

June 13, 2003

Completion date: October 2004.

Building biotech's future in Phoenix

Groundbreaking today for TGen's new home

Jodie Snyder

The Arizona Republic
Jun. 13, 2003 12:00 AM

A year ago, city and state officials were sweating it out if Arizona would land Jeffrey Trent and two genomics research centers.

Today, they will be happily breaking a sweat at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Phoenix Bioscience Center at Copper Square, the new home for the Translational Genomics Research Institute and the International Genomics Consortium.

About 500 people are expected for the event.

State and civic leaders see the building and its occupants as catalysts for everything from economic development to a downtown renaissance.

The bioscience center will be built by the city of Phoenix at Seventh and Fillmore streets. Three of its six stories will house the Translational Genomics Research Institute, known as TGen. The International Genomics Consortium, a National Institutes of Health research lab and Alexandria Real Estate Equities will occupy a floor apiece. The building is expected to be completed in late 2004.



Courtesy of the SmithGroup

This is an architectural rendering of the Phoenix Bioscience Center, which will be built by the city at Fillmore and Seventh Streets.

Phoenix Bioscience Center at Copper Square

Location: On Fillmore Street between Fifth and Seventh streets.

Today's event:

Groundbreaking for a six-story building that will serve as headquarters for the Translational Genomics Research Institute and the International Genomics Consortium.

Other tenants: Alexandria Real Estate Equities and National Institutes of Health research organization.

Size: 168,000 square feet.

Cost: \$45.5 million.

Architect: The SmithGroup Inc. is the project's architect, engineer and designer.

General contractor: DPR Construction.

Completion date: October 2004.

"It's astounding when you think that a year ago, TGen was merely a concept without even a name. Now it's breaking ground downtown with more than 100 employees," said John Murphy, executive director for the Flinn Foundation, which pledged \$15 million to statewide efforts to raise more than \$100 million to encourage Trent to return to Phoenix. Trent, an Arcadia High School graduate, had been the scientific director of the National Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health.

"We are just in a great spot. This was exactly the right effort," Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza said. The bioscience center is the city's contribution to the biotech effort.

The mayor will chair the Flinn Foundation's steering committee to follow up on a consultant's suggestions about the state's biotech industry.

So far, the Arizona Department of Commerce has identified 45 active biotech projects across the United States, either companies looking to expand to or locate in the state, said Maria Laughner, biotech specialist for the department.

Decisions on at least four of those projects will be made by the end of August, she said. Sites for another six to eight projects will be decided by the end of 2003.

Businesses most likely to locate near TGen will be smaller companies or satellite operations, said Richard Love, TGen's chief operating officer.

"The odds of a larger company are not very good," he said.

TGen has been in discussions with some companies but Love would not elaborate.

TGen also is looking at bringing in revenues on its own. The non-profit has applied for 15 grants, or \$10 million in funding, from the National Institutes of Health. Winners of the grants will be announced this fall.

TGen is also working strategic partnerships with the state universities, Southwest Autism Research Center and the Mexico-based National Institute of Genomic Medicine.

And TGen has been active in talking with existing Arizona researchers, said Dr. Joseph Rogers, president of the Sun Health Research Institute. TGen and Sun Health have joined forces to apply for a \$4 million to \$5 million grant for Alzheimer's research.

Biotech shows signs of life

The Arizona Republic
Jun. 13, 2003 12:00 AM

Today's groundbreaking for Arizona's debut into genomics comes as the biotech industry is "simultaneously struggling and succeeding," according to a global look at the industry released Thursday by Ernst & Young.

By 2010, the industry could be profitable for the first time if regulatory and reimbursement issues are dealt with, according to two reports, "Beyond Borders: The Global Technology Report 2003" and "Resilience:

Americas Biotechnology Report 2003."

The reports paint a portrait of a fledgling industry stung by the dot.com bust and bear market but reviving after successes such as Genentech and excitement over its new colon-cancer-fighting drug.

