The Ellison Institute completed the purchase of two properties in Oxford, UK over the past several months in a strategic move to expand our impact on global health and strengthen our ongoing partnerships with the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI) and the University of Oxford. These new properties will sit adjacent to each other and establish a major presence in Oxford for the Institute and our work. The Institute will continue to share developments from this exciting expansion and the critical work that it supports. "These new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives....We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships." – Dr. Agus

Institute Expands Commitment to Global Health with Purchase of Properties in Oxford, UK

The Ellison Institute will continue to share developments from this exciting expansion and the critical work that it supports. "These new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives....We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships." – Dr. Agus

The Ellison Institute is building collaborations with local companies such as Oxford Nanopore Technologies, located within The Oxford Science Park. This collaboration will allow the Institute to link Oxford Nanopore’s gene-sequencing technology to other life science technologies in our network. The Institute will continue to shape developments from this exciting expansion and the critical work that it supports.

The Oxford Science Park, and the 5.9-acre Littlemore House site, purchased in December of 2021. The two properties include the 3.5-acre Plot 18 site, and the 2.4-acre Littlemore House site, purchased in December of 2021. The two properties sit adjacent to each other and establish a major presence in Oxford for the Institute and our work.

The location of the new campus will also enable the Institute to build collaborations with local companies such as Oxford Nanopore Technologies, located within The Oxford Science Park. This collaboration will allow the Institute to link Oxford Nanopore’s gene-sequencing technology to other life science technologies in our network. The Institute will continue to shape developments from this exciting expansion and the critical work that it supports.

With world-renowned British architect Norman Foster – Dr. Agus

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For more information, contact Katrina Barron at (626) 319-3534 or kbarron@eirf.org.

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Proceeds from your purchase will support the Ellison Institute for Global Change, Sir John Bell and scientists at the University of Oxford, focused on the intersection of science, medicine, and politics. Their collaborations and meaningful work continue to make an impact while also nurturing and growing our next generation of scientists, who work relentlessly to further translate our findings to patient benefit. Their collaborations and meaningful work continue to make an impact while also nurturing and growing our next generation of scientists, who work relentlessly to further translate our findings to patient benefit.

As we work to expand abroad, I am continuously made proud by the staff at the Ellison Institute in Los Angeles who work relentlessly to further their research and ensure that our work translates to patient benefit. Their collaborations and meaningful research continue to make an impact while also nurturing and growing our next generation of scientists, who will see within these pages.

With each expansion of our work and partnerships, we are building the future of the Institute and ensuring that we continue to carry out our mission of transforming medicine and patient care, now on a global scale. Your support and commitment to our mission has helped us take this far, and we look forward to continuing our journey together.

Respectfully,

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Professor of Medicine and Engineering, University of Southern California

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Consortium. As global health challenges continue, this expansion better positions the Institute to help shape and improve health care on a global scale.

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Dr. Agus
After a successful pilot study, the Ellison Institute’s AR-Drug Discovery project is set to expand to include the goal of developing a pre-clinical drug candidate in six to eight months. Since 2019, the project has worked in collaboration with the team of chemists at UC Irvine’s Center for Drug Discovery, led by Dr. Charles McKenna, to design, develop, and ultimately bring to market a novel drug for the treatment of advanced prostate cancer. With Dr. McKenna’s expertise in signal transduction androgen receptor (AR) biology, the team has designed a new drug that targets the AR to prevent its interaction with DNA, leading to a reduction in the progression of the disease.

The project revealed an unprecedented sensitivity of the prostate cancer tumor to the new drug, a promising result that has driven the project forward. By combining Dr. McKenna’s new drug design strategies that overcome AR resistance with knowledge to develop new drug candidates, the project successfully uncovers new drug design strategies that overcome AR resistance in advanced prostate cancer. By combining Dr. McKenna’s groundbreaking chemistry and the Institute’s ability to measure with unprecedented sensitivity the positive and negative signals of a potential drug’s action, the project revealed a paradigmatic reversal of the AR by small molecule drugs. These findings were recently published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, with a second paper that describes the underlying chemistry set for publication later this year.

“We are excited with the results our AR-Drug Discovery project has delivered so far for the promising research we are conducting in collaboration with UC Irvine’s McKenna,” said Dr. Katherin Patsch, the Institute’s Drug Discovery Project Manager. “Our work has unveiled a glimpse into how the androgen receptor continues to be a tumor driver in a drug-resistant setting. Incorporating this knowledge to develop new drug design strategies that overcome these mechanisms will be the most important as we move into the next stage of our Hit-to-Lead discovery.”

