

Columbia University

EGIR Conference May 19-20, 2006

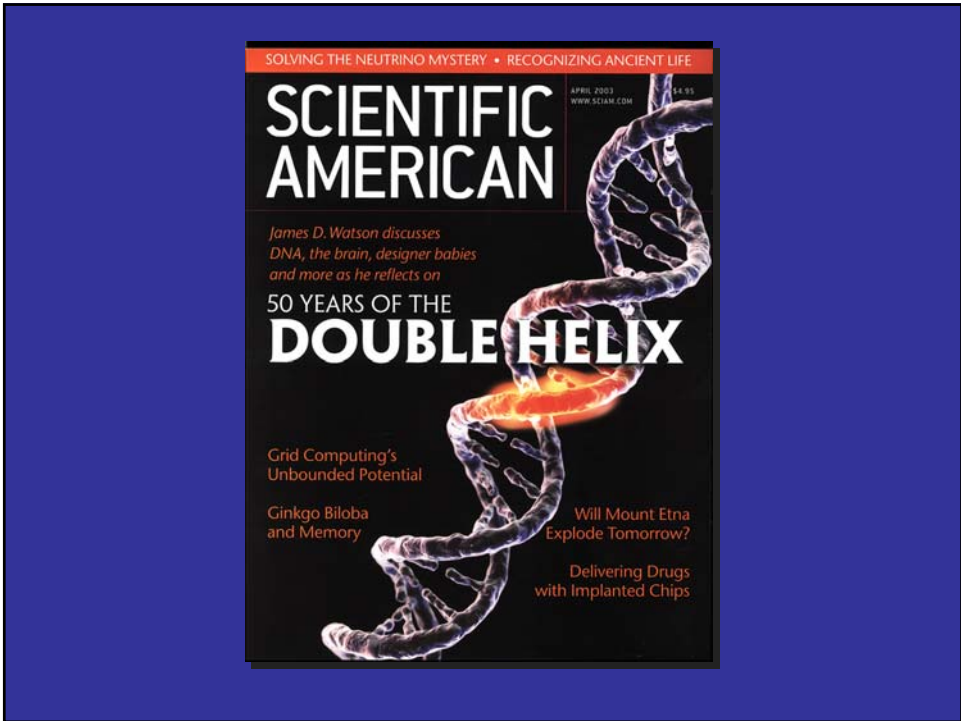
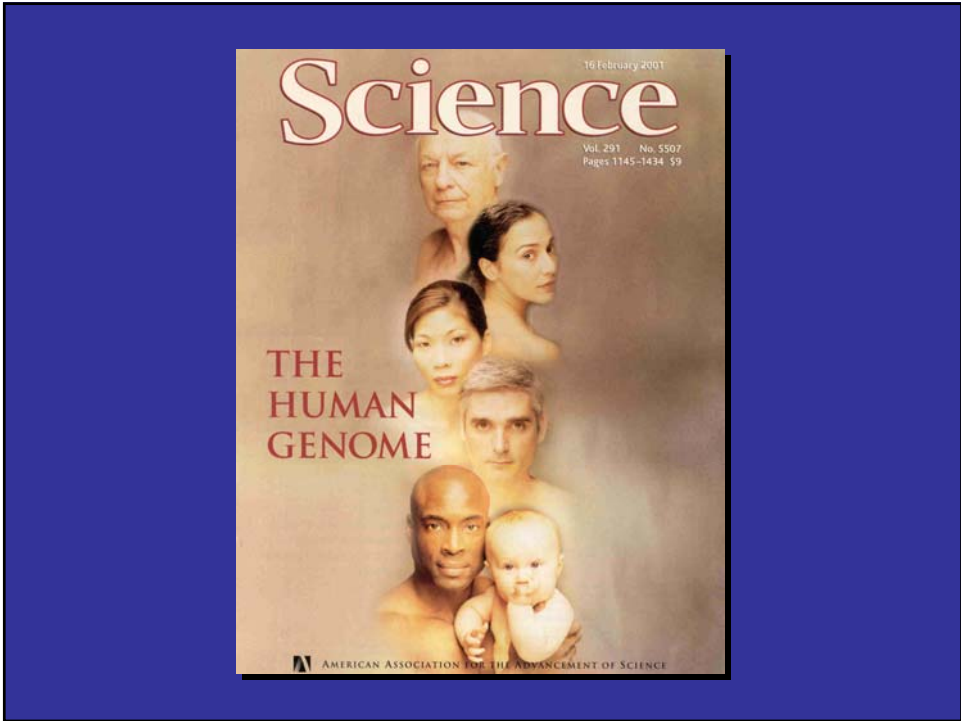
***Ethics of Genetics in Research:  
Perils and Promises***

Ruth L. Fischbach, PhD, MPE

Columbia University Center for Bioethics

**“ The most beautiful experience  
we can have is the mysterious.  
It is the fundamental emotion which  
stands at the cradle of true art  
and true science.”**

*- Albert Einstein*





## GENETICS OF THE ACADIAN PEOPLE

FREE PUBLIC FORUM

August 9, 1999 --- 9 am until 4:30 pm

McNeese State University, Bulber Auditorium  
Lake Charles, LA

Call (318) 237-0032 • info@swlahec.com

Community event organized by LSU Medical Center,  
Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center,  
and Congrès Mondial Acadien - 1999.



