



INNOVATIVE MOLECULAR
ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGIES

***Transformative Technology Support
from the NCI:
the Innovative Molecular Analysis
Technologies (IMAT) Program***

**American Association for Cancer Research
2013 Annual Meeting, Washington DC**

**Tony Dickherber, Ph.D.
Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives
National Cancer Institute**

National Cancer Institute: Organization



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ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGIES



Director
Harold Varmus, MD

National Cancer Institute

\$5.07B
(FY12)



Deputy Director
Douglas Lowy, MD

**Office of the
Director**

CSSI

CCG

~\$190 M (~4%)



Conducting – Intramural

Funding – Extramural

NCI Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives (CSSI): Concept Shop



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Director
Douglas Lowy, MD



~\$190M (FY12)



Deputy Director
Jerry S.H. Lee, PhD

Mission

“...to create and uniquely implement exploratory programs focused on the development and integration of advanced technologies, **trans-disciplinary approaches, infrastructures, and standards**, to accelerate the **creation and broad deployment** of **data, knowledge, and tools** to empower the **entire cancer research continuum** in better understanding and leveraging knowledge of the cancer biology space **for patient benefit...**”



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2003, 2007, 2011



2005, 2010



2008



2011, 2012



2004, 2008



2005, 2008



2010

Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies (IMAT) Program



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Program Mission:

To support the development, maturation, and dissemination of novel and potentially transformative next-generation technologies through an approach of balanced but targeted innovation in support of clinical, laboratory, or epidemiological research on cancer.



Exploratory/Pilot phase
Innovative technology/approach
No preliminary data required



Validation/Development phase
Demonstration of
transformative utility
Requires proof of feasibility

A selection of IMAT credits thus far...



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Older

- **ICAT** by Applied Biosystems [2001]
- **Mudpit**, licensed by the Scripps Research Institute [2001]
- **Rolling Circle Amplification**, available from Amersham Biosciences (now GE Healthcare), [2002]
- **Affymetrix GeneChip® CustomSeq®** arrays [2002]
- **Illumina Bead** technology (**BeadChip**, **Beadstation**, and **Sentrix BeadArray**) [2004]
- **Quantum Dots**, purchased by Invitrogen [2005]
- **MELT®** & **RNALater®** by Ambion [2005 and 2008, respectively]

Newer

- **Microfluidic Genetic Analysis** platform, licensed by both Lockheed Martin and MicroLab Diagnostics [2008]
- Raindance® **RDT-1000** (oil nanodroplet technology) [2009]
- **COLD-PCR**, licensed by TransGenomic [2010]
- **TriP-Chip** Technology, licensed by OceanRidge Biosciences [2010]
- **NanoTrap** Biomarker Discovery Platform, licensed by Shimadzu Scientific [2010]
- **IUVO™** cell isolation platform from Bellbrook Labs, exclusively licensed by ThermoFisher [2012]
- CellASIC **ONIX** microfluidic perfusion system, acquired by EMD-Millipore [2012]

Diversity of IMAT-supported technologies



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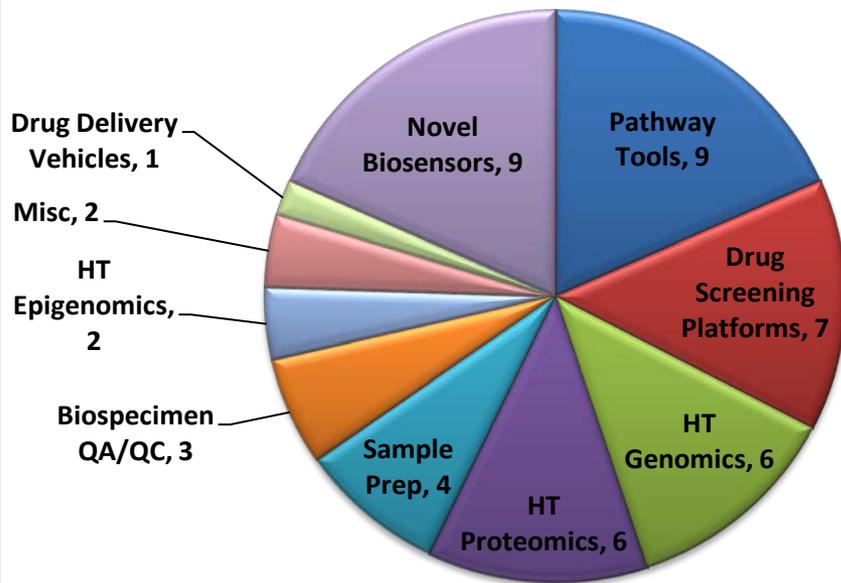
Innovative Technologies for Molecular Analysis of Cancer (R21)

