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CONTACT: Tania Blanich, NYSCF
212.787.4111 x 101
tBlanich@nyscf.org

The New York Stem Cell Foundation Joins All New Yorkers in Welcoming Governor David Paterson

Susan L. Solomon, Chief Executive Officer of The New York Stem Cell Foundation, today released a brief statement regarding the appointment of David A. Paterson as Governor of the State of New York:

“As head of The New York Stem Cell Foundation, I have had the distinct privilege of working closely with Governor Paterson and his staff over the past three years. Governor Paterson has been a long-term champion of stem cell research. His foresight and passion in establishing the Empire State Stem Cell Board has positioned New York State as the national leader in stem cell research, offering hope to the millions who suffer from debilitating illnesses and chronic diseases.

It has been inspiring to watch the Governor apply the political expertise he demonstrated while he was Senate Minority Leader to bring to fruition his vision for a \$600 million cutting-edge scientific research initiative for the state. It is a testament to Governor Paterson’s leadership that funds from last spring’s stem cell initiative are already in the hands of New York State researchers. New York now has the capacity to attract the best scientific minds and there is renewed promise of breakthrough research to help our citizens.

We wish Governor Paterson and his staff well, and know that they have the experience and commitment needed to run the great state of New York and lead it into the future.”

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About The New York Stem Cell Foundation

Founded in 2005, the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) is a privately funded organization dedicated to furthering human embryonic stem cell research to advance the search for cures of the major diseases of our time. The Foundation opened the first privately funded human embryonic stem cell laboratory in New York in March 2006 to serve as a “safe haven” where scientists from academic medical centers in the New York area and throughout the East Coast can conduct advanced human embryonic stem cell research free of the federal restrictions that limit the scope of government-supported work. The organization’s mission is to support scientists engaged in human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research and somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT), through grants, fellowships and symposia; to educate the public about the importance and potential benefits of hESC research and SCNT; and to establish new collaborative, state-of-the-art research facilities supported entirely with private funds and directly focused on curing disease.