Toxicology Meeting Is Scheduled for May

The Toxicology Information Subcommittee of the DHEW Committee to Coordinate Toxicology and Related Programs will sponsor a Symposium on the Handling of Toxicological Information on Thursday and Friday, May 27-28, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium, Clinical Center.

Contact Dr. Cosmides

There is no registration fee, but advance registration is required. The size of the auditorium will limit attendance. Requests for a copy of the program, additional information, or registration may be addressed to: Dr. George J. Cosmides, Toxicology Information Program, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014, or call (301) 496-3147.

The symposium will provide a forum for those who collect, manage, or use toxicological information in industry, academic institutions, and government.

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the President's Science Advisory Committee Report on the Handling of Toxicological Information, the symposium will survey current toxicology information activities according to the recommendations of that report and will attempt to predict needs for new services.

C.O.'s to Meet March 10

For Briefing on Separation

Commissioned officers who plan to leave active duty during the next 6 months will meet for a briefing on Wednesday, March 10, at 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall.

The briefing is sponsored by the Commissioned Officers Unit, Division of Personnel Management.

Officers will be informed about separation procedures, travel entitlements, claims to household effects, and veteran benefits.

Administrative personnel concerned with separation procedures are also invited.

Four Meetings Reflect Growing Concern With Environmental Health Problems

Increasing concern with environmental health problems has led to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' involvement during February and March in four meetings—three of them in the Metropolitan Washington area.

Last week (Feb. 18) the DHEW Committee to Coordinate Toxicology and Related Programs held an open meeting on Mutagenicity Testing in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. The Committee, composed of full-time employees of H.E.W., met to discuss a draft document that evaluates methods for determining the mutagenic properties of chemicals.

Comments Due by Feb. 27

The objective of the meeting was to answer questions or receive comments regarding the draft document. Written comments will be considered if received by Feb. 27.

To send comments, request a copy of the draft document, or for additional information, contact Ms. Ceci Ellington, NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709, or phone: 919-549-8411, Ext. 3213, FTS-629-3213.

Tomorrow (Wednesday, Feb. 25) NIEHS is holding an open meeting in the Lecture Room of the National Academy of Sciences to discuss and discuss research which it conducts in its own laboratories and supports in universities and research laboratories throughout the country.

This research deals with those chemicals and factors that adversely affect human health.

This meeting is being held primarily for non-governmental groups and individuals interested in the problems of environmental health, not primarily for communication to scientists.

Dr. Rail to Speak

Dr. David P. Rail, Director of the Institute, will review the Institution's mission and goals. Other NIEHS speakers will include Dr. Frederick J. DeSerres on environmental mutagenesis and Dr. John McLaughlin on his recent studies on DES.

Directors of two university-based Environmental Health Science Centers supported by NIEHS will also participate: Dr. Norton (See ENVIRONMENT, Page 6) and Dr. Gooding.

Study to Prevent Heart Attacks, Reduce Death Rate Enrolls Volunteers

The enrollment of volunteers has been completed for a major clinical trial to evaluate what effect lowering blood cholesterol, reducing elevated blood pressure, and curbing cigarette smoking has in prevention of first heart attacks and in reducing death rates from coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular disorders.

Called the Multiple Risk Factor Intervention Trial, the NHLI-supported study involves 20 participating centers around the country and more than 12,500 volunteers.

The clinical phase of the study will run for 6 years at an estimated cost of approximately $12 million a year.

More than 366,000 men were screened to select out and enroll the 12,500 who will participate in the study.

These are men, aged 35-57, who do not have clinical evidence of coronary heart disease, but are at higher than average risk of developing it because of various combinations of elevated blood cholesterol, high blood pressure, or cigarette smoking.

In addition, all were free of heart attacks, angina, heart failure, strokes, or diabetes.

(See VOLUNTEERS, Page 7)

AFGE Wins Recognition As GRC Bargaining Unit

Local 3657 AFGE has been accorded exclusive recognition for both a professional and a nonprofessional unit as a result of an election held Jan. 13 at the Gerontology Research Center, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, Md.

Election of officers for the new bargaining units will be held in late February. The acting officers are: vice president, Samuel Young; treasurer, Barbara Thomas, secretary, Helen Burns, sergeant-at-arms, Francine Smith. An acting president has not been named.

