

Alcor News Bulletin

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The layout of Alcor News is best viewed using a monospaced font such as Courier.

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A Brief Interim Report

This is just a brief report, to keep Alcor's friends and members informed of our latest activities.

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Charles Platt

Charles Platt has decided for a variety of reasons, many of them personal, to end his contractual work relationship with Alcor for now. We would like to thank him for all he has done to improve the quality of care here at Alcor and for his stewardship of AlcorNews, to wish him luck in his future activities, and to assure him that any future proposals to work with Alcor will be warmly welcomed. AlcorNews will continue in the physical format it has always had, as a cooperative venture of the staff and directors.

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Tanya Jones

This week, Tanya Jones started work as Director of Clinical Services. She held this position for several years in the early to mid 90's, and is now returning "tanned, rested, and ready". She is one of the most experienced cryonicists in the world, and she has assisted in recent cases on a consulting basis. Welcome back, Tanya.

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Larry Johnson

Like all legal matters, this progresses at a very slow pace, so don't be surprised if there is little or no news we can report. All we can say is that Mr. Johnson has responded to our lawsuit, and has filed a counter-suit of his own. Because of pending litigation, Alcor cannot comment on any allegations made by Mr. Johnson. Alcor will continue to pursue all legal remedies available to it. We also respectfully request that people avoid public speculation

based on incomplete news stories.

Readers may be worried about how these things have affected and will affect Alcor. The short answer is one of reassurance. Alcor's services and capabilities are not presently threatened, nor does it seem likely they will be. Our patients are secure and our membership can be confident we can be there when needed. This is not to say there haven't been difficulties. There have been, but we believe we are coping with them well, and our ability to respond to emergencies remains strong. Details will be forthcoming in Cryonics Magazine.

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New Web Site!

We are proud to announce the launching of Alcor's new website. A Website Working Group composed of Stephen Van Sickle, Kevin Q. Brown, David Brandt-Erichsen, and Brian Wilson has been assembled to create the new site, building on a large amount of programming previously done by Kevin Q. Brown. The website is based on the graphic design of Bobby June, with updates on the content and graphics by Charles Platt. It is at the same location:

<http://www.alcor.org>

that it always was, but is new and improved. It is not quite as showy and flashy as the previous site, but has a serious professional look that loads very quickly. No long waits for those with dial-up connections. But the big improvement, the one we have been working hard on, is a vast increase in online content. Back issues of Cryonics Magazine from 1981 to 1992 are available, with more editions coming as they are available. Many of the best articles, reports, and essays from over the years are likewise available in the Library section. This is just the beginning...we have many more ideas to expand the site, and it changes every day. It is still very much under construction. Come visit, and visit often as we grow. If you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to send them to The website is still in flux, so please hold any substantial remarks until the site stabilizes in a few weeks. You may find we fixed your complaint without even asking us!

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CEO Search

We are continuing our search for a new CEO/General Manager for Alcor. A notice detailing the job requirements has been circulating:

Alcor is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation located in Scottsdale, Arizona. Founded in 1972, it is the world's largest provider of cryonic suspension services (the experimental practice of preserving legally deceased persons for possible future recovery). Its purposes are to maintain members who are already in cryonic suspension, to provide state-of-the-art service for members when they require cryonic suspension, and to further research and public education in the field. For more information, please see our website: www.alcor.org

The successful candidate will:

Have an understanding and acceptance of the priorities set

forth in our mission statement.

Enough generalized business experience to make day to day operational decisions and spending decisions appropriate to our financial circumstances, as well as familiarity with the legal and regulatory environment in which small businesses and non-profits operate.

Enough technical understanding to supervise and evaluate our medical staff on an ongoing basis, and to coordinate their efforts during patient standbys, transports and cryonic suspensions.

Competence to make decisions regarding patient care and suspension services when cases are imminent

High level written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to represent Alcor in the mass media.

If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume & salary requirements by email only to:

Please place "AlcorNews" in the subject line of your email.

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Dr. Jerry Lemler Speaks at Cambridge University

The International Association of Biomedical Gerontology held its tenth congress or conference (IAGB 10) 19-23 September at Queens College, Cambridge UK. Quoting from the conference Website (<http://www.gen.cam.ac.uk/iabg10/>): The purpose of the IABG is (1) to make the general public more aware of the potential of biomedical aging research to increase the span of healthy productive life and to decrease the social and economic problems of age; and (2) to promote greater communication among the worldwide community of individuals engaged in biomedical aging research. The conference title was: Strategies for Engineered Negligible Senescence: reasons why genuine control of aging may be foreseeable.

The main organizer, Dr. Aubrey de Grey, is highly regarded in gerontology and anti-aging research. He is avidly promoting and pursuing his concept of engineered negligible senescence--essentially, the end of the aging process. He is optimistic and enthusiastic, yet also a realist, and well aware of the problem that, for many if not most people now living, a cure for aging will likely come too late. Thus he is also interested in cryonics, and serves on Alcor's Scientific Advisory Board. He spoke at Alcor's conference last November, and gave space for Dr. Jerry Lemler to speak on cryonics at IAGB 10.

Dr. Lemler's talk will be published in the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences later this year. The abstract of his talk follows:

Abstract

If one accepts the feasibility of engineering negligible senescence, the benefits of the endeavor depend on when it succeeds. Many of those who would like to benefit from engineered negligible senescence will likely perish before it can be accomplished. There is, however, a

potential safety net for such individuals, which can be called medical time travel. It is based on one fact and two assumptions. The fact is that at the boiling point of liquid nitrogen, changes in biological systems are generally agreed to be negligible for periods of hundreds to thousands of years. The first assumption is that it is possible to cool a human being to such a temperature without fundamentally destroying the essential information in the brain. The second assumption is that medical and scientific progress will continue until medical resuscitation technology is limited only by physical law. If these assumptions are correct, the memories and personalities of people preserved by today's methods should be intact after revival by future technology, and medical time travel can be used as a bridge to a time in which senescence can be controlled. Based on presently available information, the evidence in support of both assumptions of this proposal appears to be strong.

Dr. Lemler, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, is to be especially thanked for making what must have been an arduous plane trip from Arizona to the UK.

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