- Proof-of-concept
- Milestone driven (no biology)

Application of Emerging Technologies for Cancer Research (R33)

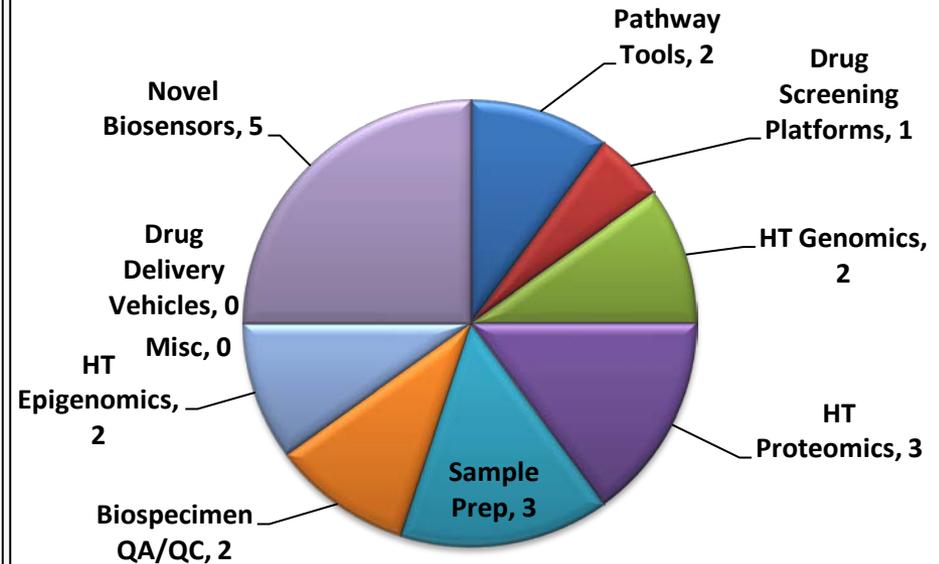
- Validation
- Demonstration of impact on basic and/or clinical research

**Current IMAT R21 Portfolio
(49 Active Projects)**



HT = High throughput

**Current IMAT R33 Portfolio
(20 Active Projects)**



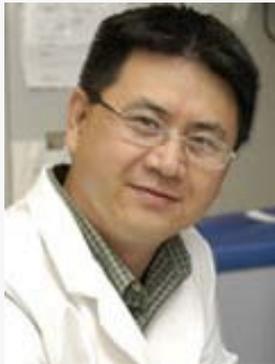
TrIP-Chip Technology



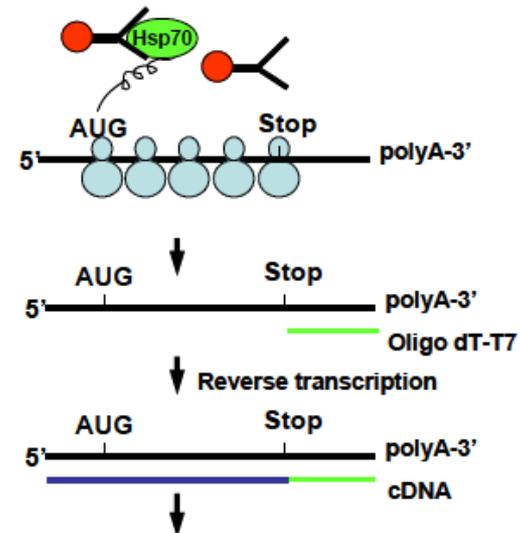
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- Affinity capture beads that bind translationally-active mRNA only for high-throughput expression profiling
 - Enables investigation of translational control with limited sample quantities
- Licensed by OceanRidge Biosciences [2010]

