

Top 50 most influential people on Stem Cells today



TOP 50 stem cell influencers

Who are the most influential people in the global stem cell and cell therapy field?

This is the question we asked our blog subscribers, LinkedIn group members and anyone in our contact network to compile a comprehensive list of the Top 50 as named by you.

The following 50 personalities were picked based on their career achievements whether this was groundbreaking discovery and research or innovation, funding, lifetime dedication or simply because they might have inspired others to do well. It is great to see that we have representatives from all aspects including industry, governments, philanthropy, academia and even showbiz.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us compile the list and please feel free to share it with your colleagues.



Paul Knoepfler
Associate Professor
UC Davis School of Medicine

Dr Paul Knoepfler is an Associate Professor in Cell Biology and Human Anatomy at the UC Davis School of Medicine, where his lab studies stem cells and cancer. He is also a faculty member of the UC Davis Genome Center and leader of the Cancer Stem Cell Initiative at the UCD Comprehensive Cancer Center. He also teaches graduate courses in stem cells and is an instructor for the histology course at UCD School of Medicine. He is a cancer survivor, patient advocate, writer, and is currently the only faculty level academic blogger on stem cell research in the world.

49



Dr Catherine Prescott Owner **Biolatris**

Cathy brings over 20 years of experience in research, management and business within the life-science and venture capital sectors. She is the Founder Director of Biolatris Ltd., Co-founder and Director of UniverCELL Market , Chair of the UK National Stem Cell Network Advisory Committee, Director of the EESCN Life Sciences Advisory Board member for the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA, USA) and Advisory Committee member for the charity DebRA. Cathy is experienced in technology assessment, market positioning, business development, strategic planning, raising venture funds and private investment. She is a recognised opinion leader within the stem cell and regenerative medicine business sector.

48



Michael Werner
Partner
Holland and Knight

Michael Werner has more than 25 years of healthcare law, lobbying, policy development and regulatory experience in Washington. In addition to forming the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine and serving as its Executive Director, he is also a partner at the law firm Holland & Knight, LLP.

He focuses on issues affecting biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, researchers and research institutions, health care investors, physicians, and patients with particular expertise in regenerative medicine.



Eduardo Bravo
Chief Executive Officer
TiGenix

Mr. Bravo has more than 20 years experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He held several senior management positions at Sanofi-Aventis, including Vice President for Latin America, a division with 2000 employees and sales of more than €1 billion. At Sanofi-Aventis he also held senior positions in Marketing and Sales for Europe and he was General Manager for Belgium. Prior to his tenure at Sanofi-Aventis, Mr. Bravo was for 7 years at SmithKline Beecham in sales positions both nationally and internationally. Mr. Bravo holds a degree in Business Administration and an MBA (INSEAD), and is co-Chair of the Alliance of Advanced Therapies.

46



Dr Christian SchneiderChair **CAT, European Medicines Agency**

Dr. med. Christian K Schneider is Senior Medical Officer at the Danish Health and Medicines Authority (formerly the Danish Medicines Agency) since 2011. At the European Medicines Agency, he is the Chairman of the Committee for Advanced Therapies (CAT) since 2009, and also the Chairman of the CHMP Working Party on Similar Biological (Biosimilar) Medicinal Products. Between September 2007 and July 2011, he was a member of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP), co-opted for the area of Advanced Therapies – Gene, Cell and Tissue Therapies.

45



Ram Mandalam
President and Chief Executive
Officer
Cellerant Therapeutics

Ram Mandalam, joined the company in 2005. Ram was previously Executive Director of Product Development at Geron Corporation, where he managed the development and manufacturing of cell based therapies for treatment of degenerative diseases and cancer. Prior to Geron, he was Director of Developmental Research at Aastrom Biosciences, where he was responsible for the research and development programs involving ex vivo expansion of human bone marrow stem cells and dendritic cells. Dr. Mandalam received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan.



Dr Alan LewisChief Executive Officer **Medistem**

Dr Lewis is currently a Management Consultant to various specialty biopharmaceutical companies. He was most recently President, CEO and Chariman of Ambit BioSciences, and previously President and CEO of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and President, CEO and Director of Novocell, Inc.