## Alzheimer's Gene Therapy Hailed

**The first Alzheimer's patients to test pioneering gene therapy are proof of the treatment's promise, say doctors.**

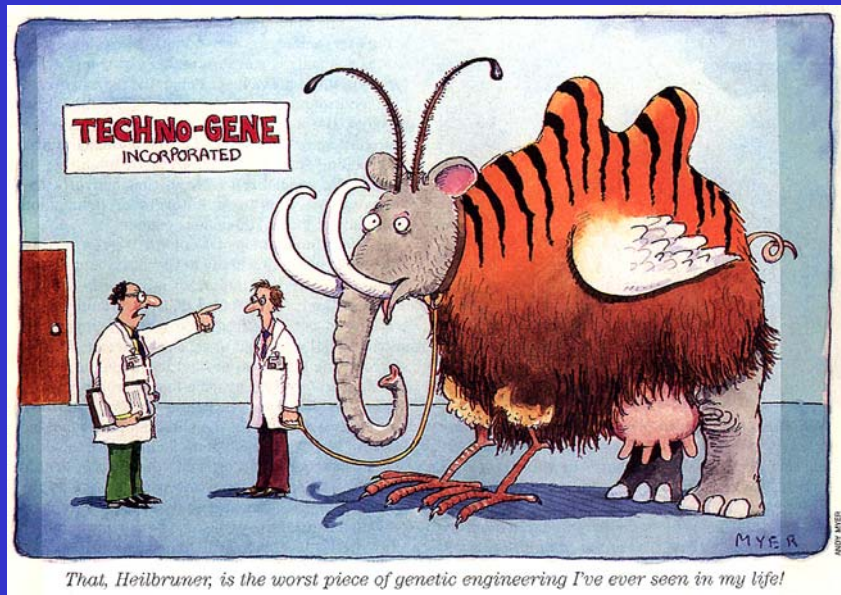
Between 2001 and 2002, surgeons at San Diego's University of California placed genetically modified tissue into the brains of eight Alzheimer's patients. It is designed to boost a naturally occurring protein that stops cell death and stimulates cell function.

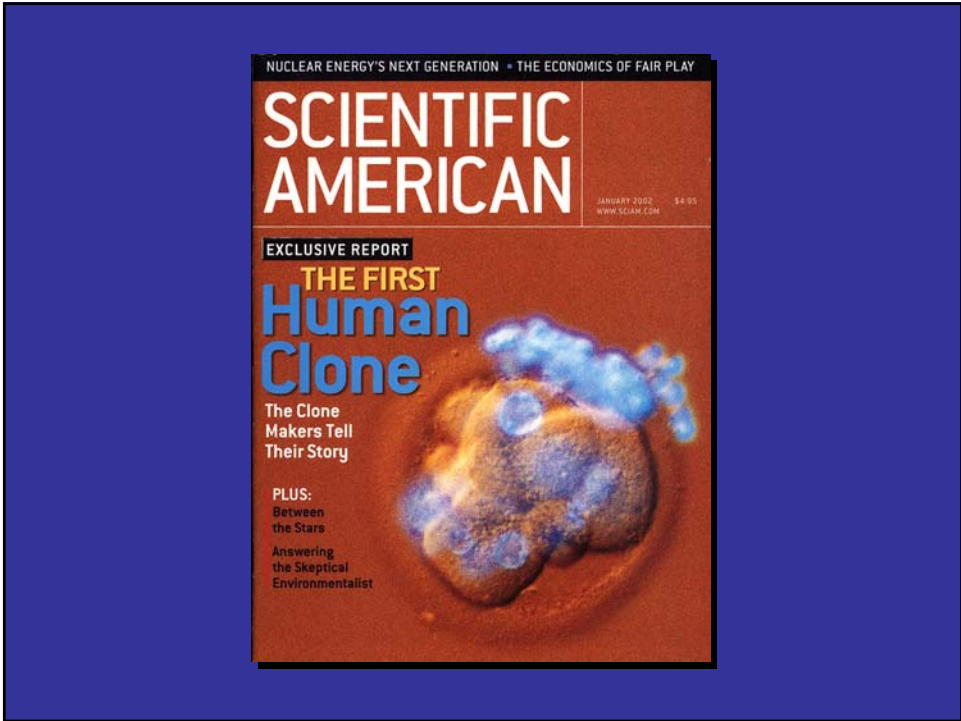
Now six patients are showing signs that the implants have successfully slowed their disease, *Nature Medicine* reports.