William J. Van Hooy, administrative officer, GRC, has been designated local labor relations officer for the Center.
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NICHID Women Sponsor Flexitime Talk March 17

The Women's Organization of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development will present a program on Flexitime on Wednesday, March 17, at 1:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

Hours Are Flexible

The speaker will be Barbara Fiss, a Civil Service Commission's project officer in charge of the Federal Flexitime program. Under Flexitime, or flexible hours, the employee determines his or her own arrival and departure time within certain hours.

Ms. Fiss is the author of the booklet, Flexitime—A Guide, to assist organizations in the planning, development, and implementation of Flexitime. The meeting will be open to all employees of NIH.

Toastsmasters Elect Officers

NIH Toastmasters Club No. 3421 has elected officers for January through June 1976. George Mook, NINCDS, will serve as president; Reginald Russell, OD-DAS, administrative vice president; James Fomeroy, NINCDS, educational vice president; Anne M. O'Connor, DES, treasurer; Marjorie Graham, OD-DAS, secretary; and Charles Warner, NCI, sergeant at arms.

Toastsmasters provides members with opportunities for individual growth and development through a communications and leadership course. Each of the basic 15 speeches required of its members emphasizes one aspect of public speaking, speech evaluation, and the mechanics of speech composition.

The Club meets every Thursday at noon in Dining Room 2, Bldg. 10 Cafeteria. Visitors are welcome.

Charles W. James Dies; Chief Engineer of Power Plant Was Here 10 Years

Charles W. James, Division of Engineering Services, died of a heart attack on Feb. 11. He had been with NIH for about 10 years.

Mr. James, who was known as Chuck to his colleagues and co-workers, was chief engineer of the power plant, Plant Engineering Branch. During the construction of Bldgs. 55, 36, and 37 he served in the important post of NIH liaison engineer for operating problems.

Served in Korean Conflict

Mr. James served in the Korean Conflict as a captain in the U.S. Air Force.

At the time of his death he was president of the Takoma Park Lions Club and an officer of the Silver Spring volunteer fire department.

His survivors include his wife, Mary Jean, and a son, William C., of the home, 10105 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, his mother, and four sisters.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in the form of contributions to the Lions of District 22-C Eye Bank and Research Foundation, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Senn's Monograph On Child Development Movement Published

A monograph entitled Insights on the Child Development Movement in the United States, based on an oral history study supported in part by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, has been published by the Society for Research in Child Development.

Taped Interviews

Dr. Milton J. E. Senn, Emeritus Sterling Professor of Pediatrics and a former director of the Child Study Center at Yale University, has developed the monograph from a series of taped interviews collected from nearly 100 professionals—psychologists, pediatricians, psychiatrists, and sociologists—in the child development field.

He also interviewed political figures and social planners who were active in fostering development programs for children, in order to show the social and political context of the movement during 1920 to 1970, the period spanned by the completed study.

The monograph is based on 82 interviews, but the entire transcript material covers 97 interviews collected between 1958 and 1970.

NLM Has Transcripts

NLM, which funded a portion of the study, is the repository for the tapes and transcripts; they are available to researchers. Inquiries may be addressed to the National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Division, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

The monograph may be obtained for $7 a copy from the University of Chicago Press, 5801 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60637.

Preschool Developmental Center Needs Volunteers

The Preschool Developmental Center at NIH is asking for volunteers—on a regular basis—to work with pupils at the center.

Volunteers will assist the staff of trained teachers in duties which include helping during field trips—assistants who can drive are especially needed. Volunteers also “take over” when teachers attend staff meetings. Frequently the wives of visiting foreign scientists have offered their assistance to the daycare center.

Virginia Burke, NIH coordinator for the center, termed them “some of the most successful volunteers in the program.”

Mrs. Burke further said that the visitors contribute both to the teachers and pupils an understanding of the various cultures of their own countries. In turn, the visitors become acquainted with child care methods in the U.S.

A TB test is required for all volunteers; this will be arranged through the Development Center. For further information about the volunteer program, call Carol Rudolph, 496-5144.

USDA Spring Schedule Of Classes Is Available

The spring schedule of classes at the Graduate School, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is now available. Call 447-4419 for a copy.

The schedule includes evening, daytime, and correspondence courses for classes beginning March 29 and ending June 7.

Mail registration for evening courses ends March 6. Registration in person will be held in the USDA Patio, 14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W., March 22-29.

