Stanford

William Hurlbut

Academic Staff - Hourly - CSL, Neurobiology

Bio

BIO

William B. Hurlbut, MD, is Adjunct Professor and Senior Research Scholar in Neurobiology at the Stanford Medical School. After receiving his undergraduate and medical training at Stanford University, he completed postdoctoral studies in theology and medical ethics, studying with Robert Hamerton-Kelly, the Dean of the Chapel at Stanford, and subsequently with the Rev. Louis Bouyer of the Institut Catholique de Paris.

His primary areas of interest involve the ethical issues associated with advancing biomedical technology, the biological basis of moral awareness, and studies in the integration of theology with the philosophy of biology. He is the author of numerous publications on science and ethics including the co-edited volume Altruism and Altruistic Love: Science, Philosophy, and Religion in Dialogue (2002, Oxford University Press), and “Science, Religion and the Human Spirit” in the Oxford Handbook of Religion and Science (2008). He was also co-chair of two interdisciplinary faculty projects at Stanford University, “Becoming Human: The Evolutionary Origins of Spiritual, Religious, and Moral Awareness” and “Brain, Mind, and Emergence.”

In addition to teaching at Stanford, he has also worked with NASA on projects in astrobiology and was a member of the Chemical and Biological Warfare Working group at the Center for International Security and Cooperation. From 2002-2009 Dr. Hurlbut served on the President’s Council on Bioethics. He is the author of “Altered Nuclear Transfer” (2005, Stem Cell Reviews) a proposed technological solution to the moral controversy over embryonic stem cell research.

Dr. Hurlbut serves as a Steering Committee Member of the Templeton Religion Trust.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Academic Staff - Hourly - CSL, Neurobiology

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- MD, Stanford University Medical School (1974)
- BS, Stanford University , Biology (1968)

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Bioethics

Stem Cell Ethics

Biomedical Technology

Human Nature

Oxytocin

Teaching

COURSES

2023-24

- Social and Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences: NBIO 101, NBIO 201 (Spr)

2022-23

- Social and Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences: NBIO 101, NBIO 201 (Spr)

2021-22

- Social and Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences: NBIO 101, NBIO 201 (Spr)

2020-21

- Social and Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences: NBIO 101, NBIO 201 (Spr)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **CLONES, CHIMERAS, AND ORGANOIDS Developmental biology and the human future** *ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF THE ETHICS OF HUMAN ENHANCEMENT*
  Hurlbut, W., Stull, D., Jotterand, F., Ienca, M.
  2024: 47-76

- **Longitudinal tracking of human plasma oxytocin suggests complex responses to moral elevation.** *Comprehensive psychoneuroendocrinology*
  Parkitny, L., Carter, C. S., Peckins, M. K., Hon, D. A., Saturn, S., Nazarloo, H. P., Hurlbut, W., Knutson, B., Crane, S., Harris, X., Younger, J.
  2022; 9: 100105

- **Ethics and embryonic stem cell research - Altered nuclear transfer as a way forward** *BIODRUGS*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2007; 21 (2): 79-83

- **Science, religion, and the politics of stem cells** *SOCIAL RESEARCH*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2006; 73 (3): 819-834

- **Seeking consensus: A clarification and defense of altered nuclear transfer** *HASTINGS CENTER REPORT*
  Hurlbut, W. B., George, R. P., Grompe, M.
  2006; 36 (5): 42-50

- **Framing the future: Embryonic stem cells, ethics and the emerging era of developmental biology** *PEDIATRIC RESEARCH*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2006; 59 (4): 4R-12R

- **Altered nuclear transfer as a morally acceptable means for the procurement of human embryonic stem cells** *PERSPECTIVES IN BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2005; 48 (2): 211-228

- **Altered nuclear transfer as a morally acceptable means for the procurement of human embryonic stem cells.** *The national Catholic bioethics quarterly*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2005; 5 (1): 145-151

- **Patenting humans: Clones, chimeras, and biological artifacts** *5th International Bioethics Conference*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  SPRINGER.2005: 21–29

- **Altered nuclear transfer - A way forward for embryonic stem cell research** *STEM CELL REVIEWS*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  2005; 1 (4): 293-300
- **Can a morally acceptable way be found to obtain embryonic stem cells?** *Origins*
  Hurlbut, W., Doerflinger, R.
  2004; 34 (27): 429-433
- **On the horizon in biotechnology** *18th Workshop for Bishops of the United States and Canada*
  Hurlbut, W. B.
  NATL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER.2002: 11–29
- **Evolutionary theory and the emergence of moral nature** *JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY AND THEOLOGY*
  Hurlbut, W., KALANITHI, P.
  2001; 29 (4): 330-339