Dr. Lewis currently serves as a Director of BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc., and BIOCOM. He holds a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Wales in Cardiff and completed his postdoctoral training at Yale University.

43



Dr Paul LaikindChief Executive Officer **ViaCyte**

Paul K. Laikind, has over 25 years of leadership experience in the biotechnology and life sciences industry in San Diego. A serial entrepreneur, Dr. Laikind co-founded and held top executive positions at three San Diego companies that each went public before ultimately being acquired. These include Gensia Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Viagene, Inc., which, like Gensia, was founded upon technology Dr. Laikind helped to create, and, most recently, Metabasis Therapeutics, Inc. where he served as President and Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Laikind holds a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of California, Davis, and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California, San Diego. 42



Susan Solomon Chief Executive Officer New York Stem Cell Foundation

Susan L. Solomon is Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of The New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF), a non-profit organization established in 2005 to accelerate cures through stem cell research.

A longtime health-care advocate, Ms. Solomon is a founding member and current President of NYAMR (New Yorkers for the Advancement of Medical Research), is on the Executive Committee for the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine, and she has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, New York Chapter. Ms. Solomon was also a member of the Strategic Planning Committee of the Empire State Stem Cell Board.



Dr Gael MargolinChief Executive Officer **Gamida Cell**

Dr. Margolin is the president and CEO of Gamida Cell. Prior to joining the company, Dr. Margolin served as vice president of Denali Ventures LLC, where she specialized in investments in pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Dr. Margolin also worked at Teva Pharmaceuticals, where she was responsible for new product initiatives, evaluation of investment opportunities for the R&D division, and multiple drug development programs. Dr. Margolin holds a Ph.D. in Biology from the Weizmann Institute of Science and was a post-doctoral associate at the Yale University School of Medicine.

40



Fred Gage
Professor, Laboratory of
Genetics
Salk Institute

Fred H. Gage, a professor in the Laboratory of Genetics, concentrates on the adult central nervous system and unexpected plasticity and adaptability to environmental stimulation that remains throughout the life of all mammals. His work may lead to methods of replacing or enhancing brain and spinal cord tissues lost or damaged due to Neurodegenerative disease or trauma.

His work may lead to methods of replacing brain tissue lost to stroke or Alzeimers Disease and repairing spinal cordsdamaged by trauma. He is the President-elect of the ISSCR.

39



Dr Jan NoltaStem Cell Program Director **UC Davis**

Dr Nolta is the Director of the Stem Cell Program at UC Davis School of Medicine, and directs the new Institute for Regenerative Cures. The current research in Dr. Nolta's laboratory is focused on developing therapies that will use mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) to deliver factors for treating Huntington's disease and other disorders and injuries. Her group focuses on "bench to the bedside" research, and she has been involved in numerous clinical trials of gene and cell therapy. She is scientific director of the new Good Manufacturing Practice clean room facility at UC Davis, where stem cells of different types are being isolated or expanded for clinical trials.



Keith Murphy
Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer
Organovo

Keith Murphy has more than 17 years of experience in biotechnology, including serving in Product Strategy and Director of Process Development roles at Amgen. His 10 years at Amgen included four years as Global Operations Leader for the largest development program in Amgen's history, Phase 3 osteoporosis/bone cancer drug denosumab. Prior to joining Amgen, Mr. Murphy played a central role at Alkermes, Inc. on the development team for their first approved product, Nutropin (hGH) Depot. He holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is an alumnus of the UCLA Anderson School of Management.

37



Dr Robert PretiCo-Founder, President and CSO

Progenitor Cell Therapy

Robert "Bob" Preti, PhD, is the co-founder, President, and Chief Scientific Officer of PCT. Following the acquisition of PCT by NeoStem Inc. in January 2011, he has also been directing the development and expansion of NeoStem's cell therapy pipeline, as well as participating in setting NeoStem's strategic direction.

Also active in the public health arena, Bob has served on the Stem Cell Banking Committee and Cord Blood Subcommittee of the New York State Department of Health and on the New Jersey state Department of Health's Blood Bank Advisory Committee, chairing the Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Processing Subcommittee.

36



Anthony Atala
Director
Institute for Regenerative
Medicine, Wake Forest

Anthony Atala, M.D., is the Director of the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, and the W.H. Boyce Professor and Chair of the Department of Urology at Wake Forest University.

