



# Stem Cell Policy in the Obama Age September 14, 2009

in conjunction with Stem Cells: Saving Lives or Crossing Lines — Texas-U.K. Collaboration

James A. Baker III Hall, Rice University





British Consulate-General Houston

# science&technologypolicy

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy • Rice University

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Agenda
5:00 pm

Reception

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Introduction and Welcoming Remarks May Akrawi, Ph.D. Consul, Science and Innovation, British Consulate-General, Houston

#### Malcolm Gillis, Ph.D.

Ervin K. Zingler Professor of Economics; Executive Director, TX–UK Collaborative; and Former President, Rice University

#### Paul Lynch

H.M. Consul-General, British Consulate-General, Houston

#### **Keynote Presentations**

Stem Cell Policy in the Obama Age Neal F. Lane, Ph.D. Malcolm Gillis University Professor; and Senior Fellow, James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Rice University

Human Reproduction and Embryonic Research: A U.K. Perspective on Legislation and Regulation **Lord Naren Patel, M.D., D.Sc.** Chairman of the U.K. National Stem Cell Network Steering Committee

# About the Event

"Texas–U.K. Collaboration" is the fifth conference in the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy's "Stem Cells: Saving Lives or Crossing Lines" series. The event brings together researchers from Texas and the United Kingdom to find common projects for collaboration. Speakers will discuss advancements in the fields of stem cell biology and policy with regard to policy roadblocks and policy changes in the Obama administration.

Co-sponsors for the conference are the TX-UK Collaborative and the Science and Innovation Team of the British Consulate-General Houston. In addition, support for this conference and the Baker Institute International Stem Cell Policy Program has been generously provided by the State of Qatar and the Emir of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, through the State of Qatar Endowment for International Stem Cell Policy. Funding for this event was also provided by Stematix, Inc.

## **Participant Biographies**

May Akrawi, Ph.D., is the British consul for science and innovation of the British Consulate-General, Houston. Akrawi has a keen interest in technology transfer and development, and before her appointment to the British Consulate she worked with In Vitro Technologies to head up their first European office in London. In that position, she worked in a scientific and business development and marketing role to establish a network of pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients for the company, as well as initiate collaborations on new R&D projects. Akrawi also worked with the Wellcome Trust promoting "The Public Understanding of Science" and conducting genomics workshops for visitors and students. Additionally, she was a scientific research analyst at a U.S. law firm, specializing in scientific issues relating to product liability litigation for blue-chip clients and establishing networks of scientific and medical consultants worldwide. Akrawi has also held the position of program manager for pharmaceutical discovery at a business information company. She received her B.Sc. in biochemistry and Ph.D. in molecular biology, both from University College London, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute for Molecular Biology in Barcelona investigating genomic microsatellite sequences.

**Malcolm Gillis, Ph.D.**, is the Ervin K. Zingler Professor of Economics at Rice University and the executive director of the TX–UK Collaborative. After distinguished careers at Harvard and Duke Universities, Gillis served as president of Rice for more than a decade. He has dedicated more than 25 years of his professional career to teaching and applying economic analysis

to important issues of public policy spanning nearly 20 countries. He has published more than 70 journal articles and authored several leading economic textbooks. He was co-founder and chair of the board of trustees of the Center for World Environment and Sustainable Development and the Duke Center for Tropical Conservation. From 2005 to 2008, Gillis was chair of BIOHOUSTON, an organization promoting Houston as a major center for the biotechnology industry. In 2008, Texas was ranked in the top five locations in the world for the development of the biotech industry. In March 2008, he was appointed by the governor of Texas to serve as vice chairman on the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee, a \$3 billion effort over the next decade. Gillis holds several degrees, including a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Florida and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

**Neal F. Lane, Ph.D.**, is the senior fellow in science and technology policy at the Baker Institute. He is also the Malcolm Gillis University Professor at Rice University and professor in the department of physics and astronomy. Previously, Lane served in the federal government as assistant to the president for science and technology and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) from August 1998 to January 2001, and he served as director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and member (ex officio) of the National Science Board from October 1993 to August 1998. Before his post with NSF, Lane was provost and professor of physics at Rice, a position he had held since 1986. He first came to the university in 1966, when he joined the department of physics as an assistant professor. In 1972, he became professor of physics and space physics and astronomy. He left Rice from mid-1984 to 1986 to serve as chancellor of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Additionally, from 1979 to 1980, while on leave from Rice, he worked at the NSF as director of the Division of Physics. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and other honorary and professional associations. In 2009, he was awarded the National Academy of Sciences Pubic Welfare Medal, the American Institute of Physics K.T. Compton Medal and the Association of Rice Alumni Gold Medal. Lane received his Ph.D., M.S. and B.S. in physics from the University of Oklahoma.