STONY
BROOK
UNIVERSITY



PI: Jingfang Ju, PhD
Associate Professor of Pathology
Stony Brook University Medical Center



Gene Expression analysis (Microarray, qPCR and Sequencing)

CellASIC



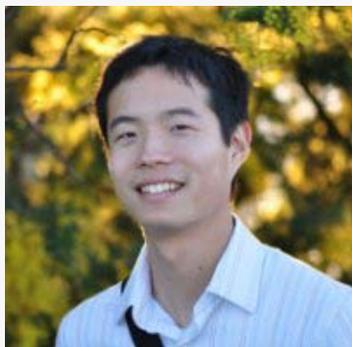
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- Microfluidic cell culture instrumentation with various customizable plates for advanced cell biology studies.
 - Performs long-term tracking (days to weeks) of live cells with precise microenvironment control
- Finalist for ALA Innovation of the Year [2005] and was one of R&D100 innovations of the year [2010]
- Acquired by EMD-Millipore [2012]

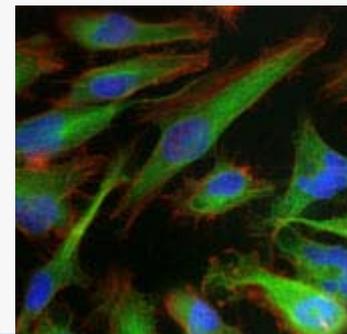
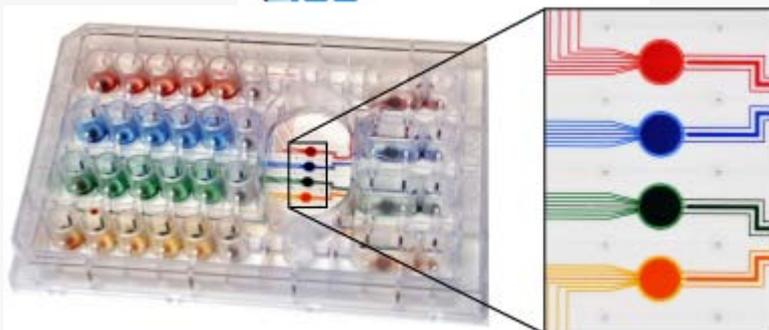
CELLASIC

M

EMD MILLIPORE



PI: Philip Lee, PhD
Co-founder/Director of R&D
CellASIC Corp

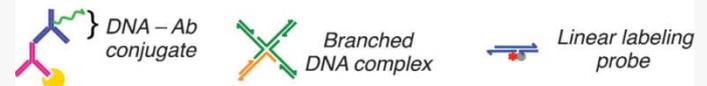
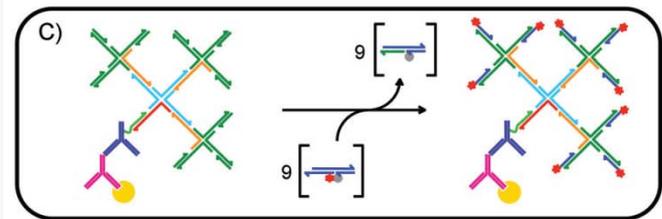
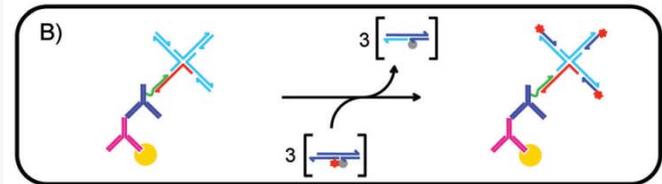
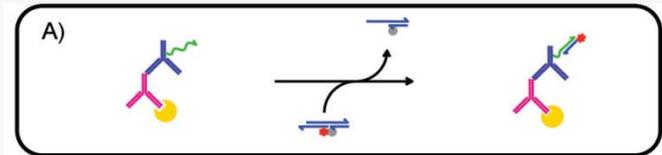


