

FAST FACTS 2008

BENAROYA VIRGINIA
RESEARCH INSTITUTE MASON

UNLOCKING THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Who We Are

Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason (BRI) is a non-profit biomedical research institute on First Hill in Seattle, WA.

BRI works to unlock the mysteries of the immune system. Its team of world-renowned scientists is focused on identifying causes and cures for devastating diseases including diabetes, arthritis, heart disease and cancer. BRI is an international leader in immune system and autoimmune disease research with a focus on translating laboratory discoveries to real life applications.

Quick Profile

- BRI includes 200 scientific and administrative staff, represented by five major program areas: Diabetes, Immunology, Hope Heart Program, Translational Research and Clinical Research.
- BRI research volume is \$26 million, funded through research grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Heart Association, and a variety of other national and regional foundations, as well as by individual philanthropic gifts.
- BRI scientific leadership includes:
 - Gerald T. Nepom, MD, PhD, BRI Director, an immunologist noted for work identifying and understanding molecular and genetic mechanisms that trigger autoimmune disorders;
 - Steven Ziegler, PhD, Immunology Program Director, specializing in laboratory models of autoimmunity and cellular regulation;
 - Thomas Wight, PhD, Hope Heart Program Director, leading BRI's projects in matrix biology, angiogenesis, and tissue healing;
 - Chris Porter, MD, Medical Director, Clinical Research Program;
 - Carla Greenbaum, MD, Diabetes Research Program Director and Clinical Research Center Director;
 - Jane Buckner, MD, Translational Research Program Director;
 - Other principal investigators: Margaret Allen, MD, Chris Amemiya, PhD, "Aru" K. Arumuganathan, PhD, Daniel Campbell, PhD, Baohong Cao, MD, PhD; Karen Cerosaletti, PhD, Jessica Hamerman, PhD, Michael Kinsella, PhD, Christian Kuhr, MD, FACS, William Kwok, PhD, John Ravits, MD, Helena Reijonen, PhD, E. Helene Sage, PhD, Srinath Sanda, MD, Brad Stone, PhD, Robert Vernon, PhD;
 - Other Clinical Research Unit leaders: Richard Kozarek, MD (gastroenterology), Jacqueline Vuky, MD (cancer), Mariko Kita, MD (neuroscience), Kris Kowdley, MD (hepatology).
- BRI administration is lead by:
 - Jack Nagan, Executive Director
 - Holly Chase, Human Resources Director
 - Brian Chrisman, Chief Financial Officer
 - Manish Daver, Information Technology Director
 - Andrew Burich, DVM, MS, DACLAM
 - Chris Hansen, Facilities Manager
 - Iris Mondri-Kish, Grants and Contracts Manager
 - Cheryl Weaver, Administrative Director, Clinical Research Program
- BRI is a center of innovation for a number of national and international consortia projects: (i) the North American coordinating center for the Type 1 Diabetes Genetic Consortium, a National Institutes of Health sponsored international research program to identify genes associated with type 1 diabetes; (ii) one of four national centers designated by the National Institutes of Health as an Autoimmunity Prevention Center; (iii) the Pacific Northwest clinical center for Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet, a National Institutes of Health sponsored network to coordinate diabetes clinical trials throughout North America; and (iv) the JDRF Center for Translational Research.