

2012
ANNUAL
REPORT

Using big science to answer big questions.



ALLEN INSTITUTE
for BRAIN SCIENCE
Fueling Discovery



What makes us human?

The power of the human brain is unmatched by even today's most advanced computing technologies. Decoding the brain's mysteries is essential to understanding the human condition and to improving human health.

2012 Highlights

Approved 10-year plan for expansion and new scientific initiatives, and received a new \$300M commitment from Paul G. Allen to support Phase I of the plan

Published landmark study on the human brain in *Nature*

Expanded scientific leadership and team with 14 Ph.D.-level scientists from Harvard, Stanford and other world-class organizations

Generated ~1 petabyte of new data on the human brain, neural circuitry and brain development for its online public resources

Increased usage of the Allen Brain Atlas resources to nearly 900,000 visits from scientists more than 125 countries



We are dedicated to accelerating brain research, using big science to drive the field forward. Our success enables scientists around the world to answer critical questions about the development, structure, and function of the brain, and to use those answers to improve human health.

“The Allen Institute is transforming brain science around the world. In the last decade, the Institute has successfully tackled industrial scale science projects, delivering massive databases with an

open public approach that thousands of scientists use to advance their research every day. I am excited to help the Institute build on these achievements and expand the scale and scope of its impact.”



Allan Jones, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

“In 2012, we turned our focus from our achievements to date to the opportunities that lie ahead. The launch of our ambitious 10-year plan sets us on a course to further transform brain research, both within our own walls and in collaboration with the global brain science community.”



Paul G. Allen
Founder

'03

'04

'05

'06

'07

'08

'09

'10

'11

'12

COMMUNITY

PUBLIC RESOURCE S

BUSINESS

>25,000
visits to
Allen Brain Atlas
resources
(all 2005)

>250,000
visits to
Allen Brain Atlas
resources
(all 2008)

>500,000
visits to
Allen Brain Atlas
resources
(all 2009)

>750,000
visits to
Allen Brain Atlas
resources
(all 2011)

First Allen Brain Atlas Hackathon
brings programmers and informatics experts together to collaborate on developing new data analysis strategies and tools based on the Allen Brain Atlas resources.

Approval of 10-year plan
sets the course for expanded opportunities and scientific endeavors. New initiatives launched in neural coding, molecular networks, and characterization of different brain cell types.

Reached 200 Employees

Received \$300M commitment from Paul G. Allen for next four years bringing his total commitment to date to \$500M.

Held the First Annual Allen Institute Symposium
This new model of symposium integrates diverse topics and top experts to stimulate collaborative and forward-thinking discussion. Distribution of videos publicly online expands benefit to the global research community.

Mouse Diversity Study
[Completed 2009]

ALLEN Human Brain Atlas

BrainSpan Atlas of the Developing Human Brain

NIH Blueprint Non-Human Primate (NHP) Atlas

Ivy Glioblastoma Atlas Project

ALLEN Spinal Cord Atlas created in response to requests from the research community and funded by a consortium of contributors including foundations, individuals, disease organizations, and corporate entities. [Completed 2009]

ALLEN Developing Mouse Brain Atlas
[Completed 2010]

Transgenic Mouse Study

Human Cortex Study, the Allen Institute's first human project and a critical foundation for generating the Allen Human Brain Atlas. [Completed 2009]

Sleep Study
[Completed 2008]

ALLEN Mouse Brain Atlas
[Completed 2006]

Received largest federal grant award to date (\$16.2M)

Reached 100 Employees

Christof Koch, Ph.D. named CSO
following a highly successful 25-year career at the California Institute of Technology. Initiates expansion of the Institute's scientific team by recruiting top scientists from around the world.

Received \$100M seed commitment from Paul G. Allen

Launched operations

Launched in 2003, the Allen Institute has forever changed the trajectory of brain research in less than 10 years. We intend to build on this successful foundation to catalyze breakthrough discoveries and accelerate knowledge acquisition in brain science in the years ahead.

Where do we begin?

Why do we need big science?

Deciphering the complexity of the human brain is a tremendous challenge, one that cannot be solved by any single experiment or individual laboratory.

Our approach to brain research is as big as the challenge itself, combining our internal expertise and capabilities with global collaboration to enable problem solving among researchers around the world. We are innovating tools and techniques that can be used to generate, capture, analyze, and

share data on an unprecedented scale. Our commitment to making our innovations publicly available is a catalyst for advancing diverse areas of brain research. The whole of the knowledge base that is being built on the foundation of our work is greater than the

individual experiments that we enable. The ongoing financial support of our founder, Paul G. Allen, and leading grant organizations including the National Institutes of Health validates our big science approach and provides critical funding for making our impact even greater.



