

Renowned Lebanese-American doctor and philanthropist Moise Khayrallah visits LERC

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Reported by Elie Nabhan

Dr. Moise Khayrallah is a holder of a PhD in Psychology from the University of Carolina at Chapel Hill. Over the last two decades Dr. Khayrallah has been involved in drug development in various pharmaceutical companies both on an executive level and in Research and Development.

Dr. Khayrallah is currently the President and CEO of Neuronex Inc. According to his website biography “he acquired his experience in diverse pharmaceutical environments including large pharmaceutical, contract research, and biotechnology companies”.

Milestones in his career included co-founding “Addrenex Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a specialty pharmaceuticals company that developed and received FDA approvals for compounds targeting the adrenergic system and a consulting company, Alius Pharma, LLC, to partner with small biotechnology companies in cancer drug development.”

His website went on to explain that “from 1999 to 2002, he was VP of Clinical Affairs at Cytran, Inc., a Seattle area biotechnology company, where he led the product development team for the company’s lead compound in cancer and participated in financing and joint venture activities.

Prior to that, Dr. Khayrallah served as Director, Clinical Research and Regulatory Affairs at Lineberry Research Associates (now Constella Group) in RTP, NC. While at Lineberry, he led project teams in implementing clinical projects and providing strategic consulting in several therapeutic areas. Dr. Khayrallah also served in various positions at Burroughs Wellcome and later Glaxo Wellcome from 1987 to 1996, where he led clinical programs and trials resulting in FDA approvals in CNS indications.”

Dr. Khayrallah who hails from Ghbeleh village in Lebanon migrated to the United States in 1983. However, he and his Lebanese wife kept close contact with their families and kin in Lebanon particularly through regular visits.

His commitment to his Lebanese heritage, Dr. Khayrallah became the main supporter of a newly established program The Khayrallah Program in Lebanese American Studies at North Carolina State University (NCSU) which is directed by renowned scholar Dr. Akram Khatteer. Dr. Khayrallah’s objective from this program is to trace the history of the Lebanese-American Community in North Carolina from its earliest days till present period, to transmit this history to future generations and to highlight the contribution of the community to both their host and homelands.

Dr. Khayrallah is active in the Lebanese community of North Carolina. He is the Public Relations Officer of the Triangle Lebanese Association, which, according to its mission, is to “preserve and promote the Lebanese Culture and heritage, and provide an exchange of information between Lebanese, American and other cultures through social, cultural, and humanitarian endeavors”.

Dr. Khayrallah given a tour of the LERC offices and the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum at NDU followed by a presentation of LERC's electronic archives and database. He was accompanied on his visit to the Center by his brother Mr. Roger Khayrallah.



Dr. M. Khayrallah (center) photographed at the museum with his brother Mr. R. Khayrallah and Ms. G. Hourani (Sept 2011).

His discussions with LERC Director Ms. Guita Hourani centered on LERC's history, objectives and activities, as well as cooperation possibilities between his Program at NCSU and LERC.

Dr. Khayrallah noted in the Center's Gold Book the following sentence "I am very impressed with what LERC has accomplished today. Documenting the impact that the Lebanese have had and are having around the world is very important".

Dr. Khayrallah extended an invitation to Director Hourani and all of LERC associates to participate in the international conference on Lebanese migration which is being organized by his Program at NCSU and which will take place in the spring of 2012.