Other registration locations and dates are listed in the schedule.
Study Shows 'Catching Cold' Is Not Easy; Resistance Met in Transmitting Virus

In spite of popular impressions, cold viruses are not easily transmitted from one person to another, according to scientists at the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Dick, in a lab at the University of Wisconsin, examines rhinovirus culture. The study was funded in part by NIAID.

Resistances encountered in an "caught" has led the investigators to suggest that a fairly simple mechanical device, such as viridical tissue, may help break the chain of rhinovirus transmission.

The study was funded in part by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

In their research of person-to-person transmission of cold-causing viruses, Dr. Elliot C. Dick and his associates found that major factors involved were time spent in the presence of a person with a cold, the severity of his or her symptoms, and the amount of virus shed.

Prior research on the common cold has most often focused on the natural spread of the infection through families or neighborhoods.

Dr. Dick Designs Study

Dr. Dick designed his study of 24 married couples in such a way that it was possible to control a number of environmental factors and to assess accurately both symptoms and virus shedding.

It was also determined in advance that all persons were susceptible to the strains of virus used in the study.

Twelve other donors received rhinovirus serotype 55. Four of these—33%—transmitted the virus experimental study of how colds are transmitted to their spouses and, again, ability to transmit was related to amount of time spent together at home during the week. The overall rate of transmission for both viruses was only 28%.

The investigators also found a strong correlation between virus shedding, usually accompanied by severe symptoms, and the ability of the donor to transmit the virus.

Presence of virus on the hands and around the nostrils of a donor was also related positively to transmission.

Eight of the 13 donors who reported either severe or moderate cold symptoms transmitted their virus, whereas only one of the 11 donors with mild or no symptoms transmitted virus.

Most donors had the highest symptom scores and shed the most virus on the second and third days after inoculation; and the most common interval between inoculation of the donor and recovery of the virus from the spouse was 5 days.

Time Element Explained

If one allows a day for incubation of the virus in the donor and another for incubation in the recipient, it is clear that virus transmission probably took place on days 2 to 3, during the peak period of virus shedding.

The scientists found it difficult to understand why persons with mild colds were unable to transmit their infection to their spouses, even with many hours of contact, since it had been possible to infect the donors, experimentally, with very small amounts of virus.

But, whatever the reason for the resistance, the scientists felt that the difficulty was itself, encouraging from a preventive standpoint.

Results of this study are of particular significance in families with asthmatic children. In a recent NIAID-supported investigation conducted by Dr. Dick and Dr. (See CATCHING COLD, Page 6)
Committee Advises on Guidelines For Recombinant DNA Research

On Feb. 9-10, an Advisory Committee to the NIH Director met with Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson to consider the proposed guidelines and requirements for NIH support of research combining genes from one organism with those of another organism.

In advising Dr. Fredrickson, the Committee members and several representatives of public and private organizations presented their views regarding the proposed guidelines for safe conduct of experiments with recombinant DNA.

The guidelines evolved during three previous scientific conferences held during 1975 at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, Calif., in February, in Woods Hole, Mass., in July, and at La Jolla, Calif., in December.

Some experiments are listed as presenting such serious potential hazards that they should not be attempted at this time.

Limitations of differing degrees would be placed on experiments according to the source of “foreign” DNA and the level of physical containment provided by the specific laboratory conditions and the viability of the “host” in the natural environment.

During the Committee meeting at NIH, Dr. Paul Berg of the department of biochemistry, Stanford University School of Medicine, explained potential hazards, benefits, and safeguards for recombinant DNA research.

Dr. DeWitt Stetten, Jr., NIH Deputy Director for Science, reviewed the history of the development of the guidelines and of NIH policy in regard to research risks.

Dr. Maxine Singer of the National Cancer Institute summarized and reviewed in detail the proposed guidelines. Dr. David S. Hogness of Stanford University and Dr. Roy Curtiss III of the University of Alabama represented the viewpoints of the committee which drafted the guidelines.

Dr. W. Emmett Barkley, chairman of the NIH Biohazards Committee, described physical containment facilities—such as those shown on these pages—ranging in increasing stringency of containment safeguards from P1 to P4.

Additional proposed safeguards include the use of biological containment using “foreign DNA” or “vectors” inserted into “hosts” with limited ability to survive in natural environments.

The two types of barriers, physical and biological, are to be used in combination, with greater levels of containment required for more potentially hazardous combinations of genes.

