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Superman's son says his legacy lives on

Updated: 15:09, Monday August 13, 2012



Former Superman star Christopher Reeve would be proud to know he inspired remarkable advances in spinal cord injury research, the late actor's son says.

Matthew Reeve, who is in Australia promoting his father's work towards finding a cure for paralysis, said the Superman legacy lives on through the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, which funds research and advocates the wellbeing of people with spinal cord injuries.

'I think he would be extremely proud,' he told reporters in Sydney on Monday.

'When he became paralysed, spinal cord research was fragmented, uncentralised and uncoordinated.

'He embraced the role of being champion to that, and under his beacon of leadership, we've united researchers and we've seen some remarkable changes.'

The US actor became a paraplegic in 1995 when he fell from a horse while competing in a cross-country competition and died in 2004 from cardiac arrest.

Reeve's 32-year-old son, who ran the City2Surf with the Spinal Cord Injury Network's charity team on Sunday, was a keynote speaker at Connections 2012, an international conference of spinal cord injury researchers and health care professionals.

Reeve said his second visit to Australia builds on his first trip with his father in 2003, the year before he passed away.

'Today I spoke about collaboration and the importance for every one to work together,' said Reeve.

'We all share a common goal.'

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