For the past year, American biotech companies' total revenues were up by 13 percent to \$34 billion. Research and development expenses were up 31 percent, but net losses increased 71 percent to \$11.6 billion.

The industry faces several challenges:

- Critical mass: The number of publicly traded biotech companies dropped by 7 percent last year.
- Cash: About one-third of the public companies have one year of cash. Another 22 percent have less than two years of cash.
- Financing: Biotech companies in 2002 were more likely to raise money through methods such as convertible debt rather than initial public offerings.

- Jodie Snyder

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(Arizona Republic updated article)

State's 'big ambitions' seen in TGen center

Groundbreaking today for biotech building

Jodie Snyder
The Arizona Republic
Jun. 13, 2003 11:53 AM

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On Friday, they happily broke a sweat at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Phoenix Bioscience Center at Copper Square, the new home for the Translational Genomics Research Institute and the International Genomics Consortium.

About 500 people attended the event, including some of the state's primary movers and shakers.



Courtesy of the SmithGroup

This is an architectural rendering of the Phoenix Bioscience Center, which will be built by the city at Fillmore and Seventh Streets.

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- [Biotech shows signs](#)

Gov. Janet Napolitano described the state's biotech efforts as a way for Arizona to get into the national spotlight.

[of life](#)
[• More stories on TGen and its research >>](#)

"For too long, we have been a big state with small ambitions. Now we can be a big state with big ambitions with an eye on the long term," she said.

Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza likened the collaborations to the efforts to create the Central Arizona Project. "We drank from that fountain this summer and this (biotech) is the same kind of fountain."

State and civic leaders see the building and its occupants as catalysts for everything from economic development to a downtown renaissance.

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NE Valley footprint on facility

Scottsdale plays key biotech role

Kate Nolan

The Arizona Republic

SCOTTSDALE - Groundbreaking for the \$46 million Phoenix Bioscience Center at Copper Square happens today in downtown Phoenix, but Scottsdale's ties to the new biotech research facility run deep.

The new center's two main tenants - IGC (International Genomics Consortium) and TGen (Translational Genomics Research Institute) - have profited considerably from Northeast Valley individuals and institutions.

Scottsdale Healthcare CEO Max Poll was an early adviser for IGC, which was created to expand on the findings of the Human Genome Project. Poll took a leave from his job in 2002 to get IGC up and running. Now he's a member of its board.

The first IGC research program, the Expression Project for Oncology, is based at Scottsdale Healthcare.

Mayo Clinic board President Bert A. Getz, who heads Scottsdale-based Globe Corporation, is a founding member of the TGen board.

Franklyn G. Prendergast, director of the Mayo Clinic Cancer Centers, also sits on the TGen board. A new TGen collaboration will involve Mayo in a melanoma research project.

Early on, the Scottsdale-based Virginia G. Piper Trust contributed \$5 million to TGen, which also will receive funds through an agreement with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The benefits to the area are clear, says Victor Trastek, M.D., chairman of Mayo Clinic Scottsdale's board of governors. "We can't do research at the same level, so by collaborating (with TGen and IGC) we can deliver the benefit they bring to our patients."

Other benefits to the area are economic, and some biotech boosters fear Scottsdale has missed an opportunity.

"I don't know that Scottsdale has made a commitment like the state and the Indian tribes have," Getz said.

IGC board Chairman Richard Mallery, an influential Phoenix attorney, echoed the sentiment.

"The city of Scottsdale has not been a participant in any way in the genomics effort. I find that to be something that should happen," said Mallery, who dreamed up the concept for IGC and TGen with the Arizona Cancer Center's Daniel Von Hoff and Human Genome Project leader Jeffrey Trent, who now heads

TGen.

Scottsdale City Manager Jan Dolan counters that Scottsdale has been positioning itself all along for a biotech future, saying the city started focusing on medical facilities a few years ago, supporting expansions at Scottsdale Healthcare and at Mayo.