Among the biological barriers discussed were modified bacterial hosts, designated EK1 through EK6, or referring to the K-12 laboratory strain of Escherichia coli bacteria.

Dr. Curtiss described recent progress in developing an EK2 level bacterial host. However, certified EK1 or EK3 level biological containment systems are not presently available.

The relative advantages and potential hazards of research using E. coli, VSV, and polyoma virus were discussed, as well as plant, fungal, and similar lower eukaryotic host-vector systems.

Topics also included the roles of the principal investigator, the institutions conducting recombinant DNA research, and the NIH Recombinant DNA Molecules Program Advisory Committee.

Other items considered at the meetings were the applicability of the guidelines to researchers not receiving NIH funds, and provisions for sanctions against scientists who fail to follow the guidelines.

The proposed guidelines also recommend an annual review and modification of those guidelines to reflect new knowledge.

At the close of the sessions, Dr. Fredrickson indicated that he would make a decision known within the next several months.
DNA Research

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Dr. Curtiss described recent progress in developing an EK2 level bacterial host. However, certified EK2 or EK3 level biological containment systems are not presently available.

The relative advantages and potential hazards of research using \textit{E. coli}, W-40, and polyoma virus were discussed, as well as yeast, fungal, and similar lower eukaryotic host-vector systems.

Topics also included the roles of the principal investigator, the institutions conducting recombinant DNA research, and the NIH Recombinant DNA Molecule Program Advisory Committee.

Other items considered at the meetings were the applicability of the guidelines to researchers not receiving NIH funds, and provisions for sanctions against scientists who fail to follow the guidelines.

The proposed guidelines also recommend annual review and modification of those guidelines to reflect new knowledge.

At the close of the sessions, Dr. Fredrickson said that he would make a decision known within the next several months.

Committee Members Identified

Members of the Committee included: Hon. David L. Bazelon, chief judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit; Dr. Daniel Callahan, director of the Institute of Society, Ethics, and Life Sciences, Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y.; Dr. Joseph J. Dodds, medical director, Campbell General Hospital, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Also, Dr. Philip Handler, president, National Academy of Sciences; Ms. Margo Haygood, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; Dr. Roy D. Hudson, president, Hampton Institute; Peter Barton Hutt, lawyer, and former general counsel, FDA; Dr. James F. Kelly, associate vice-chancellor, State University of New York, Albany.

Other members were: Dr. Marian Kooblish, professor of bacteriology and immunology, University of California, Berkeley; Alan Lardy, president, Forum for the Advancement of Students in Science and Technology, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Joseph Melnick, professor of virology, Baylor University, Houston, Tex.

Additionally, Dr. Robert G. Petersdorf, chairman, department of medicine, University of Washington, Seattle; Mrs. Esther Peterson, president, The National Consumers League; Dr. Emmett Reidford, professor of political science, University of Texas; Professor Walter A. Rosenblith, provost, M.I.T.

And Dr. Margery Shaw, director, Medical Genetics Center, Houston; Dr. Robert Shalneimer, chairman, Division of Biology, California Institute of Technology; William C. Smith, attorney, Children’s Defense Fund.

Finally, Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president, Health Science Center, University of Texas, Dallas; Dr. LeRoy Walters, director, Center for Bioethics, Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University; and Dr. Milton Zaitlin, professor of plant physiology, Cornell University.

Committee members listen carefully to presentations by (right, I to r, top to bottom) Drs. Hogness, Berg, Singer, Baltimore, and Curtiss. Representatives of several interest groups, including Dr. Richard Goldstein (low r), department of microbiology and molecular genetics, Harvard Medical School, also spoke. During coffee breaks, opinions were exchanged informally between Committee members, interest group representatives, and members of the public and the press. At the last session, Dr. Fredrickson (below I) accepts drafts of statements from Committee members and interest groups, and Committee members summarize their views. Listening to the comments are (I to r): Dr. Petersdorf and Mr. Hutt, Drs. Zaitlin and Callahan, Dr. Kelly, Drs. Melnick and Walters, Mr. Ladwig and Mrs. Peterson.

Photos by

Jerry Hecht and Heather Banks
NIAID Researchers Grow Infant Diarrhea Virus in Embryonic Kidney Cell Cultures

Scientists in the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases believe they have succeeded in growing in tissue culture the virus already identified as a major cause of acute diarrhea in infants and young children throughout the world.