Dr. Atala is a practicing surgeon and a researcher in the area of regenerative medicine. His current work focuses on growing new human cells, tissues and organs.



Jeff Jonas Presiden, Regenerative Medicine Shire

After a varied career in R&D, commercial and entrepreneurial business roles, Jonas joined Shire in July 2008 as leader of the Speciality Pharmaceuticals (SP) Research & Development team.

Jonas has been closely involved with the RM business since Shire acquired it as Advanced BioHealing in June 2011.

In addition to his role as head of the SP R&D team, he has been leading the RM R&D team and has been a member of the RM leadership team.

34



Michael Hunt President and CEO ReNeuron

Michael Hunt was appointed Chief Executive Officer of ReNeuron in July 2005. Prior to ReNeuron, he spent six years at Biocompatibles International plc (sold to BTG plc) where he held a number of senior financial and general management positions. His early industrial career was spent at Bunzl plc. He sits on the BioIndustry Association's Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine Advisory Committee and its Finance and Tax Advisory Committee. He is a Senior Industry Group member of the UK Government's Office for Life Sciences and a member of the UK Technology Strategy Board's RegenMed Advisory Group.

33



Geoff MacKayChief Executive Officer **Organogenesis**

Geoff MacKay has served in his current leadership role since December 2003. Mr. MacKay provides Organogenesis with significant global, commercial experience spanning the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors.

Mr. MacKay has been specifically involved in the emerging field of regenerative medicine for the last decade. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio), and as Chair of the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine (ARM).



Baron John KrebsPrincipal of Jesus College **Oxford University**

Professor Lord Krebs is Principal of Jesus College, Oxford. He is an internationally renowned scientist in the field of behavioural ecology.

Lord Krebs has published over 300 scientific papers and has co-authored several books including the standard student textbook in his field. He holds 15 Honorary Degrees and numerous awards and medals for his scientific work. He is a Trustee of the Nuffield Foundation, Chairman of the UK Science and Technology Honours Committee, and Chairman of the House of Lords Select Committee for Science and Technology. He sits on the UK Climate Change Committee and chairs its Adaptation Sub-Committee.

31



Paul Kemp CEO and CSO Intercytex

Paul has been involved in commercial regenerative medicine for over 20 years. He has a successful track record in virtually all aspects of the business from founding biotech companies, raising significant public and private funding in Europe, US and Asia; designing, building and operating GMP facilities in the US and UK; designing and operating clinical trials including extensive interactions with the MHRA, EMA and FDA; operating multi national, multi centre Phase I, II and III studies, and finally, launching marketing and selling cell based products both in the US and UK. He is the inventor on several patents related to multiple regenerative medicine products both in development and on the market and publishes and presents widely in the field.

30



Robin Smith
Chairman & CEO
Neostem

Dr. Robin L. Smith became the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of NeoStem effective June 2, 2006, after first joining the Company as Chairman of its Advisory Board in September 2005, Dr. Smith brings to NeoStem expertise in business development and medicine, including her extensive and diversified experience serving in executive and board capacities in medical enterprises and healthcare-based entities. During her tenure over the past six years as Chairman and CEO. Dr. Smith has successfully led the company to coamplete five acquisitions and raise over 100 million dollars toward building a leading company in the emerging cell therapy industry.



Professor Silviu Itescu Chief Executive Officer Mesoblast

Professor Itescu has established an outstanding international reputation as a physician scientist in the fields of stem cell biology, autoimmune diseases, organ transplantation, and heart failure. He is currently an active faculty member of the University of Melbourne and Monash University and was previously a faculty member of Columbia University in New York. Professor Itescu has consulted for various international pharmaceutical companies, has been an adviser to biotechnology and health care investor groups, and has served on the Board of Directors of a number of publicly-listed life sciences companies.

28



Devyn Smith Chief Operating Officer Neusentis Research Unit, Pfizer

Devyn Smith joined Pfizer's Neusentis Research Unit in September 2011 as Chief Operating Officer responsible for strategy and operations for the unit and in working with the Neusentis Leadership Team in implementing key strategies. Neusentis is focused on developing assets for pain and sensory disorders as well as developing the Regenerative Medicine portfolio.