The collaboration behind the AR-Drug Discovery project has not only yielded important new research but also a rich program for graduate students. Members of the Institute’s Drug Discovery Lab, including Dr. Nolan Ung, Dr. Mitchell Gross, and Dr. Katherin Patsch, are collaborating on research in conduct in collaboration with Dr. McKenna’s team of chemists. “I am pleased to announce the successful thesis defense in January of this year. Members of this year’s graduate students have demonstrated outstanding research, Dr. Patsch and her team are aiming to accelerate the next stage of our hit-to-lead discovery,” Dr. Patsch said. “We are excited with the results our AR-Drug Discovery project has delivered so far for the promising research we are conducting in collaboration with Dr. McKenna’s team of chemists. – Dr. Katherin Patsch”

“Partnering with the B20 significantly expands the ability of the Ellison Institute and our partners at the GHSC to shape global public health policy in the public interest,” said Dr. Gabriel Seidman, Director of Policy at the Ellison Institute. “Partnership with the B20 significantly expands the ability of the Ellison Institute and our partners at the GHSC to shape global public health policy in the public interest.”

“Partnering with the B20 significantly expands the ability of the Ellison Institute and our partners at the GHSC to shape global public health policy in the public interest. As representative for the GHSC, Sir Tony Blair of TBI will join the B20 Indonesia’s International Advisory Caucus. Under his leadership, the GHSC team will help shape policy recommendations focusing on global public health in support of economic recovery and future global public health preparedness.”

Part of the GHSC team pictured during the G20’s 2nd Health Working Group meeting in June.

The Ellison Institute celebrated our newest PhD this past November as Dr. Carly Strelez completed her doctoral thesis on the origins of prostate cancer at the Institute. Beginning as a full-time graduate student in May of 2015, Dr. Strelez has helped spearhead implementation of groundbreaking organ-on-a-chip technology that recreates elements of human physiology on a chip to help predict human response to cancer cells.

Produced by Emulate, Inc., the technology’s ability to recreate organs in the human body has been leveraged by Dr. Strelez as a useful tool to study colorectal cancer. Her most recent research has focused on the replication of the rhythmic contractions of the intestine’s muscular layers that move food along in the gut, known as peristalsis, to help better understand how motion may encourage cancer cells to more aggressively impact cancer spread through metastasis.

“Dr. Strelez has been instrumental in leveraging the organ-on-a-chip platform to better understand how colorectal cancer research and ensure this technology will translate to their career. The collaboration’s first graduate student, Hannah Sun, began working on the AR-Drug Discovery project in 2016. Since completing her PhD thesis, Sun assisted with drug design and synthesis and worked alongside the team to speed up the project’s progress. The completion of Sun’s thesis was one of the project’s achievements in December of 2019. Under the leadership of the project’s director, Dr. Katherin Patsch, the team is working to accelerate the next stage of our hit-to-lead discovery.”

“My time with the Ellison Institute has allowed me to grow not only as a scientist, but also as a science professional,” said Dr. Strelez. “I’ve experienced hands-on work with innovation technology and been given the opportunity to communicate directly with patients and present my work within the scientific community. I’m grateful to have been given the chance to push the bounds of my potential here.”

Dr. Carly Strelez, Postdoctoral Scholar at the Ellison Institute

Global Health Security Consortium Partners with B20 to Help Prevent the Next Global Health Crisis

Offically launched in February, the partnership between GHSC and the B20 leverages the political, scientific, and medical expertise brought together by the GHSC’s three partners: the Ellison Institute, the Toray Institute for Global Change (TIB), and scientists from the University of Oxford.

“Partnering with the B20 significantly expands the ability of the Ellison Institute and our partners at the GHSC to shape global public health policy in the public interest.”
After a successful pilot study, the Ellison Institute’s AR-Drug Discovery project is set to expand to explore their goal of developing a pre-clinical drug candidate in sight.

Since 2019, the project has worked in collaboration with the team of chemists at UC’s Center for Drug Discovery, led by Dr. Charles McKenna, to design, develop, and ultimately bring to market a novel drug for the treatment of advanced prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the androgen receptor (AR) that drives prostate cancer that targets the...
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Showcasing the true value of interdisciplinary research, the project has proven fruitful, with recent research successfully uncovering new drug design strategies that target therapy resistance in advanced disease. By combining Dr. McKenna’s groundbreaking chemistry and the Institute’s ability to measure with unprecedented sensitivity the positive effects of new compounds, the AR-Drug Discovery project has not only yielded important new research but also a new drug candidate in sight.

“Our work has unveiled a glimpse of how the androgen receptor continues to drive tumor growth in a drug resistant setting. Incorporating this knowledge to develop new drug design strategies that overcome these mechanisms will be front and center as we move into the next stage of our Hit to Lead discovery,” said Dr. Charley McPatsch, the Institute’s Drug Discovery Project Manager.

The collaboration behind the AR-Drug Discovery project has delivered so far and the promising research continues. Project scientist, Dr. Sun, began working on the AR-Drug Discovery project in 2019. His work, in collaboration with Dr. McPatsch, has shown great promise. In addition, Dr. Sun assisted with drug design and synthesis and worked alongside the team to screen up the project’s progress. The completion of Dr. Sun’s PhD thesis has led to his successful defense in January of this year.