"We knew biotech research would be critical to the long-term economic diversity of the community," she said pointing at current efforts to reel in an Arizona State University research facility and opportunities being developed, amid a municipal budget crunch, for small biotech spin-off companies, an anticipated byproduct of medical research.

It could be Dolan might agree with Mallery's assessment of the potential for biotech success.

"There's no limit on the good we can do if we get enough money - and we'll never have enough money," he said.

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(Phoenix Business Journal)

City of Phoenix to ante up \$15M more for TGen

Mike Padgett and Angela Gonzales
The Business Journal

The city of Phoenix is stepping forward to pump another \$15 million into the headquarters for the Translational Genomics Research Institute and the International Genomics Consortium.

Construction of the six-story, high-tech laboratory and office building is set to start in July, with completion in late 2004. A groundbreaking took place June 13 on the east side of Fifth Street, north of Van Buren Street.

When it was announced June 26, 2002, that TGen's headquarters would be in Phoenix, the city council pledged \$31 million to help build a facility with 90,000 square feet for TGen and IGC. Today, the council is prepared to boost its pledge to \$46 million in financing because additional space is needed for two other key tenants.

The additional \$15 million will be paid from leases with the two other tenants, and from a \$1.5 million federal grant the city and the University of Arizona obtained from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The proposal to increase the city's share of the cost is scheduled for city council discussion June 25.

The city's funding is part of the more than \$134 million pledged last year by Arizona, its major universities, Maricopa County and several other donors.

The building's two other prospective tenants are National Institutes of Health's diabetes research program and Alexandria Real Estate Equities, a publicly traded real estate operating company based in Pasadena, Calif.

TGen and Phoenix city officials are receiving inquiries from other companies interested in the new Phoenix Bioscience Center at Copper Square, "but it's not anything we can discuss quite yet," said Assistant City Manager Sheryl Sculley.

The TGen/IGC building is planned as the first of several, and the preliminary designs are the work of the Phoenix office of SmithGroup, which teamed with DPR Construction.

SmithGroup Arizona President Mike Medici said the TGen/IGC building can accommodate 300 to 400 employees. He said the bioscience center's second phase could be the renovation of the old Phoenix Union High School buildings, plus construction of a new building, for a joint research effort by the state's three major universities.

The property today is a dirt lot. But that dirt is viewed as the launching point for a multimillion-dollar, high-tech venture that Valley business, education and political leaders say is the future of Arizona's economy.

"Every once in awhile, people do look at each other and say it was just a year ago we were trying to make this happen, and now it's a reality," said Francie Noyes, director of media relations for TGen.

Noyes said the goal is to employ about 300 people, mainly scientists, at the facility within five years. Today, TGen has 104 employees, with 41 on the administrative side and 63 on the research and information technology side, Noyes said.

Scientists already are applying for grants from the NIH and other organizations and foundations to finance their research projects, Noyes said.

The Phoenix Bioscience Center is viewed as "a new foundation of biosciences" that will work closely with similar programs under way or planned at the state's major universities, said Bioscience Center Development Manager Jason Harris.

Alexandria Real Estate Equities' focus "is on the ownership, operation, management, acquisition, expansion and selective redevelopment and development" of properties with office and lab space, according to its first-quarter 2003 report.

Alexandria Real Estate's total income for the first quarter of 2003 was \$40.6 million, up from \$33.7 million a year earlier. Its net income for the first quarter of 2003 was \$12.1 million, up from \$9.6 million in 2002.

Alexandria Real Estate and other biotechnology companies in May formed a partnership to promote startup biotech companies in the Seattle area. Alexandria Real Estate owns several buildings that house biotech companies in the Seattle area, according to the Puget Sound Business Journal, a sister publication.