John Phillips, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Structured Science

“We are using an industrial model of cross-disciplinary problem solving to answer critical questions in brain research, and to develop cutting-edge technologies that overcome new research challenges.”

We believe that providing researchers around the world with ready access to our data and online tools is the most effective way to spur progress in brain science. Our commitment to making our resources available to the research community establishes a benchmark for open and collaborative science.

The resources that we have created to date are tangible evidence of our ability to innovate new technologies. Today we are developing new cell lines, transgenic tools, models, methods, and computer algorithms that will allow scientists around the world to ask and answer wholly new questions in brain science.

“Our structured approach to brain science differentiates us from conventional research organizations.”



Amy Bernard, Ph.D.
Director, Structured Science

We pursue defined projects, setting goals and developing an execution plan to answer the most challenging questions in brain research.”

>4 million visits to Allen Brain Atlas resources to date, with nearly **50,000 researchers** at academic, corporate, government, and nonprofit organizations from more than **125 countries** across six continents visiting our online resources each month.

“What’s most gratifying to me when I train scientists to use our resources is helping them find new features that can significantly speed their research. I love seeing that light bulb go on.”
 — Terri Gilbert, Ph.D., Application Scientist, Allen Institute for Brain Science

“This will likely become the reference atlas for molecular and cellular neuroscientists.”
 — Thomas R. Insel, M.D., Director, National Institute of Mental Health, in *Nature*

“By using the Allen Spinal Cord Atlas, we were able to discover a brand new cell type that has previously been overlooked and that could be an important player in all manner of spinal cord injury and disease, including multiple sclerosis and ALS.”
 — Jane Roskams, Ph.D., Professor of Zoology, University of British Columbia

“I use the Allen Mouse Brain Atlas in my work everyday. We’ve conducted phenotypic analysis of mouse mutants, which have identified epilepsy genes in 20 mouse models.”
 — Jeffrey Noebels, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Molecular and Human Genetics, Vice Chair for Research, Department of Neurology, Baylor College of Medicine

Our resources can enable advances in all aspects of brain research, including behavior, anatomy, physiology, and brain disorders.

- Addiction
- ADHD
- Autism
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Avian Influenza H5N1
- Bipolar Disorder
- Brain Development
- Brain Evolution
- Cancer
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Hypothyroidism
- Hypomyelination/Myelin Deficiencies
- Huntington’s Disease
- Infantile Encephalopathy
- Intellectual Disability
- Metabolic Disorders
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Neuroinflammation
- Obesity
- Pain
- Psychiatric & Neurological Diseases
- Parkinson’s Disease
- Schizophrenia
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Spinocerebellar Ataxia Type 3
- Stroke
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Williams-Beuren Syndrome

- And More...
- TUVALU
- FIJI
- NEW CALEDONIA (FRENCH)
- NIUE

Training programs span the globe

UNITED STATES

- Baylor College of Medicine
- California Institute of Technology
- Columbia University
- Duke University
- Genentech
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- National Institutes of Health

UNITED KINGDOM

- Princeton University
- Salk Institute for Biological Studies
- Stanford University
- The Scripps Research Institute
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, San Francisco

GERMANY

- University of North Carolina
- University of Southern California
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, San Francisco

SWEDEN

- Cambridge University
- Kings College London
- University of Oxford
- Karolinska Institutet
- University of Helsinki

JAPAN

- Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden
- Humboldt Universität
- Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences
- Okinawa Institute for Science and Technology

WEBINAR TRAINING ATTENDEES

- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Columbia
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- India
- Israel
- Italy
- Korea
- Lebanon
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States

Who benefits from our work?

Our publicly available resources have a truly global impact on brain research. Around the world and across multiple disease areas, our data and tools make a difference. And we are leading the charge to gather, analyze, and share brain research data on a massive scale.

In 2012 alone, we generated nearly one petabyte (PB) (1,000 terabytes) of data — that is the equivalent of 60,000 HD movies. Since 2005, we have generated 230 million human microarray data points, and generated and processed more than 2PB of data. An end-to-end stack of the slides containing the nearly 2 million tissue sections that we have collected to date would span 42 miles. The combined thickness of the tissue sections collected in 2012 alone is 30.9 feet — just slightly below the average length of a *Tyrannosaurus rex*.



Our top-notch scientific team works collaboratively to answer the most complex questions in brain research



Christof Koch, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer

“The Allen Institute offers an absolutely unique opportunity to do something on a scale and with a ruthless focus unheard of in a traditional research setting. The opportunity to participate in such a transformative effort drives world-class scientists to join our organization.”