Smith received his Ph.D. in Genetics from Harvard Medical School where his research culminated in 12 publications in leading journals such as *Cell, Nature*, and *Development*. He also holds an M.S. in Biology from Idaho State University and a B.S. in Zoology from Brigham Young University

27



Gil van Bokkelen President and CEO **Athersys**

Dr. Van Bokkelen has served as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman since August 2000. Dr. Van Bokkelen co-founded Athersys in October 1995 and served as Chief Executive Officer and Director since Athersys' founding. Prior to May 2006, he also served as Athersys' President.

Dr. Van Bokkelen is the current Chairman of the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine, a Washington D.C. based consortium of companies, patient advocacy groups, disease foundations, and clinical and research institutions that are committed to the advancement of the field of regenerative medicine. He is also the Chairman of the Board of Governors for the National Center for Regenerative Medicine.



Leanna Caron Vice President, and General Manager, Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine Sanofi-Genzyme

Leanna is a healthcare executive with 17 years of global marketing and business management experience.

She is currently Vice President and General Manager at Genzyme, a Sanofi company, overseeing the global commercial operations for the Cell Therapy & Regenerative Medicine business.

While at Genzyme, Leanna has held senior positions in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

25



Christopher Calhoun Chief Executive Officer Cytori Therapeutics

Christopher J. Calhoun is a co-founder of Cytori Therapeutics and has served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Vice-Chairman and Director of the Board since 1997. He previously served as President from 1996 through 1998. Mr. Calhoun is the coinventor on multiple U.S. and International patents for medical devices and implant instrumentation. Mr. Calhoun was also involved in research and management for the Plastic Surgery Bone Histology and Histometry Laboratory at the University of California, San Diego. Mr. Calhoun is a cofounder and Chairman of the Board of Leonardo MD, and has previously served on the Board of Directors of StemSource, Inc.

24



Kristin Comella Chief Scientific Officer Bioheart

Kristin Comella has over 14 years experience in corporate entities with expertise in regenerative medicine, training and education, research, product development and senior management. She has more than 12 years of cell culturing experience including building and managing the stem cell laboratory at Tulane University's Center for Gene Therapy and developing stem cell therapies for osteoarthritis at Osiris Therapeutics. She has been a member of the Bioheart senior management team since 2004 and is currently serving as its Chief Scientific Officer.

She currently serves on multiple boards in the stem cell arena.



Robert Deans Executive Vice President, RM Athersys

Dr. Deans has served as the Executive Vice President since 2011. Dr. Deans has led Athersys' regenerative medicine research and development activities since February 2003, initially as Vice President of Regenerative Medicine, until he was named Senior Vice President of Regenerative Medicine in June 2006, and Executive Vice President in June 2011. Dr. Deans is highly regarded as an expert in stem cell therapeutics, with over fifteen years of experience in this field.

22



Bernard SiegelFounder and Executive Director **Genetics Policy Institute**

Bernard Siegel is the founder and full-time executive director of the nonprofit Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) based in Wellington, (Palm Beach County) Florida.

Mr Siegel serves on the board of directors of the Coalition for Advancement of Medical Research and Americans for Cures Foundation. He also serves on the executive committee of the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine and chaired that group's nominating committee. He is a past co-chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee of the International Society for Stem Cell Research.

21



Robert Klein Chair Emeritus California Institute for Regenerative Medicine

In 2003, Bob was the author of California's Proposition 71, the \$6 billion "California Stem Cell Research and Cures" ballot initiative. The objective of Proposition 71 was to finance \$3 billion in the form of Treasury bills issued by the State of California to support the research on stem cells and \$3 billion to cover the interest for 35 years - a total of \$6 billion. For the first 7 years of its existence, Mr. Klein served as the Chairman of the Governing Board of the CIRM established by Proposition 71 to manage the research funds and the peer review, standards, and grant process for the \$3 billion in stem cell research funding authorised by the Initiative. Hewas elected Chairman Emeritus on June 23rd, 2011.



Ronnda Bartel Chief Scientific Officer Aastrom Biosciences

Ronnda joined Aastrom in 2006 and is responsible for the scientific direction of the company, including research, development and technical operations. She has more than 20 years of research and product development experience.

Ronnda holds a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Kansas, has completed postdoctoral work at the University of Michigan and received a BA in chemistry and biology from Tabor College.