In 1974, a number of investigators in Australia, England, Canada, and the U.S., including NIAID's Dr. Albert Z. Kapikian, reported the presence of a reovirus-like (RVL) agent in stools of young patients with severe diarrhea.

In the NIAID studies, conventional and/or immune electron-microscopy was used to detect the agent's presence and to associate it with the disease. Later, the NIAID scientists reported the successful cultivation of a strain of this virus in human fetal intestinal organ culture.

In the currently reported studies, Dr. Richard G. Wyatt and others in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases undertook a number of tissue culture experiments, using stool filtrates which had been successfully used to infect the organ cultures.

Results of these studies include detection of the RVL agent through 14 passages of one of these filtrates in human embryonic kidney cell cultures.

Electronmicroscopy revealed virus-like particles quite similar in appearance to those previously observed by other investigators in duodenal specimens from patients with RVL-associated gastroenteritis.

Although all these results are preliminary, the scientists feel that the newly-isolated virus which they have described probably represents a strain of the human RVL agent capable of at least limited growth in human embryonic kidney cell culture.

These studies were reported in the Jan. 10 issue of *Lancet* by Dr. Richard G. Wyatt, Virginia W. Gill, Mitzi M. Sereno, Anthony R. Kalica, Dr. Dale H. Vankirk, Dr. Robert M. Chanock, and Dr. Albert Z. Kapikian.

CATCHING COLD (Continued from page 3)

Charles Reed, at Wisconsin's Asthma and Allergic Disease Center, it was found that rhinovirus infections were the principal causes of asthmatic attacks in allergic children.

This work was reported in the January issue of the *Journal of Infectious Diseases* by Drs. Dick and Donn J. D'Alessio and by Judy A. Peterson and Claire R. Dick.
Dr. Roger Black Retires
As Acting Director, CC

Dr. Roger L. Black, Acting Director of the Clinical Center since September 1975, has accepted an appointment as Director of Professional Affairs at St. Luke's Hospital of the United Methodist Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

He will assume his new duties in March.

Come to NIH in 1955

Dr. Black, who has been associate director of the Clinical Center since 1965, joined the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases in 1955 as a senior investigator, a position he held until 1963.

From 1959 to 1963, he was also assistant chief of that Institute's Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch, and from 1964 to 1965 assistant to the NIH Director of Laboratories and Clinics.

Held Teaching Posts

Dr. Black also served as co-director of the Rheumatology Service of D.C. General Hospital's Georgetown Division from 1958 to 1964, and was clinical professor of medicine at Georgetown University since 1971.

He was assistant clinical professor there, 1958-64, and assistant in medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1954-57.

Retires from PHS

A member of the PHS Commissioned Corps, Dr. Black—who had the rank of Assistant Surgeon General at the time of his retirement—held various assignments as medical officer in New Mexico, Maryland, and the North Atlantic until 1951.

He is active in a number of professional organizations, including the Council on Medical Administration.

Dr. Black has served on numerous advisory committees and has published widely, primarily in the fields of rheumatic diseases.

### President's 1977 Budget for NIH

**Summary of Appropriation**

*(Budget authority in thousands)*

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*Based on 1976 vetoed bill plus training and OD supplemental request*

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**Dr. Melvin E. Jenkins Joins Nat'l DRR Council**

Dr. Melvin E. Jenkins, professor and chairman of the department of pediatrics and child health, Howard University College of Medicine, has been named to the National Advisory Research Resources Council for a term ending Sept. 30, 1979.

In addition to his position at Howard University, Dr. Jenkins is professorial lecturer of child health and development at George Washington University and lecturer in pediatrics at Johns Hopkins.

He is also a member of numerous national advisory and educational groups, serves as an examiner for the American Board of Pediatrics, and is editor-in-chief of the Pediatric Newsletter, a National Medical Association publication.

His honors include an award in 1972 from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for Outstanding Achievements in the Research of Sickle Cell Anemia, Abnormal Hemoglobin, Genetics, and Health Education.

Mrs. Arevell Harrison (c), wife of the former New York governor, participated in the recent dedication of the newly located and expanded Pediatric Clinic Research Center at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center with Dr. Ephraim Y. Levin (l), assistant chief, DRR General Clinical Research Centers Branch, and Dr. Maria New, the new center's director. At the pediatric center—supported by the Division of Research Resources—scientists study and treat children with hypertension, hormonal disorders, and other maladies.

