UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 12, 2005

EXELIXIS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware0-3023504-3257395(State or Other(Commission File Number)(IRS EmployerJurisdiction of Incorporation)Identification No.)

170 Harbor Way P.O. Box 511 South San Francisco, California 94083 (Address of principal executive offices, and including zip code)

(650) 837-7000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

[] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

[] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

On January 12, 2005, Gregory D. Plowman, M.D., Ph.D., submitted his resignation as Senior Vice President and Chief Science Officer of Exelixis, Inc. (the "Company") to be effective as of January 26, 2005. Dr. Plowman decided to leave the Company to pursue other professional opportunities.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Dated: January 18, 2005

Exelixis, Inc.

/s/ Christoph Pereira Christoph Pereira Vice President, Legal Affairs and Secretary