19



Zami Aberman Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Pluristem

Mr. Aberman Chairman & CEO joined Pluristem in September 2005 and changed the Company's strategy towards cellular therapeutics. Mr. Aberman's vision to use the maternal section of the Placenta (Decidua) as a source for cell therapy, combined with Pluristem's 3D culturing technology, led to the development of company unique products.

Mr. Aberman has 20 years of experience in marketing and management in the high technology industry. He has held positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman in Israel, the USA, Europe, Japan and Korea.

18



Martin McGlynn President & Chief Executive Officer StemCells, Inc

Martin McGlynn joined StemCells, Inc. in January of 2001 as President and Chief Executive Officer and was elected to our Board of Directors on February 6, 2001. Mr. McGlynn has spent several decades in the life sciences industry in Europe, Canada and the United States. He began his career with Becton Dickinson, Ireland Ltd., and spent eight years in manufacturing operations.

He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Irish Industries (CII) and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada (PMAC), and currently serves as a member of the Board of the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine.



Keith Thompson Chief Executive Officer Catapult Cell Therapy Centre (TSB)

Keith Thompson was appointed Chief Executive of the Cell Therapy Catapult, part of a Technology Strategy Board initiative to improve UK economic capability by bridging the gap between academic invention and commercialisation, in May 2012. Mr Thompson joined the Catapult from the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service where he was National Director, focusing on modernising the blood supply, and expanding the service into cell therapy. Prior to this Mr Thompson held various senior domestic and international positions where he grew several biomanufacturing businesses to become global players.

16



Stephen MingerGlobal Director of R&D, **Cell**Technologies, GE Healthcare **GE Healthcare**

Dr. Orin Levine is Director of stem cell Delivery at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, where he leads the Foundation's efforts to accelerate the introduction of new stem cells and related technologies and to improve routine immunization systems. He is the Foundation's focal point for engagement with the GAVI Alliance, whose mission is saving children's lives by increasing access to immunization in poor countries. Before that he was Executive Director of IVAC and Professor of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

15



Richard Garr
Director and Chief Executive
Officer
Neuralstem

Richard Garr, JD, has been a director and our Chief Executive Officer since 1996. Mr. Garr was previously an attorney with Beli, Weil & Jacobs, the B&G Companies, and Circle Management Companies. Mr. Garr is a graduate of Drew University (1976) and the Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America (1979). Additionally, he was a founder and current Board member of the First Star Foundation, a children's charity focused on abused children's issues; a founder of The Starlight Foundation Mid Atlantic chapter, which focuses on helping seriously ill children.



Gregory Bonfiglio Managing Partner Proteus Venture Partners

Mr Bonfiglio is the Founder & Managing Partner of Proteus, LLC – an investment and advisory firm focused solely on regenerative medicine. Proteus provides fund management, consulting, and investment banking services to the regenerative medicine industry. Proteus works with RM companies across all stages of development from early stage to large pharma, as well as governmental entities pursuing RM initiatives..

13



Randall Mills
President and CEO
Osiris Therapeutics

Dr Mills is also a member of the Board of Directors. Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. currently has two product candidates in clinical trials for a number of indications. Prochymal, an intravenously administered formulation of mesenchymal stem cells, is being evaluated in Phase 3 clinical trials for several indications, including acute graft versus host disease (GvHD) and also Crohn's disease. It is the only stem cell therapeutic currently designated by FDA as both an Orphan Drug and Fast Track product.

12



Thomas Okarma
Chief Executive Officer
BioTime Acquisition Corp.

Chief Executive Officer of BioTime
Acquisition Corporation, is an internationally recognized biotechnology executive and industry pioneer, and is acknowledged as a preeminent spokesman for stem cell – based therapeutics and regenerative medicine.
Serving as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Geron Corporation for 12 years, he managed the development of Geron's human embryonic stem cell program from inception to the initiation of the world's first FDA-authorized hESC human clinical trial in spinal cord injury – a milestone in the history of biotechnology.



Brock Reeve Executive Director Harvard Stem Cell Institute

Brock Reeve, a graduate of Yale and the Harvard Business School, is Executive Director of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute. In partnership with the Faculty Directors, he has overall responsibility for the operations and strategy of the institute whose mission is to use stem cells, both as tools and as therapies, to understand and treat the root causes of leading degenerative diseases.

