforce and will create new jobs as it continues to grow. This climate of innovation also builds an incentive for biomedical companies to cluster around UCI, creating additional jobs in Orange County.
- ♦ California leadership. Center researchers are excited by the passage of Proposition 71 and look forward to seeing Orange County at the forefront of California communities advancing our state to world leadership in stem cell research.

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