

Filed Outgoing Message

Jack Melling

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Subject: Jack Melling
Sent: 06/10/96 6:25 PM
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Greetings...

When Josh mentioned Graham Pearson's name, I almost responded with Jack Melling's, but held back because last week the news was still confidential. I have checked -- it is now official -- Jack will become Director of the Salk Institute's vaccine facility at Swiftwater in September or so.

I'd like to suggest his name for membership in our trilateral working group for many obvious reasons. We all know him and our Russian colleagues know him well too, especially Sandakhchiev and Urakov and their respective groups at Koltsovo and Obolensk. I believe he may have projects under way at both. Furthermore, he is organizing a 2-day symposium at CAMR on BIOTECHNOLOGY IN THE CIS to be held later in 1996, as a way of helping salvage promising pieces of technology for further R & D. He serves on several relevant committees, including the UK Chemical and Biological Defense Board.

Also, a couple of afterthoughts following today's teleconference. From my early polio research years at NIH -- John R. Paul of Yale in the 1950s published a study of a large polio epidemic among the Alaska eskimos (Point Barrow?). Could be useful -- I'll try to look up in the files.

As classical Western childhood diseases were causing devastating outbreaks among isolated populations, were there diphtheria epidemics among them? None comes to mind, but may be...and could be of interest in relation to the ongoing diphtheria epidemic in the NIS. (The high incidence rates have moved during the past year from European Russia to Siberia, the Far East, and especially the North -- Yakutsk, Kolyma, etc.) Who knows, may be some victims were buried in the tundra at sites that can still be identified?

Regards to all....

Alexis