10



Sir John Gurdon, Distinguished Group Leader, Wellcome Trust/CRUK Gurdon Institute in Cambridge

Sir John Bertrand Gurdon is a British development Biologist. He is best known for his pioneering research in nuclear transplantation and cloning. He was awarded the Laskar Award in 2009.

In 2012, he and Shinya Yamanaka were awarded the Novel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for the discovery that mature cells can be converted to stem cells. His Nobel Lecture was called "The Egg and the Nucleus: A Battle for Supremacy".

9



Dr Mahendra RaoDirector, Centre for
Regenerative Medicine **NIH**

Dr Rao is internationally renowned for his research involving human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) and other somatic stem cells. He has worked in the stem cell field for more than 20 years, with stints in academia, government and regulatory affairs and industry. Most recently, he returned in August 2011 to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as Director of the new NIH Center for Regenerative Medicine (NIH CRM). He co-founded Q Therapeutics, a neural stem cell company based in Salt Lake City.



Michael West
Chief Executive Officer
BioTime

Dr West, became Chief Executive Officer during October 2007, and has served on the Board of Directors since 2002. Prior to becoming our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. West served as Chief Executive Officer, President, and Chief Scientific Officer of Advanced Cell Technology, Inc., a company engaged in developing human stem cell technology for use in regenerative medicine. Dr West also founded Geron Corporation of Menlo Park, California.

7



Alan Trounson,
President
Californian Institute for
Regenerative Medicine

Prior to joining CIRM in January 2008, Trounson Dr Trounson founded the National Biotechnology Centre of Excellence – 'Australian Stem Cell Centre'. He has been a pioneer of human in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and associated reproductive technologies; the diagnosis of inherited genetic disease in preimplantation embryos; the discovery and production of human embryonic stem cells and of their ability to be directed into neurones, prostate tissue and respiratory tissue.

6



Arnold Caplan
Chief Scientific Officer
OrthoCyte Corp.

Arnold Caplan, has been Chief Scientific Officer of OrthoCyte Corporation, a subsidiary of BioTime, Inc., since June 2010. Dr Caplan is a Professor of Biology & General Medical Sciences (Oncology), Director of Cellular and Molecular Basis for the Aging Training Program of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and serves as its Director of the Skeletal Research Center. Dr. Caplan cofounded Cell Targeting Inc., founded and served as President of Skeletech, Inc., and served as Chief Scientific Officer and founder of Osiris Therapeutics, Inc.

Dr Douglas Melton Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Harvard University Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology

Doug Melton is co-founding director of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI), a leading stem cell and regenerative biologist, and one of the driving forces behind Harvard's ascendency to world leadership in the field.

Dr Melton is an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor in the Natural Sciences at Harvard University.

Dr Melton earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Illinois and then went to Cambridge University in England as a Marshall Scholar. He earned a B.A. in history and philosophy of science at Cambridge and remained there to earn a Ph.D. in molecular biology at Trinity College and the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology.

Dr Melton serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Genetics Policy Institute, holds membership in the National Academy of Science and is a founding member of the International Society for Stem Cell Research.



Dr Robert LanzaChief Scientific Officer **Advanced Cell Technology**

Robert Lanza, is currently Chief Scientific Officer at Advanced Cell Technology. He has hundreds of publications and inventions, and over 30 scientific books: among them, "Principles of Tissue Engineering" and "Essentials of Stem Cell Biology," which are recognised as the definitive references in the field.

Dr Robert Lanza joined ACT in 1999 and has over 30 years of research and industrial experience in the area of stem cells and regenerative medicine. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at the Institute for Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He has several hundred of publications and inventions, and over two dozen scientific books: among them, "Essentials of Stem Cell Biology" and "Principles of Tissue Engineering" which are recognized as the definitive references in the field. Others include "Principles of Regenerative Medicine" and "One World: The Health & Survival of the Human Species in the 21st Century" (as editor, with forewords by C. Everett Koop and former President Jimmy Carter).