**if validated, this would represent a substantially more effective therapy than current treatments for Alzheimer's disease**  
Lead researcher Professor Mark Tuszynski

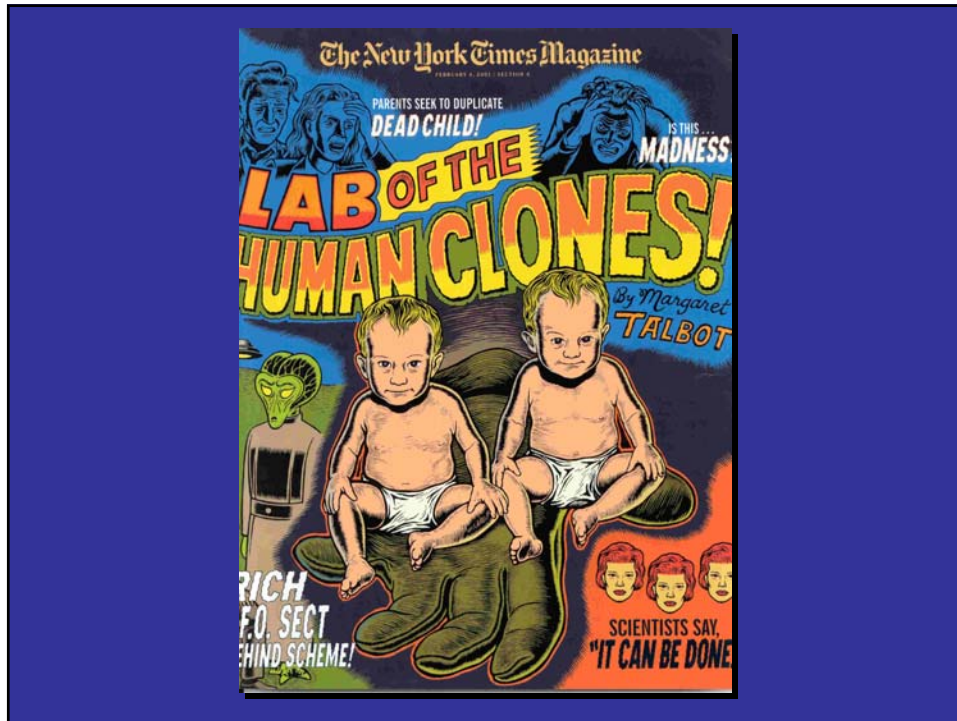
The surgeons decided they were ready to begin trials in humans after getting promising results in primates.

**In the animals, the therapy restored old, shrinking brain cells back to near-normal size and quantity, as well as connections essential for communication between the cells.**







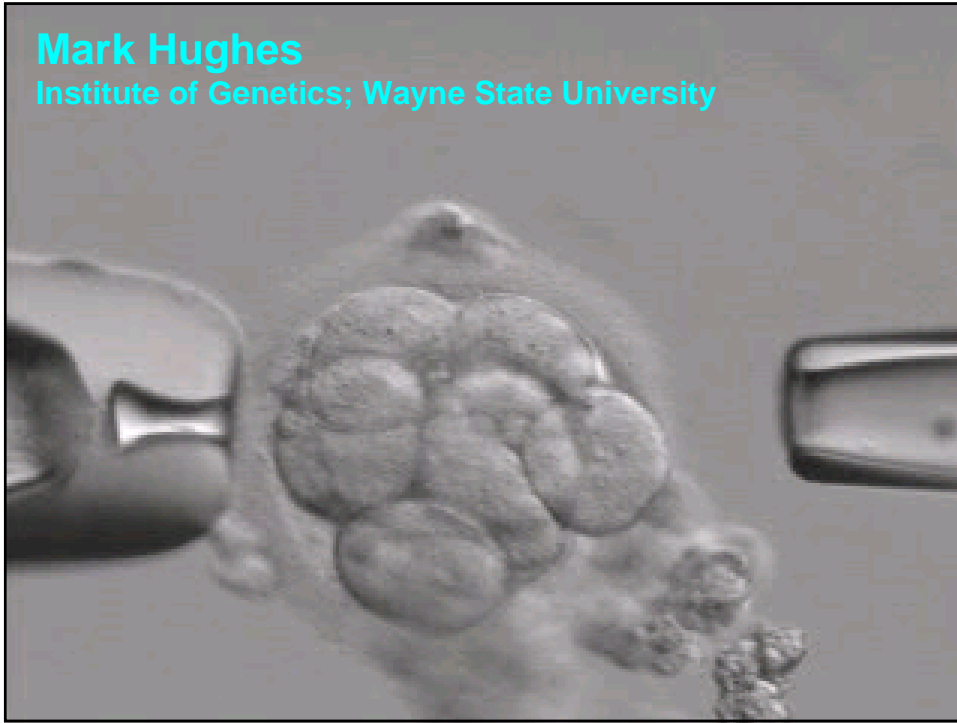


## Ethical Imperative

In research and clinical care,  
our actions should be guided  
not by what we can do,  
but rather what we should do.

**Mark Hughes**

Institute of Genetics; Wayne State University





**“Concern for man himself and his fate must always form the chief interest of all technological endeavors ... in order that the creations of our minds shall be a blessing and not a curse to mankind.”**

*- Albert Einstein*