

April 3, 2008

## **Rell: \$9.8 million for stem cells**

Governor M. Jodi Rell on Thursday said that the state's Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee has directed the allocation of \$9.84 million in stem cell research funds to scientists based in Storrs, Farmington and New Haven. "Connecticut remains at the forefront of investing in and supporting cutting edge research in this emerging field," Rell said. Among the big winners was a group headed by Eugene Redmond, professor of psychiatry and surgery and director of the Yale Neural Transplant Program & Neurobehavior Laboratory. The team was awarded \$1.1 million to study the potential of human embryonic stem cells for to use in transplant therapy for Parkinson's disease.

The committee also awarded \$1.8 million to expand the capacity of the Yale Stem Cell Center to support stem cell research.

This is the second installment of grants from the Stem Cell Research Fund created by a law Governor Rell signed in 2005. Between now and 2015, the committee is tasked with allocating approximately \$100 million to encourage stem cell research in Connecticut.