

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies Selected as a Specialized Center within Experimental Therapeutics (NExT) Program Chemical Biology Consortium

Port St. Lucie, FL – June 7, 2016 – Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies (TPIMS) announced today that the non-profit institute has been selected as a Specialized Center in the Chemical Biology Consortium in the Experimental Therapeutics (NExT) Program, centered at the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research.

The Frederick National Lab, sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, is managing the expansion of the Chemical Biology Consortium to 22 sites around the country with world-class expertise in high-throughput screening, structural biology, medicinal chemistry, compound profiling, cancer cell biology, and animal models for oncology. Torrey Pines is participating in the consortium via a research subcontract from Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc., prime contractor for the national lab.

The Chemical Biology Consortium is the discovery engine for the NCI Experimental Therapeutics (NExT) Program and works to advance clinical practice and bring improved therapies to patients with cancer by supporting the most promising new drug discovery and development projects. The NExT program accepts applications with exceptional science with a clear path to the clinic or potential benefit to patients.

Over the past 25 years, TPIMS has developed multiple compound libraries containing approximately 10 million small molecule compounds and billions of peptides, peptidomimetics, and cyclic peptides. TPIMS has also developed the technologies that allow rapid screening of these libraries in any assay. This technology formed the basis for the Florida Drug Discovery Acceleration Program (FLDDAP), which began in July 2013 with support from the state of Florida. The FLDDAP has initiated collaborations at 15 universities and institutes with 49 principal researchers throughout Florida. The goal of every program is to generate lead compounds with therapeutic potential to treat human, animal, or agricultural diseases. To date, the FLDDAP has contributed to the receipt of >\$10M in federally-funded research awards and six joint patents have been filed. The NExT Program will continue to build upon the success of the FLDDAP by providing access to TPIMS libraries and technologies to cancer researchers throughout the United States.

Richard A. Houghten, President, Founder, and CEO of TPIMS said, “We are very pleased and excited to have been selected as a Specialized Center within the NCI Experimental Therapeutics (NExT) Program. This will allow TPIMS to expand our technologies and seek to advance therapies to treat cancer. TPIMS is honored to be the first institute within the state of Florida to have been selected for this distinction.”

Port St. Lucie Mayor Greg Oravec stated, “To have Torrey Pines PSL selected into the NExT Program is a testament to the quality of its work and also to the importance of sustained effort and collaboration. In many ways, the Torrey Pines Institute’s involvement in NExT is a progression of its innovative approach to making its chemical libraries available to research partners throughout Florida via the Florida Drug Discovery Acceleration Program, which was funded thanks to State support. Obviously, the City, the State and now the nation are counting on the Torrey Pines Institute to continue its award winning science and its collaborative approach in order to improve cancer outcomes.”

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Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies is a 501(c)(3) organization with research centers in Port St. Lucie, FL and San Diego, CA. Scientists conduct research in fields associated with a wide variety of major medical conditions, including multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, Types I and II diabetes, macular degeneration, pain management, Alzheimer’s, inflammatory disorders, AIDS and other infectious diseases, regenerative medicine, obesity, transplant rejection, muscle wasting syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis and new methods for drug discovery.

The Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research is a federal national laboratory sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Frederick National Lab collaborates with academic, commercial, nonprofit, and government researchers to address urgent problems in

biomedical research consistent with NCI's mission. The national lab is government-owned, contractor-operated facility with Leidos Biomedical Research Inc., as its prime contractor.

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