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Alcor News Bulletin

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Number 46: December 11, 2005

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\$100,000 Matching Grant for  
Whole Body Vitrification Research

So far, we've received \$18,070 of the \$100,000. We encourage everyone, whether signed up whole-body or neuro, to contribute to this program, since the technologies we are working on should improve both methods of cryopreservation. This is a rare opportunity to leverage your contribution, dollar for dollar. Please write a check for however much you can afford, payable to Alcor, and note in the memo area "Matching Grant". Thank you everyone for your continuing support.

Call now to make your pledge: 877-462-5267 ext. 101

Or print and fax your pledge form to: 480-922-9027

Pledge forms are available at this link:  
<http://www.alcor.org/Library/pdfs/MatchingGrant.pdf>

When sending donations by mail, include this pledge form or simply write "Matching Grant Donation" in the memo field of your check:

Alcor Foundation  
7895 E. Acoma Drive, Suite 110  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
Attention: Fundraising Dept.  
[SVS]

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#### Financial Matters

Our accounting firm of Fester & Chapman finished their formal review of the 2004 financial statements. The report was formally presented to the Board at the December meeting. These reviewed financial statements will be made available on our website. Fester & Chapman has also provided us with a formal set of recommendations to improve our internal financial controls. We are still reviewing the document, but at first look it appears that we have already implemented most of the recommendations, and the remainder we will be doing shortly. A more detailed report on this will be provided next month.

We have also completed the four backlogged case billings that had not yet been done, bringing our clinical accounts current. A draft 2006 budget is complete and has been distributed to the Board for review and discussion.

We're also in the process of finalizing a new contract for liquid nitrogen. Our current supplier was unwilling to re-negotiate terms upon the conclusion of this contract year, and we went looking for other suppliers with better pricing. Once the new contract goes into effect next March, we will see a 45% reduction in liquid nitrogen costs and delivery charges. Effectively, our price will drop to \$0.20/liter. This should save the Patient Care Trust nearly \$20,000 in 2006, more if the case load is similar to what it was this year. [SVS/TJ]

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#### Bookkeeping

We have hired Sheila Kimbrell for temporary part-time work as bookkeeper here at Alcor. She is available 2 days a week until the beginning of January (tax season) and will be filling in until we can find a permanent replacement.

Ms. Kimbrell is a long time friend of our membership administrator Diane Cremeens. She has since 2001 been operating a private accounting practice, and prior to that

was employed from 1986 by Heiser & Associates, a small local accounting firm (15 years). She left this position, her sole employer prior to private practice, when the firm dissolved on the death of its owner. She has formal education in accounting from Phoenix College, and has been certified as a Quickbooks Professional Advisor, though that certification has lapsed. She is a past president and current board member of the Arizona Society of Practicing Accountants (<http://www.aspaacct.org/index.htm>), member of the National Society of Accountants, past president of the North Valley Business Network (<http://www.nvbnetwork.com/>), and treasurer of Boy Scout Troop 431.

Her references have been checked, and she has undergone the complete battery of background checks offered by our employment agency ADP TotalSource. [SVS]

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#### Engineering Development Matters

Work has resumed on a number of the engineering development projects approved by the R&D committee, including the Intermediate Temperature Storage (ITS) monitoring project and the annealing test project. The ITS Neuropod purchased from 21st Century Medicine is in an operation-capable dewar and undergoing long term testing at operating temperatures (-140C). [SVS]

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#### Research Update

Brain samples for 12 and 24 hours of warm cardiac arrest and brain samples after vitrification using M22 were analyzed using electron microscopy. The preliminary results showed the presence of autolytic damage of cortical neurons in 9, 12, and 24 hours of warm cardiac arrest. More discussion of the results is required, especially with regard to the samples processed using M22.

