

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

ORGANIZATION	Launched in 2003, the Seattle-based Allen Institute for Brain Science is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit medical research organization dedicated to advancing brain research. Started with \$100 million in seed money from philanthropist Paul G. Allen, the Institute takes on projects at the leading edge of science—far-reaching projects at the intersection of biology and technology. The resulting data create publicly available resources that fuel discovery for countless other researchers worldwide. The Institute's data and tools are available on the Web free of charge at www.alleninstitute.org .
GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create projects that have a high-impact in the fields of neuroscience and genomics • Provide free databases and tools for researchers worldwide • Continue to pursue public/private partnerships for funding projects
ACHIEVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inaugural Allen Brain Atlas (2003—2006) is a comprehensive three-dimensional atlas mapping the expression of approximately 20,000 genes throughout the adult mouse brain. • The Sleep Study (2006—2007) is a unique dataset mapping gene activity throughout the mouse brain across different sleep and waking conditions. An award from the U.S. Department of Defense funded this project. • The Human Cortex Study (2007—ongoing) is a new image database revealing gene expression in selected sections of the human cortex, an area of the brain of broad scientific and clinical interest.
NEW PROJECTS	<p>The Allen Institute is embarking upon three major projects in 2008, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Allen Human Brain Atlas is the world's first atlas that overlays information about gene activity onto a three-dimensional anatomic map of the human brain. • The Allen Developing Mouse Brain Atlas is a high-resolution map of gene activity in the developing mouse brain across multiple stages of development from early brain formation through adulthood. • The Allen Spinal Cord Atlas is a genome-wide map that charts the genes at work along the mouse spinal cord. The project was inspired by requests from the spinal cord research community and is made possible through a unique funding consortium.
TEAM	A collaborative team of more than 125 professionals in math, physics, engineering, neuroscience, molecular biology, genomics, informatics, information technology and others, propels the Institute to tackle large, high-impact projects at the intersection of biology and computational science. The Institute team is multidisciplinary in its approach and, more importantly, multidisciplinary in its reach, delivering data and tools free to scientists worldwide and catalyzing discoveries across a wide range of research programs and disease areas.

FUNDING	The Institute has been successful in bringing diverse groups together to fund a common project. It is currently seeking government funds, along with private contributions and foundation awards, as part of an ongoing public-private partnership to sustain the organization.
HEADQUARTERS	Seattle, Washington
LEADERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allan Jones, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer • Elaine Jones, Chief Operating Officer
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Anderson, Ph.D., California Institute of Technology • Thomas L. Daniel, Ph.D., University of Washington • Catherine Dulac, Ph.D., Harvard University • Christof Koch, Ph.D., California Institute of Technology • Steven Paul, M.D., Eli Lilly and Company • Michael P. Stryker, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco • Joseph S. Takahashi, Ph.D., Northwestern University • Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Ph.D., Board Chair, Genentech • Phyllis M. Wise, Ph.D., University of Washington
WEB SITE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about the Allen Institute for Brain Science and its projects, visit www.alleninstitute.org
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