DNA-Catalyzed Molecular Biomarker Imaging Amplification (DC-MBIA)

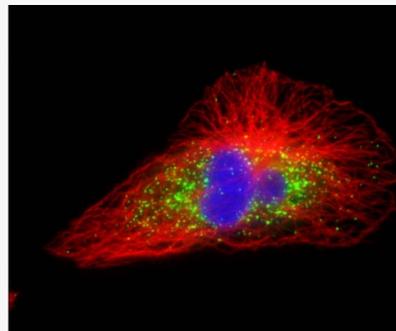


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- Dynamic DNA based programmable imaging probes based on strand-displacement chemistry
- Highly multiplexed and reiterative immunofluorescence imaging capability for *in situ* studies
- Enzyme-free, isothermal, programmable, and regenerative system uses no harsh chemicals
- Multiplex imaging with 10-min to label and 10-min to erase



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson
~~Cancer~~ Center



PI: Michael Diehl, PhD
Asst. Professor of Bioeng/Chemistry
Rice University

Image from <http://diehllab.rice.edu>

Diehl *et al*, ChemBioChem 2012, 13, 2722-8

NanoTrap[®] Biomarker Discovery Platform

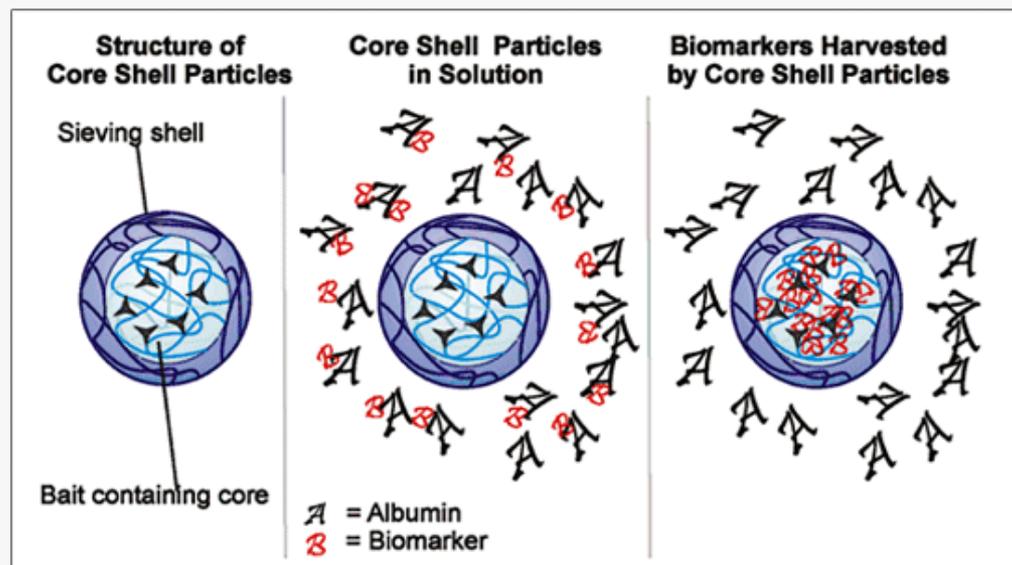


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- Porous core shell hydrogel nanoparticles with affinity via “bait chemistry” and size exclusion for selection of biomolecular target
- Allows for immediate preservation and conservation of low-abundance target biomarkers in complex solutions, including whole blood
- Licensed by Shimadzu Scientific [2010] and made available in partnership with Ceres Nanosciences and Nonlinear Dynamics