June 14, 2003

(East Valley Tribune)

Bioscience Center breaks ground

Facility will be home for genomics research

By ED TAYLOR TRIBUNE

Jeffrey Trent may be more at home in a laboratory than a construction site. But that didn't prevent the world-renowned genome scientist from taking the controls of a huge earthmover Friday to break ground on a bioscience center that supporters hope will spur a powerful industry in the East Valley and throughout Arizona.

"In the next decade this is going to be a stepping stone, putting Arizona on an even footing with the best and the brightest around the world," Trent told hundreds of dignitaries marking the start of construction of the Phoenix Bioscience Center in downtown Phoenix.

"What we are saying is 'we are a big state with big ambitions,' " added Gov. Janet Napolitano.

The \$46 million project will serve as the headquarters of the Translational Genomics Research Institute, which Trent, a former genomic researcher for the National Institutes of Health, is heading as its president and scientific director.

The goal of the public/private joint venture is to "translate " scientific discoveries into improved treatments for cancer, diabetes and other complex diseases that are influenced by a patient's genes.

The six-story building also will be the home base of the International Genomics Consortium, a nonprofit venture of medical centers and other biotech entities that is creating public databases of genetic information that can be used in treating cancer and other diseases.

The institute and consortium both have strong ties to the East Valley. The institute has established temporary quarters at the Papago Arroyo complex at 1275 W. Washington St., Tempe, where the scientists are occupying space provided by Sonora Quest Laboratories and subleased from Ortho-Logic Corp. Also the consortium is operating from lab space provided by Scottsdale Healthcare's Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center.

The institute will move out of its Tempe space when the Phoenix center is finished, but the consortium plans to maintain a lab at the Piper center even after the new quarters are completed.

Institute scientists also are expected to work closely with Arizona State University's growing biotechnology program. ASU is building a new Arizona Biodesign Institute on the Tempe campus that will combine several ASU programs in one location to develop technologies such as nano-biosystems that will help identify and treat diseases.

Former ASU President Lattie Coor, who has played a key role in building bioscience studies in Arizona, said the ASU program would not have happened without the arrival of the genomics consortium and translational institute.

"The beauty of this endeavor is it will energize biological science programs throughout Arizona," he said at Friday's groundbreaking. He added that each of the

state universities is using its ties to the consortium and institute to enhance biology research areas where they are the strongest.

"ASU is building on its strengths in bioengineering," he said. "Now we can move on to another level."

The translational institute has made rapid progress since its creation was announced last June. Just one year later, the program has 104 employees, including scientists and administrative staff.

It also has launched several major research efforts to determine the underlying causes of autism, address health issues faced by Hispanics, study the genetic basis of diabetes in a partnership with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and develop ways to identify early and treat Alzheimer's disease.

In the process the center is expected to spawn startup companies that will commercialize scientific ideas developed by the institute, creating high-paying jobs while contributing to improvements in human health.

Construction of the center, located near Fifth and Van Buren streets on the site of the former Phoenix Union High School, is expected to be completed in late 2004.



GROUNDBREAKING: Gov. Janet Napolitano and Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza flank Jeffrey Trent, president and scientific director of the Translational Genomics Research Institute, as they participate in the groundbreaking of the Phoenix Bioscience Center. RICK D'ELIA, FOR THE TRIBUNE



(Arizona Republic editorial)

Biotech beginnings

State steps into future with groundbreaking

Jun. 14, 2003 12:00 AM

They call it a groundbreaking. In fact, it's the making of history. So it was Friday, with the official groundbreaking of the Phoenix Bioscience Center in downtown Phoenix.

More than one official compared the moment to the start of the Central Arizona Project, for this institution will be as historic to a new Arizona, the fountain from which future generations will drink.

Few Arizonans understand the science that underpins genomics. It's big.

A few months ago, a good and decent Phoenix man was diagnosed with lymphoma. Advances made in just the past five years can now identify dozens of varying strains of this single disease. This research enables oncologists to make more accurate prognosis and develop more targeted treatments.

That's genomics, offering hope for treatment of all sorts of diseases and prolonged life for patients.