Where do we go from here?

Our initial achievements have allowed us to attract an exceptional roster of scientific leaders in a variety of disciplines.

Combined with the new \$300 million commitment from our founder, Paul G. Allen, and financial support from federal funding agencies and other granting institutions, we have the critical intellectual and capital resources we need for success in our second decade.

In 2012 we implemented a 10-year plan that will expand the scale of our efforts, the scope of our impact, and our physical infrastructure. In 2013 we expect to break ground on a new building that will consolidate all of our personnel into a single space that will enhance our multi-disciplinary approach to brain research.

Our ongoing commitment to innovating cutting-edge technologies and sharing our unique resources with the global scientific community should enable wholly new endeavors in brain science. We look forward to answering important questions, and to asking even bigger ones.

The key initiatives of the 10-year plan encompass three critical questions:

How does the brain drive physiology and behavior?

What drives neural development and disease processes?

What roles do different neural components play in health and disease?



Clay Reid, M.D., Ph.D.
Degree: Cornell University, The Rockefeller University
Prior Affiliation: Harvard University
Program Area: Neural Coding



Hanchuan Peng, Ph.D.
Degree: Southeast University, Nanjing, China
Prior Affiliation: Janelia Farm Research Campus, HHMI
Program Area: Neural Coding, Cell Types



Thomas Keenan, Ph.D.
Degree: University of Washington
Prior Affiliation: University of Wisconsin
Program Area: Molecular Networks, Cell Types, Neural Coding



Stefan Mihalas, Ph.D.
Degree: Caltech
Prior Affiliation: Johns Hopkins University
Program Area: Neural Coding, Cell Types



Severine Durand, Ph.D.
Degree: University of Zurich, Switzerland
Prior Affiliation: Harvard University
Program Area: Neural Coding



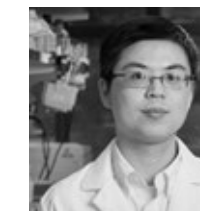
Nicholas Cain, Ph.D.
Degree: University of Washington
Prior Affiliation: University of Washington
Program Area: Neural Coding



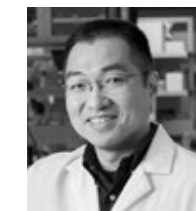
Saskia de Vries, Ph.D.
Degree: Harvard University
Prior Affiliation: Stanford University
Program Area: Neural Coding



Michael Buice, Ph.D.
Degree: University of Chicago
Prior Affiliation: University of Texas at Austin
Program Area: Neural Coding



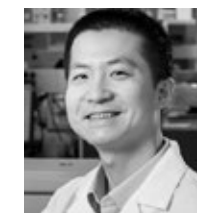
Lu Li, Ph.D.
Degree: Vanderbilt University
Prior Affiliation: UC Berkeley
Program Area: Cell Types



Kenji Mizuseki, M.D., Ph.D.
Degree: Kyoto University, Japan
Prior Affiliation: New York University
Program Area: Neural Coding



Jim Berg, Ph.D.
Degree: Harvard Medical School
Prior Affiliation: UCSF
Program Area: Cell Types



Chaoyang Ye, Ph.D.
Degree: University of Missouri, Columbia
Prior Affiliation: University of Pennsylvania
Program Area: Molecular Networks



Aleena Garner, Ph.D.
Degree: UC San Diego
Prior Affiliation: UC San Diego
Program Area: Neural Coding



Corinne Teeter, Ph.D.
Degree: UC San Diego
Prior Affiliation: Sandia National Laboratories
Program Area: Neural Coding, Cell Types

In 2012 we welcomed 14 world-class scientists to our team

Financial Information

Allen Institute for Brain Science Summary Balance Sheets

(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 18,267	\$ 55,115
Restricted cash	573	212
Federal grants receivable	1,217	406
Pledges receivable	47,000	100
Other current assets	2,219	2,131
Total current assets	69,276	57,964
Restricted cash	1,082	1,073
Other non-current assets		400
Property and equipment, net	11,110	10,562
Total assets	\$ 81,468	\$ 69,999
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,758	\$ 1,580
Accrued expenses	1,479	1,211
Total liabilities	4,237	2,791
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	75,521	14,023
Temporarily restricted	1,710	53,185
Total net assets	77,231	67,208
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 81,468	\$ 69,999