Bolstered by the success of their research, Dr. Patich and their team are aiming to accelerate the next stage of the AR-Drug Discovery project. The collaboration behind the AR-Drug Discovery project has not only yielded a novel drug candidate for prostate cancer, the team has delivered so far and the promising research continues. The project staff concludes with a sense of optimism and excitement as we move forward into the next phase of development.

“We are excited with the results our AR-Drug Discovery project has delivered so far and the promising research we continue to conduct in collaboration with Dr. McMahan’s team of chemists. - Dr. Karthe Patich

Part of the GHSC team pictured during the G20’s 2nd Health Working Group meeting in June

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The Ellison Institute completed the purchase of two properties in Oxford, UK over the past several months in a strategic move to expand our impact on global health and strengthen our ongoing partnerships with the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI) and the University of Oxford.

The two properties include the 1.5-acre Plot 18 site, purchased in June of this year and located within the Oxford Science Park, and the 5.9-acre Littlemore House site, purchased in December of 2021. The two properties sit adjacent to each other and establish a major presence in Oxford for the Institute and our work.

These new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives,” explained Dr. Agus. “We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships.”

“These new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives...We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships.” - Dr. Agus

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Respectfully,

David B. Agus, M.D.
Professor of Medicine and Engineering, University of Southern California
Founding Director and CEO
Ellison Institute for Transformative Medicine

Rebels shape us to see the world differently, to stand up for what we believe in, to challenge the status quo, and to share charisma, creativity, and commitment. With each expansion of our work and partnerships, we are building the future of the Institute and ensuring that we continue to carry out our mission of transforming medicine and patient care, now on a global scale.” - Dr. Agus

Inside this issue
BOLSTERED BY SUCCESS, INSTITUTE YIELDS DISCOVERY PROJECT EXPANDS
NEXT GENERATION SCIENTIST LEADS NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY AT THE INSTITUTE
GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY CONSORTIUM PARTNERS WITH BID TO HELP PREVENT THE NEXT GLOBAL HEALTH CRISIS
ELLISON INSTITUTE EXPANDS COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL HEALTH WITH PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES IN OXFORD, UK

“With each expansion of our work and partnerships, we are building the future of the Institute and ensuring that we continue to carry out our mission of transforming medicine and patient care, now on a global scale.” - Dr. Agus

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The two properties include the 3.5-acre Plot 18 site, purchased in June of this year and located within the Oxford Science Park. This property will include research laboratories; a patient clinic; convening, educational and collaborative spaces; and visitor housing.

The other property, which is adjacent to the Plot 18 site, was purchased in December of 2021. The two properties sit adjacent to each other and establish a major presence in Oxford for the Institute and our work.

“These new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives...We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships.” – Dr. Agus

With world-renowned British architect Norman Foster leading the design, plans for buildings on both sites replicate the successful collaborative structure of the Ellison Institute’s Los Angeles building and will include research laboratories, a patient clinic, convening, educational and collaborative spaces; and visitor housing.

“We are thrilled to expand our footprint and create a first-class home in the UK for the pathbreaking work that the Ellison Institute, its scientists, and partners are doing to improve human health,” said Dr. Agus.

The Institute’s planned Oxford Campus will also provide a permanent home to several of our long-term projects and initiatives, including the Global Health Security Consortium (GHSC), the Institute’s partnership with TBI and scientists at the University of Oxford, focused on the intersection of science, medicine, and politics.

“Now these new properties give us greater capacity to work with others across disciplines to help people live longer, healthier lives...” continued Dr. Agus. “We look forward to bolstering our global health initiatives and further developing our Oxford partnerships."

I’m thrilled to share with you further details about the Institute’s purchase of two properties in Oxford, United Kingdom. These new properties will allow us to expand our research and clinical work internationally, while also strengthening our ongoing partnerships with organizations making an impact on health in the global arena. This includes our work with the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, Sir John Bell and scientists at the University of Oxford, and our joint efforts with these organizations through the Global Health Security Consortium. As global health challenges continue, this expansion better positions the Institute to help shape and improve health care on a global scale.

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Join the Fight Against Cancer!

Each gift matters in the fight against cancer. By supporting our disruptive, multidisciplinary programs, you will help change the face of cancer treatment and significantly benefit the lives of those battling cancer today. Simply fill out the enclosed envelope to donate to the Ellison Institute Research Foundation or visit our website now!

REBELS REVIEW IS GOING DIGITAL!

Beginning in the fall, our bi-annual newsletter will be going digital. Make sure you stay up to date with all of the great work happening at the Ellison Institute by signing up with your email address for the e-version of our newsletter today at airof.org/subscribe.

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Doctor’s Notes

FROM THE DESK OF DAVID B. AGUS, M.D.

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Rebels are an important part of our community, and we’re committed to supporting their efforts and inspiring others to join the fight against cancer. Through our Rebels Review program, we will share updates on the latest developments in cancer research, our team’s progress towards finding a cure, and ways that you can get involved and make a difference. Whether you’re a cancer survivor, a family member, or a supporter of the cause, we welcome you to join us in this fight.

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