**Paul Lynch** serves as the British Consul–General in Houston, Texas. He joined the Diplomatic Service in 1999 after several years of policy jobs in the Home Office and Cabinet Office in London. Lynch served in Tokyo from 1996–2000 as first secretary for science and technology and was on full–time language training at the British Embassy Japanese Language School from 2000 to 2001. In late 2001 he worked in the Commercial Section of the British Embassy in Tokyo, before taking up the position of commercial consul in Osaka from 2002 to 2005. Lynch took over as Consul–General Osaka in 2005 until his departure in April 2007. Before joining the Diplomatic Service, Lynch worked

in the Home Office on prisoners' rights, the police and race relations, the government response to the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, and the Criminal Justice Act 2004, with a particular focus on the provisions relating to the accused's right to silence. From 1994 to 1996, Lynch was private secretary to the parliamentary secretary in the Cabinet Office, with a portfolio including public services and science policy. Lynch was educated at The Hatfield Polytechnic and the London School of Economics.

Lord Naren Patel of Dunkeld, M.D., D.Sc., is chairman of the U.K. National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN) Steering Committee of the Stem Cell Bank and the Use of Stem Cell Lines. He is also chairman of the National Patient Safety Agency of England and Wales and chancellor of the University of Dundee. His academic and clinical interests were in the field of high-risk obstetrics. He has published on preterm labor, fetal growth retardation and obstetric epidemiology. He is a fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, honorary fellow of several Royal Colleges in the United Kingdom, Ireland and overseas, and has received honorary doctorates in the United Kingdom and overseas. Previously, Lord Patel was also a member of the board of the Armed Forces Pay Review. He currently sits in the House of Lords having received a knighthood in 1997 and elevation to the peerage in 1999. There, he is a member of the Science and Technology Committee. He is currently chairman of the U.K. Stem Cell Oversight Committee and the U.K. Stem Cell Network. Lord Patel studied medicine at Queen's College, University of St. Andrews and has worked in the medical field for over thirty years.

### Science and Technology Policy Program

The mission of the Science and Technology Policy Program is to provide a space for policymakers and scientists to engage in substantive dialogue on pressing scientific issues facing the nation and the world. Through this program, the Baker Institute sponsors a series of workshops, lectures, research projects and conferences designed to address a broad range of policy issues that affect scientists and their research, as well as the application of science for the public good. These issues include space, health and medicine, energy and the environment, national and domestic security, science education, and the federal government's support of science and technology. The program is run by Neal Lane, senior fellow in science and technology policy, and Kirstin Matthews, fellow in science and technology policy and program manager. Details and descriptions of the Science and Technology Policy Program's projects can be found at http:// science.bakerinstitute.org.

### TX-UK Collaborative

The TX–UK Collaborative fosters cross–disciplinary collaborations among researchers in world class institutions in Texas and the United Kingdom, building new areas of research and building capacity. The cross–disciplinary research at the interface of the nano, bio and info sciences creates new ideas, techniques, products and opportunities. The collaborative supports thematic workshops and research planning meetings bringing researchers from diverse backgrounds together focusing on specific problems, as well as exchange visits to facilitate research programs. It has contributed significantly to the establishment of research alliances and centers and to the development of technologies. For additional information regarding the collaborative, contact Denis Headon, director, at headon@rice.edu, 713.348.4118 or visit our Web site at www. texasukcollaborative.com.

### Science & Innovation Team, British Consulate General-Houston

The Science & Innovation Team in Houston is part of the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office's network of global science attachés. They work to facilitate collaborations between science and innovation providers and users in the U.K. and the United States in industry, academia and research institutions. In addition, they keep U.K. policymakers fully informed about research and policy developments in the United States, as well as promote the U.K. as a worldclass leader in science and innovation. The S&I Network also reports on policy developments, strategy and emerging priorities and facilitates international negotiations and collaborations in areas such as climate change, stem cell research, nanotechnology and low carbon technologies. For more information, please contact S&I Consul May Akrawi at may.akrawi@fco.gov.uk or 713.659.6270 (x2134).