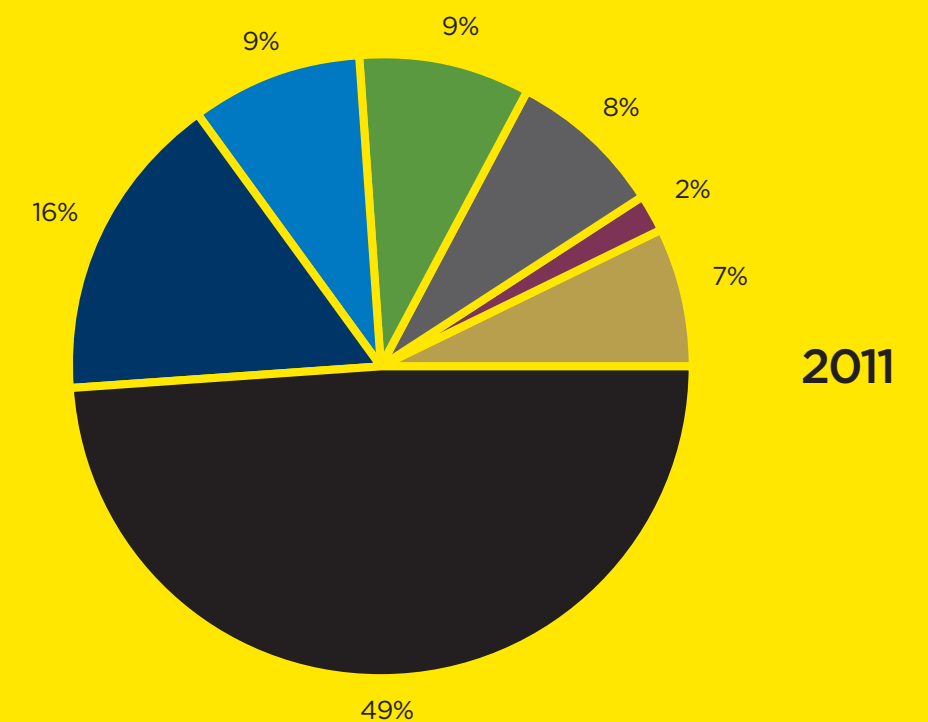
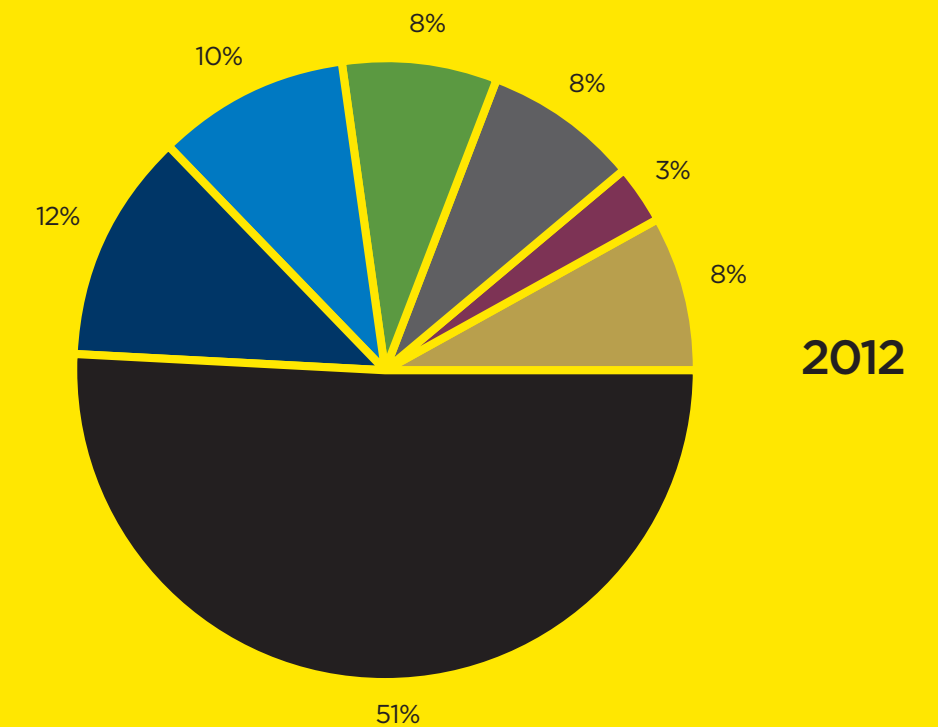
Allen Institute for Brain Science Summary Income Statements

(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
Support and Revenue		
Contributions	\$ 47,000	\$ 70,400
Federal and other grants	4,888	9,732
Other revenue	195	248
Total support and revenue	52,083	80,380
Expenses		
Program services	35,303	28,942
Management and general	6,757	5,671
Total expenses	42,060	34,613
Change in net assets	\$ 10,023	\$ 45,767

This information was derived from the annual audited financial statements.

