

Message from the Chair

As the new chair of TBRI's Board of Trustees I feel honored and challenged about this opportunity. I, like many of you, have a personal story as to how I became involved with the Institute. My involvement began in 1990 at the urging of Judy Tischler Rogers, TBRI's first development director, who coaxed me into working with her in developing organizational by-laws. I stayed connected through various volunteer activities and through attending TBRI events and was appointed to the Board in 2002. What attracted me to the Institute then and still does is the dedication and commitment of TBRI scientists, Board, and supporters for its mission and work. So here I am nineteen years later!

Like many other non-profit organizations today, we are in a Dickensian moment of the best and worst of times. Best in the sense of promising scientific endeavors melding Western science with Eastern medicine, and worst in the sense of competition for the scarce resources available for biomedical research. While TBRI staff and Board are working diligently and creatively on many fronts to secure support for the Institute, community support — your support — is vital for sustaining our research. We cannot do it without you. Thank you for your past and future support.



Judy Morris-Hardy Chair - Board of Trustees

In Memoriam Gordon W. Campbell



In memory of, and in highest recognition of Gordon W. Campbell, a long-time supporter of both Cayman National and Tampa Bay Research Institute, Cayman National Corporation has made a significant contribution to TBRI to support its important scientific research programs. Stuart Dack, President and CEO of Cayman National, expressed admiration for "the many charitable and business accomplishments of Gordon."

In The Lab

with Dr. Guy Bradley

As Principal Investigator, Dr. Guy Bradley's laboratory is currently performing research on ways to use a pinecone extract (PPC) to boost the effectiveness of vaccines for the treatment of cancer and chronic debilitating diseases. His laboratory is also investigating the development of PPC as a potential treatment for allergies and asthma.

Dr. Bradley serves on the scientific review board of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), a branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The purpose of this review board is to evaluate grant applications for possible funding by this government agency.

His association with TBRI can be traced back to the very beginnings of the Institute—in fact, since he was an undergraduate student at Eckerd College. He then earned a Ph.D. degree with honors from the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the University of South Florida's College of Medicine. His graduate thesis work at TBRI was focused on Marek's Disease virus (MDV), an avian herpesvirus that causes lymphoma in chickens.

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INFLUENZA

In The Lab

During a typical flu season in which we have developed and administered the correct vaccine, approximately 48 million people in the United States become infected, 114,000 require hospitalization, and 35,000 die as a result of complications from the infection. Globally, the flu results in the death of up to 500,000 people each season. The majority of deaths occur in the very young (<5 yrs old) or the aged (>65 yrs old), as members of both age groups have weakened immune systems that have difficulty fighting off the infection. This flu season (since January 2009) the seasonal flu has already resulted in

the death of more than 13,000 of our citizens. Now, right in the middle of the current season a new variant of the flu virus, termed H1N1, has emerged and we have no vaccine to protect us. The emergence of such a virus variant has the potential to rapidly spread through the population and result in an epidemic or even a worldwide pandemic.

An epidemic occurs when there are more cases of a disease than normal. A pandemic is a worldwide epidemic of a disease. An influenza pandemic may occur when a new influenza virus appears against which the human population has no immunity (natural or vaccineassociated). With the increase in global transport (esp. air travel), as well as urbanization and overcrowded conditions in some areas, epidemics due to a new influenza virus are likely to take hold around the world, and become a pandemic faster than before. Pandemics can be either mild or severe by the illness and death they cause, and the severity of a pandemic can change over the course of that pandemic.

As we were preparing this newsletter, the WHO raised the influenza pandemic alert level to Phase 5. This is one level below a true pandemic and is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. As of May 7, 2009, 23 countries had officially reported 2099 cases of influenza A (H1N1) infection. Mexico had reported 1112 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection, including 42 deaths and the United States had reported 642 laboratory confirmed human cases, including two deaths. Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent.

If an influenza pandemic does occur, we could expect the virus to spread rapidly due to the interconnected nature of the world and the high level of global travel. Based on current epidemiological models it is projected that between 2 and 7.4 million deaths could result worldwide. If such a pandemic evolved to become severe, we could also expect vaccines and antiviral agents to be in high demand, and potentially in short supply; medical facilities to be strained with demands to care for both influenza and non-influenza patients; and there could be significant shortages of personnel to provide essential community services. It is therefore imperative that we do all that is possible to mitigate the further spread of the virus.

At the moment, there are no vaccines for the H1N1 virus. However, there are actions that you can take to help prevent the spread of the flu:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcoholbased hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Stay home if you are sick for 7 days after your symptoms begin or until you have been symptom-free for 24 hours, whichever is longer. This is to keep from infecting others and spreading the virus further.

The CDC recommends the use of the antiviral drugs oseltamivir (Tamiflu) or zanamivir (Relenza) for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with the new H1N1 flu virus. These antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that fight against the flu by keeping the viruses from reproducing in your body. If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. During the current outbreak, the priority use for influenza antiviral drugs is to treat severe influenza illness.

At TBRI we have been investigating the potential of an orally active, commercially available, nutritional supplement (ImmunExtra®) to enhance the effectiveness of vaccines. Based on recent evidence generated by TBRI and collaborators, we believe that this product has the potential to significantly boost the effectiveness of vaccines, including those for influenza. These findings are being assembled in a manusript to be submitted for publication. They are also being included as support information in grant applications soliciting funds to investigate the mechanisms by which ImmunExtra® exerts such an effect and to specifically test its ability to boost the immune response to influenza and HIV vaccines.