If all goes to plan for ACT and Dr Lanza, 2013 should see the first human trial of "rewound" cells. These are produced by turning adult cells back to a stem cell state and then coaxing them into becoming another type of cell. It will mark a milestone in the ability to generate new tissue – and maybe whole organs – from people's own cells.



Prof. Chris Mason

Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine
Bioprocessing Unit, ACBE
University College London

Professor Chris Mason is internationally recognised to be at the forefront of the emerging fields of cell therapy and regenerative medicine translation and commercialization. A background in basic science, clinical medicine, bioprocessing and business allows Chris a unique insight and understanding of the challenges facing the cell-based therapy sector as it grows into a competitive and sustainable global healthcare industry.

Chris holds a Clinical Sciences degree from Imperial College London, a Medical degree from the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals (now King's College London) and a PhD under the supervision of Prof. Peter Dunnill in tissue-engineering bioprocessing from University College London.

Chris is on a number of national and international committees, working groups and initiatives related to the academic, clinical and commercial advancement of cell-based therapies and tissue engineering including; Chair of the BIA Cell Therapy & Regenerative Medicine Industry Group and member of the ISSCR Industry Committee, the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine (ARM) Communication & Education Committee and ISCT Commercialization Committee. In May 2012, he became the first President of The Regenerative Medicine Coalition. He is a Senior Partner at Proteus Venture Partners, has a broad range of expertise in commercial consultancy and is on the Scientific Advisory Boards of a number of companies.



Dr James Thomson

American Developmental Biologist and Founder and Chief Scientific Officer

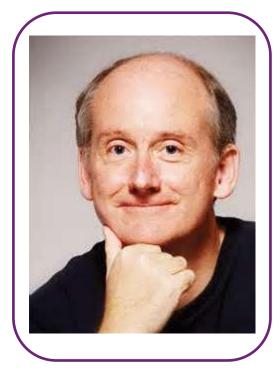
Cellular Dynamics International

James Alexander Thomson is an American development biologist best known for deriving the first human embryonic stem cell (SC) line in 1998 and for deriving human induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells in 2007.

He serves as Director of Regenerative Biology at the Morgridge Institute for Research in Madison, Wisconsin, is a professor in the Department of Cell and Regenerative Biology at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and a professor in the Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is also a founder and Chief Scientific Officer for Cellular Dynamics International, a Madison-based company producing derivatives of human induced pluripotent stem cells for drug discovery and toxicity testing.

Thomson is a member of the National Acadamy of Sciences and the recipient of numerous awards and prizes. He was on the cover of TIME Magazine's "America's Best in Science & Medicine" feature in 2001 for his work with human embryonic stem cells, and again in 2008 when the magazine named him one of the world's 100 most influential people for his derivation of human induced pluripotent stem cells.

In 2011, Thomson was co-recipient, with Dr Shinya Yamanaka, of the King Faisal International Prize and the Albany Medical Center Prize.



Dr Shinya Yamanaka

Director, Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Professor

Institute for Frontier Medical Sciences, Kyoto University



Dr Shinya Yamanaka is a Japanese physician and researcher of adult stem cells. He serves as the director of Center for iPS Cell Research and Application and a professor at the Institute for Frontier Medical Sciences at Kyoto University.; as a senior investigator at the UCSF-affiliated J David Gladstone Institutes in San Francisco, California; and as a professor of anatomy at University of California, San Francisco UCSF). Yamanaka is also the current president of the International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR).

He received the Wolf Prize in Medicine in 2011 with Rudolf Jaenisch, the Milennium Technology Prize in 2012 together with Linus Torvalds.

In 2012 he and John Gurdon were awarded the Novel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for the discovery that mature cells can be converted to stem cells.

In 2013 he was awarded the \$3 million Breakthrough Prize in Lifesciences for his work.

We'd love to hear your views on all of this...

Join the conversation



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We'd love to meet you too...

The World Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Congress is now in its 8th year. It is Europe's biggest and most comprehensive event for the stem cell and regenerative medicine industry.

Over 60% of our attendees come from the World's leading pharma, biotechs and academia.

Combining a high level conference with a focused exhibition and adding in guaranteed meetings with targeted buyers in a 1-2-1 partnering format makes this event the one must-attend event for the whole stem cell market.

To learn more about the World Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Congress, visit the website.

Be sure to check out our blog for more information about science and innovation in stem cells.