Think of all life's important moments that begin with the turn of a shovel:

The construction of a house, a school, a great building. The planting of a tree.

The burial of a beloved parent.

Friday's groundbreaking, the turn of several silver-plated shovels, begins what Gov. Janet Napolitano called a "New Arizona, a big state with big ambitions, with an eye on the long term."

It starts with the headquarters of TGen, the Translational Genomics Research Institute, and the International Genomics Consortium at Fifth and Fillmore streets. It's a fitting location, an intersection that has always joined learning and health. The TGen campus is on the site of the old Phoenix Union High School. Across the street, at Fourth and Polk streets, was the original St. Joseph's Hospital.

The future that TGen promises is something the founders of Phoenix could hardly imagine: Hundreds of scientists tracing genetic codes, lured to Arizona by its dynamic opportunities. Thousands of employees, with high-paying jobs, living and working in our Valley, linking the state's hospitals, universities and private industry in a knowledge-based economy.

Already the scientists of these infant institutions are seeking research grants on autism, melanoma, diabetes and other diseases.

Arizona is moving to capture a better future. It is a day to celebrate. And to acknowledge those who made it possible.

June 15, 2003

Lucky Friday the 13th - now the real work begins

Jon Talton

Republic columnist

Jun. 15, 2003 12:00 AM



JON TALTON
The Arizona Republic

Receive the gift of years and some day you will pass your own shadow.

It happened to me on Friday. At the groundbreaking for the downtown Phoenix biosciences campus, I saw a little boy standing with his father. Little boys fidget. But this one was paying attention as Gov. Janet Napolitano, Mayor Skip Rimsza, Dr. Jeffrey Trent and other dignitaries laid the symbolic cornerstone of the state's economic future.

I hope the little boy remembers. When he's 46, and the downtown campus, with its thousands of researchers and students, is taken for granted. When people live in the technology economy that was begun with TGen and the International Genomics Consortium - but they pay it no more mind than turning on the tap for water - I pray that this man remembers.

I was a little boy in 1963, when Arizona finally won its landmark legal battle against California for our share of Colorado River water. I still have one of the pens that, in 1968, President Johnson passed out after he signed the authorization for the Central Arizona Project. Every time I turn on the tap, I remember.

Today's Arizona is the creation of audacious dreams and mighty acts, performed against a hostile and mysterious desert wilderness. And against the sharpies and drifters who would use up the state and move on.

That millions enjoy this place in comfortable ignorance of its history is testimony to the achievement. But if they had stood in the healing shade of the big tent Friday, they would better understand Arizona's past and future.

Under the tent were officials of cities and towns, Indian communities, the county, companies and non-profit organizations, universities, Rep. J.D. Hayworth from Washington. We Westerners prize our mythology, with individualism one of our household gods. But real achievements have come through cooperation and collaboration.

So it is with TGen and the IGC. Arizona has a serious opportunity to compete in biotech. These organizations will take genome breakthroughs from the research stage to the patient bedside.

But remember: We were able to grasp this chance only through the cooperation of governments, universities and the private sector.

That led us to June 13, 2003. Remember that day. "The big day," people kept saying. More than 400 people turned out. For a city and state that have been through tough times, it was a sweet day indeed.

But it's just the beginning. In this town, with its dominant real-estate industry, breaking ground marks a conclusion of sorts.

Building a technology economy requires us to reach into our true nature of persistence, collaboration and defiance of the naysayers.

Winning the CAP took decades and faced seemingly insurmountable opposition. In a faster-moving world, San Diego's biotech and telecom sectors required more than 10 years to flourish.

The dams and canals of our future will be built with significant and sustained funding for university research, creating an environment that's friendly to venture capital, keeping our commitment to TGen and the IGC and winning federal research. They will come from laying other bricks of the knowledge economy, including life

sciences, software and nanotech.

So let us begin. If we succeed, the result will be the gift of years to millions. Maybe even that little boy.