PI: Lance Liotta, MD, PhD
Co-Director, Center for Applied
Proteomics and Molecular Medicine
George Mason University



Active IMAT Funding Opportunities



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Early-Stage Innovative Molecular Analysis Technology Development for Cancer Research [R21]
RFA-CA13-001

Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Molecular Analysis Technologies for Cancer Research [R33]
RFA-CA13-002

Innovative Technologies for Cancer-Relevant Biospecimen Sciences [R21]
RFA-CA13-003

Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Technologies for Cancer-Relevant Biospecimen Sciences [R33]
RFA-CA13-004

Unique Attributes of IMAT Program



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- Emphasis on ***innovative technology with transformative potential*** (*i.e.* high-risk, high-impact)
 - Focus on technology development (***NOT hypothesis-driven research***)
- ***Milestone-based*** R21 applications that *quantitatively* assess the performance capacities of the technology (such as specificity, sensitivity, and speed) and characterize the improvement over state-of-the-art
- 100% ***investigator-initiated*** research grants

Non-responsive applications



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- Projects focused on a biological or clinical hypothesis for which the novelty resides in the biological or clinical question being pursued (i.e. traditional biological-hypothesis driven research);
- Projects that propose to use existing technologies (for which proof of concept has already been obtained) that may be ready for the targeted applications without substantial further developmental efforts;
- Projects that propose to develop only incremental technical advances to existing technologies projects that will have low potential for transforming cancer research;
- Technologies for whole-body or *in vivo* imaging methods;
- Projects involving clinical trials or toxicology studies;
- Projects focused on biomarker discovery or biomarker validation;
- Projects focused on development of specific contrast agents;
- Projects focused on development of specific drugs or therapies;
- Projects focused primarily on software/informatics solutions, database development, data mining, statistical tools, and computational/mathematical modeling (including those applicable to drug and/or patient responses) with the exception of projects which include software development for embedding in new devices or limited amounts of computational efforts as might be needed to develop new devices or methods;
- Applications that may have appropriate scientific scope but do not include the required specific components (Statement of Impact and Quantitative Milestones) will also be considered non-responsive to this FOA and will not be reviewed.

Application Information



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Funding Instrument	R21 & R33 Grants
Application Types Allowed	New Resubmission
Award Budget	<p><u>R21</u>: Direct costs are limited to \$200,000 in any single year, with no more than \$500,000 in all direct costs over a 3-year period</p> <p><u>R33</u>: Direct costs are limited to \$300,000 per year, and \$900,000 in all direct costs over a 3-year period.</p> <p><u>Application budgets must reflect actual needs of the proposed project</u></p>
Award Project Period	The total project period is allowed for up to, but may not exceed, <u>3 years</u> for all awards
Letter of Intent Due Date	April 20, 2013; August 20, 2013
Application Due Date(s)	May 20, 2013; September 20, 2013, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.
Earliest Start Date(s)	April 2014; July 2014

Coming soon? IMAT-SBIR Awards



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R21

- Feasibility/Proof-of-principle study
- Highly innovative technology
- No preliminary data required

R33

- Advanced development & validation phase
- Demonstration of transformative utility
- Requires proof of feasibility

R43

R44

- Feasibility study
- Commercialization plan

- Development & (regulatory) validation
- Manufacturing & marketing plan
- Requires proof of feasibility and commercialization plan
- Demonstration of transformative utility

Fast-Track

Opportunities



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- CSSI: http://cssi.cancer.gov/resources-current_funding.asp
- Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research: <http://itcr.cancer.gov>
- Small-businesses: <http://sbir.cancer.gov/funding/>
- NCI: <http://www.cancer.gov/researchandfunding/funding/announcements>



Thank You!

Questions?

Contact info:

<http://innovation.cancer.gov>

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