Another set of brain samples was processed for light microscopy by Neuroscience Associates, Inc. using apoptotic marker Caspase-3. (Apoptosis is programmed cell death.) Preliminary results showed no significant apoptosis activation during prolonged brain anoxia. [SSH]

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#### Sterilization Update

To follow-up on the brief mention last month, our new sterilizer is now functioning properly and has been used to sterilize its first tubing packs. [TJ]

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#### Magazine / Alcor News Development

Alcor's members want more outreach tools they can use to introduce others to cryonics and Alcor. The vision for

achieving this started with development of the 30-minute DVD and continues now to Cryonics magazine and Alcor News.

Cryonics magazine will be transformed in 2006 to offer a more mainstream, thought-provoking publication. Look for intriguing articles by a wider array of authors, a polished appearance, and discussion of topics that underscore the many highly compelling facets of cryonics. An article will be included with the first issue of the magazine explaining the changes, and an Editorial Board is being formed. Participants from the Board of Directors and advisory boards are sought.

To make this transformation a success within the current budget, the publication frequency will be reduced to four issues per year. Efforts will be made to avoid decreased contact with members and other supporters. To aid with timely information flow, expansion of Alcor News is being considered. [JC]

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#### Construction Update

The major change in the state of the construction this month concerns the delivery and installation of our new bulk tank. This tank sat on the vendor's lot for more than two years, as the construction project slowly inched forward. We finally accepted delivery last week, using a local crane company to off-load the tank from the flatbed truck and install it in the new patient care bay. In all, the construction project is about 90% complete. The only major items remaining are installation of some ducting, the stairs to the roof and roof hatch, hanging the OR lights, and some concrete floor smoothing. There has been some slowing of the construction due to confusion over billing. We have received late and incorrect billings, delaying payment, but the bills and payments are now correct and up to date. We have begun slow-motion moving of equipment into the new spaces, and will switch into high gear when the major items are complete and the contractor removes his equipment. We have also begun some much-needed cosmetic improvements to the office and lab areas, mostly paint and trim. Bill Voice deserves credit for taking the initiative on that. [TJ/SVS]

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#### Media This Month

An estimated 24,097 distinct computers visited Alcor's website in October. Media participation this month includes:

- WHFS Radio, US: Tanya Jones did an interview for this radio station with questions and comments from callers.
- GQ Spain, Spain: We coordinated with an editor who was helping with an article about cryonics.
- An open letter signed by over 60 scientists and physicians endorsing the scientific basis of cryonics has

been made public and can be found at:  
<http://www.cryoletter.org>.

As always, a real-time list of new things on our website is available at: <http://www.alcor.org/whatsnew.html> [JC/WWG]

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### Membership Statistics

Approvals: 11  
Members: 781  
Applicants: 63

On November 30, 2005, Alcor had 781 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Five memberships were approved during this month, no memberships were reinstated, three memberships were cancelled and no members were cryopreserved. A correction to last month's figures was made, where a cancelled member was counted in both the membership total and the cancelled count. Overall, there was a net gain of one member this month. We have an average net gain of 6.1 members per month in 2005, which compares favorably to the average net gain of 4.3 members per month last year. At the end of this month, Alcor had 62 applicants for membership, a net loss of 5 applicants.

Alcor distributed 108 information packs this month. Our average for 2005 has grown to 118 per month, compared to 50 in 2004. There were 815 subscribers to Alcor News as of the last issue. [DC]

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### Alcor United

Alcor members have a new forum where they can meet and chat with other members. Get to know other cryonics supporters in your area by visiting Alcor United:

[www.alcorunited.org](http://www.alcorunited.org)

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### Employment Opportunities

Have you ever thought about joining the Alcor team? We have immediate needs for licensed Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, Registered Nurses, Lab Technicians and more to join our nationwide Transport Team. Participation would be on a contractual basis.

You'll be given cryonics training that will enable you to participate in our patient rescue and transport cases. Licensed professionals do not have to be Alcor members to work with us. We welcome your expertise and interest. If you're interested, send your resume to:

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2006, at 11:00 AM (MST).

Board meetings are typically held on the first Saturday of the month at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

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End of Alcor News bulletin #46 dated December 11, 2005.  
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