Expense Distribution



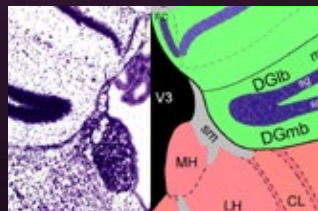
How do we enable others?

Our groundbreaking discoveries and research tools provide brain researchers around the world with truly innovative ways to ask and answer big questions in brain science.

In 2004 we launched the first of our Allen Brain Atlas resources, forever changing the way in which brain research could be conceptualized and conducted.

Since then, we have built a highly valuable suite of publicly available, web-based research tools encompassing multiple species, developmental stages, anatomical structures, and brain-related diseases. Any researcher with an Internet connection can access these resources freely through a single data portal. Our tools enable scientists to work more quickly and make more effective decisions, allowing them to focus on their most promising discoveries.

With more than 4 million visits to date, our online resources have supported many thousands of experiments and are cited routinely in peer-reviewed publications. Our sought-after transgenic mouse lines are also publicly available, and we are generating additional resources to support a variety of laboratory and computational studies that have not previously been feasible.



Our Team

Founders

Paul G. Allen
Jody Allen

Leadership

Allan Jones, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Chinh Dang
Chief Technology Officer

Christof Koch, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer

David Poston
Chief Operating Officer

Board of Directors

Jody Allen
President and Board Chair, Allen Institute for Brain Science
President and CEO, Vulcan Inc.

Nathaniel T. Brown
Senior Vice President, Finance and Financial Strategy,
The Seattle Times

Susan M. Coliton
Vice President, Foundation & Collections, Vulcan Inc.

Allen D. Israel
Member, Foster Pepper PLLC

Stephen Hall
Managing Director, Venture Capital, Vulcan Inc.

Thomas Daniel, Ph.D. (2011-present)
Professor of Biology, Neurobiology & Behavior, Komen Endowed Chair, University of Washington

Scientific Advisory Board

David Anderson, Ph.D.
California Institute of Technology

György Buzsáki, M.D., Ph.D.
Rutgers University

Edward M. Callaway, Ph.D.
Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Thomas L. Daniel, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Catherine Dulac, Ph.D.
Harvard University

Daniel H. Geschwind, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles

Michael P. Stryker, Ph.D.
University of California, San Francisco

Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Ph.D.
The Rockefeller University

David C. Van Essen, Ph.D.
Washington University

Additional Scientific Advisors

Larry Abbott, Ph.D.
Columbia University

Yang Dan, Ph.D.
University of California, Berkeley

Michael Elowitz, Ph.D.
California Institute of Technology

Adrienne Fairhall, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Anne Claude Gavin, Ph.D.
European Molecular Biology Laboratory

Richard Gibbs, Ph.D.
Baylor College of Medicine

Patrick Hof, M.D.
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Arnold Kriegstein, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, San Francisco

John H.R. Maunsell, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

David McCormick, Ph.D.
Yale University

Markus Meister, Ph.D.
Harvard University

Randall Moon, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Jeffrey Nye, M.D., Ph.D.
Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson

Pasko Rakic, M.D., Ph.D.
Yale School of Medicine

Sharad Ramanathan, Ph.D.
Harvard University

Botond Roska, M.D., Ph.D.
Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research

John Rubenstein, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, San Francisco

Clifford Saper, M.D., Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Eric Schadt, Ph.D.
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Lorenz Studer, M.D.
Sloan-Kettering Institute

Karel Svoboda, Ph.D.
Howard Hughes Medical Institute,
Janelia Farm Research Campus

Doris Tsao, Ph.D.
California Institute of Technology

David Tank, Ph.D.
Princeton University

Giulio Tononi, M.D. Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin – Madison

Christopher Walsh, M.D., Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Past Scientific Advisors

Gregor Eichele, Ph.D.
Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry

Eberhard Fetz, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Joshua Huang, Ph.D.
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Edward Jones, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, Davis

Alexandra Joyner, Ph.D.
New York University School of Medicine

Sacha Nelson, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, San Diego

Steven Paul, M.D.
Weill Cornell Medical College

Luis Puellas, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Murcia

Larry Swanson, Ph.D.
University of Southern California

Joseph Takahashi, Ph.D.
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Arthur Toga, Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles

Phyllis Wise, Ph.D.
University of Washington

Staff

More than 200 dedicated employees

More than 55 researchers with Ph.D. degrees

 **Follow us on Twitter**
@Allen_Institute

 **Like us on Facebook**
Allen Institute for Brain Science

 **Subscribe to us on YouTube**
AllenInstitute



551 N 34th Street, Seattle, Washington 98103

alleninstitute.org | brain-map.org