



Welcome to Utah!!!!

On behalf of the International Society for Transgenic Technologies and the University of Utah we are pleased to announce the 14th Transgenic Technology meeting to be held at the Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort near Salt Lake City, Utah, USA October 1-4, 2017.

TT2017 will be hosted by the University of Utah and organized by the TT2017 Organizing Committee, chaired by Susan Tamowski, Director of the University of Utah Transgenic and Gene Targeting Core, along with a team of local faculty and members of the ISTT Board of Directors.

The University of Utah is home to Nobel Laureate Mario Capecchi who did his pivotal research in the area of gene targeting here at *the U*, which led to his being awarded the Nobel Prize in 2007. The University of Utah continues to be a major center for scientific research not only in the area of gene targeting but in many areas of human genetics (we are home to the Utah Genome Project), molecular biology, cancer research (we have one of the best cancer hospitals in the US), biomedical engineering and drug and pharmaceutical research. The U makes use of various animal models in its research including mice, zebrafish (Utah has one of the largest zebrafish cores in the world), *C. elegans*, *Drosophila*, and *Xenopus*.

We are delighted that Dr. Mario Capecchi has been awarded the coveted ISTT Prize, and will address us during the prize ceremony. Additional invited speakers include Alex Joyner, Jin-Soo Kim, Maria Jasin, Monica Justice, Kate O'Conner-Giles and others whose work we look forward to hearing about. Session topics will range from CRISPR to ethics to innovative strategies from traditional gene targeting methods to exciting new technologies covering an assortment of animal models. Talks will range from technical to scientific that should be of interest to everyone at the meeting. TT2017 is expected to bring together scientists and researchers from all aspects of transgenic technology and will be a mecca for interaction and collaboration.

Two workshops are planned for immediately before the start of the TT2017 meeting. One will be focused on CRISPR design and techniques; the other will focus on zebrafish and their use in various areas of research. Both will include hands-on sessions, and will take place on the University of Utah campus. Housing for the workshops will be on campus at the University Guest House.

The venue for the meeting is Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort in the mountains above Salt Lake City, Utah and a short drive from the airport. All conference rooms are in the Cliff Lodge as are most of the hotel rooms where delegates will be staying. The Cliff Lodge is a world class hotel and conference center with all amenities including a spa, rooftop hot tub and swimming pool, workout rooms, and outdoor swimming pools and hot tubs. Snowbird has a tram that goes up to the 11,000 foot Hidden Peak, site of the new Summit restaurant where our opening reception will take place. Oktoberfest will be in full swing on Saturday and Sunday, the first day of the TT2017 meeting.

Salt Lake City is a flourishing city with a friendly walkable downtown area, several ethnic restaurants, a planetarium, natural history museum, and arboretum. Utah is home to numerous breathtaking national parks within a four-hour drive of Salt Lake City (Arches, Canyonlands, Bryce Canyon, Zion, Capitol Reef). The Grand Canyon is a 7-hour drive and Yellowstone National Park is approximately a 6-hour drive from Salt Lake City. We encourage you to stay after the meeting and experience the unique landscapes of the western US.

We are delighted to host TT2017 here in Utah and welcome you to our beautiful state. We look forward to the incredible knowledge and camaraderie that always accompanies the TT meetings.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Susan Tamowski'.

Susan Tamowski
Chair, TT2017 Organizing Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jan Parker-Thornburg'.

Jan Parker-Thornburg
President, ISTT