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Introducing New Board Members

Gary R. Froid, CHFC, CLU, CFP, RHU, AEP

Gary Froid received his A.B. degree from Harvard in 1959, graduated from the Life Insurance Marketing Institute at Purdue University in 1960, and received his CLU designation in 1965. As National President of the American Society of CLU's in 1982, he had the honor of being the very first person upon whom the professional designation ChFC (Chartered Financial Consultant) was conferred when he successfully completed his studies that same vear.

Also active in civic affairs, Mr. Froid has served as President of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of Pinellas County and is a past Chairman of the Pinellas County Sports Authority. The Authority was involved in building St. Petersburg's \$130,000,000 Tropicana Field to house major league baseball, now the home of the Tampa Bay Rays. He also served as Chairman of the Tampa Bay Task Force of the Florida Sports Hall of Fame.





Michael Tippin, мва

Michael Tippin is a Financial Professional as well as the Vice President of Referral Alliances for AXA Advisors, located in Tampa, Florida. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management Administration, as well as a Master's Degree with three areas of concentration including Finance, Information Systems & Decision Sciences, and Entrepreneurship (Mergers and Acquisitions), both from the University of South Florida. Michael has also received a Wharton Certification in Retirement Planning based on his completion of a training program at the Wharton School of Business.

He holds Series 6, 7, 24, 63 and 65 Registrations through the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and is licensed to issue Florida Life, Health & Variable Annuity Insurance. He is professionally designated as a Wharton Retirement Planning Specialist, an Advanced Estate Planner and an Executive Benefits Specialist. Mr. Tippin is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of South Florida.

Vital Equipment Needs at TBRI

ULTIMA II CRYOGENIC CHEST FREEZER (-150°C/-238°F) \$25,000

It is crucially important to properly store certain cells and viruses at very low temperatures.

Environmentally friendly and reliable, this freezer will prove to be more economical in the long run because we will no longer have to order expensive liquid nitrogen on a monthly basis.

SPECTROPHOTOMETER \$11,620

A spectrophotometer is an instrument used to measure the concentration of various biological materials based on the amount of light that they absorb. As an example, in a liquid sample (e.g. protein or DNA) the particular material has a characteristic absorbance value. Thus, by using exact

wavelengths (colors) of light we can determine the amount or concentration of material in the liquid. This enables us to make highly accurate measurements using extremely small amounts of precious sample. Indeed, a very small droplet is all that is required.

STATSPIN CYTOFUGE AND ACCESSORIES \$5,500

The cytofuge is an important instrument which is designed to separate and prepare biological materials and body fluids for further

study. The covered rotor and gaskets reduces worker exposure to biohazards.

AUTOMACS PRO \$30,000

The AutoMACS is a bench-top instrument designed to do rapid automated sorting of cells. This device can sort up to 4 billion cells within 5 minutes. By using magnetic beads coated with certain proteins such as antibodies, we will be able to rapidly isolate and purify specific types of cells (T, B, NK, dendritic, tumor cells, etc.) from mice and humans. Rare types of cells can be enriched by up to 10,000 times, and up to 99% of unwanted

cells can be eliminated. The AutoMACS Pro computerizes the process and allows us to work with different samples (up to 6) at the same time. The isolated cells are then ready to be used in experiments, for analysis, or for further sorting. The ability to purify certain types of cells will be important to determine which cells are most affected by a variety of treatments (herbal preparations, chemotherapy, radiation, etc).

LABROTORY REFRIGERATORS/FREEZERS (3 AT \$750 EACH) \$2,250

Combination laboratory refrigerator/freezers, which maintain temperatures of $4^{\circ}C$ (39°F)

and -20°C (-4°F) respectively, are essential in preserving perishable biological materials. Obtaining three new units would substantially enhance our research activities.

A Charitable Gift of Life Insurance

Making a gift of life insurance to a favorite charity is an appealing planning strategy because it is flexible, cost effective, and, in many cases, is a tax-efficient way of leaving a legacy that will benefit the charity after your death. For a comparatively small premium contribution, the ultimate gift (the death benefit) is generally many times larger than the sum of the total payments. Life insurance can allow you, the donor, to make a significant gift without reducing your estate and depriving your surviving spouse or family of an inheritance. What better way is there to enhance the future of a favorite charity?

<u>A gift of life insurance can provide substantial benefits to both you, the donor, and your favorite charities.</u>

BENEFITS TO YOU:

- Through the leverage of life insurance, you have the ability to make a substantial contribution that may exceed the amount you might have otherwise been able to donate through normal periodic contributions.
- It enables you to make a large endowment to charity without depleting your current capital.
- It avoids the costs, delays, publicity or other complications of estate settlement since the gift is "self-completing."
- Life insurance can serve as a tool to replace the gifts you made to charity by providing a benefit to your heirs equal to the charitable gift.
- The charitable gift of life insurance, if structured properly, can result in an income, gift, and/or estate tax deduction.

BENEFITS FOR THE CHARITY:

- Life insurance can provide substantial deferred endowment funds helping to ensure the charity's future.
- Life insurance can provide security, because the charity can anticipate receiving the death benefit in the future.
- Life insurance helps to provide prompt payment and needed funds upon the death of a major donor.
- Life insurance can be used to create an increasing accumulation of cash value that can be accessed for the charity's immediate cash needs.





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