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**VOLUNTEERS**

(Continued from Page 1)

other medical conditions that would exclude them from the study, and all were willing to commit themselves to a 6-year prevention program.

The study includes only men because they have a much higher frequency of coronary heart disease in this age range than women do.

However, if the interventions prove effective in men, they would also be applicable to the prevention of CHD among women, since the same factors affect CHD risk in both sexes.

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**Dr. Henley, Narayanan Join Grants Program**

Two scientists, Dr. Catherine Henley and Dr. V. L. Narayanan, have joined the Grants Associates Program for a year of training in health science administration.

Dr. Henley was a research associate with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1949 until she joined the G.A. Program. She was visiting associate professor at that university during 1967 and 1968, and in 1972, was visiting professor at Sweet Briar College.

She received her A.B. degree in 1943 and a Ph.D. in 1949, both in zoology, from the Chapel Hill University and an M.A. degree in 1947 from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Henley was assistant editor of The Biological Bulletin from 1951 to 1968.

**Studied in India**

Dr. Narayanan held various positions with the Squibb Institute for Medical Research from 1964 to 1973, where he did research in animal health and drugs. From 1950 to 1957, he worked with Sarabhai Chemicals, in India. He completed his undergraduate work in that country.

He received his Ph.D. degree from Washington State University in 1966, and was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Michigan from 1962 to 1964. He was awarded a M.B.A. degree from Rutgers State University in 1972.

Dr. Narayanan holds 39 patents and has 20 patents pending.
Look, Listen, and Read Simultaneously In NLM's New Audiovisual Carrel Area

In the new learning resource carrels, NLM patrons may view and listen to a wide variety of medical audiovisual materials. Highly recommended AVLINE items are being added, including 35 mm slide/audiocassettes, and 16 mm films.

With the opening of a new Learning Resource Area featuring audiovisual teaching materials, the Reading Room at the National Library of Medicine might more accurately be termed the Reading/Listening/Viewing Room.

Seven learning carrels in the NLM Reading Room now contain more than 3,000 instructional units in sight and sound format—8½-inch U-matic video cassette, 35 mm slide/audiocassette, and 16 mm film.

Organized Systematically

"Whenever possible, audiovisual materials have been placed in individual carrels organized according to human body systems," noted Dr. Charles F. Bridgman, NLM associate director for Educational Resources Development.

"The materials, catalog cards, and the various carrels have all been color-coded for easy identification and reshelving by users. We are emphasizing audiovisual formats which are standardized, relatively simple to use, and permit multi-sensory learning," he added.

Other carrels in the Learning Resource Area contain microform playback devices and a terminal and access to any of the NLM computerized data bases—MEDLINE, CANCERLINE, TOXLINE, CHEMLINE, SERLINE, and other more specialized files.

One of the latest files is AVLINE, containing information on non-print instructional materials which have been recommended or highly recommended by health sciences review groups.

As the review process continues, AVLINE will gradually expand to include citations on several thousand audiovisuals which are available from various sources—by loan, rental, or purchase—to support health sciences educational needs.

Suggestions Are Made To Reduce Mail Costs As Postage Increases

The newly increased postage rates make it imperative that the most economical class of mail be used whenever possible, according to the Travel and Administrative Services Branch.

Since all domestic First Class mail service has been upgraded to equal Airmail service, there is now no advantage in placing Airmail postage on domestic mail.

NHI has discontinued stocking of Airmail envelopes, but all on hand may be used until depleted.

Airmail may still be used on all international mail, however, with the exception of mail to Canada and Mexico, which is sent at domestic rates.

New international rates for Airmail have increased 24 percent—from 26 to 31 cents per ½ ounce up to and including 2 ounces, and 26 cents for each additional ½ ounce over 2 ounces.

New domestic rates have increased government postal cost 28.7 percent so the most economical class of mail should be considered.

Steps that can be taken to reduce costs are:

- Combine mailings.
- Use Fourth Class labels for packages without deadlines. A package weighing 14 to 27 pounds costs $9.19 First Class; Fourth Class costs $3.72, a savings of $5.47 per item.
- Update mailing lists and mailing keys. NIH averages better than 1,100 pieces of returned mail each month because lists and keys are not current.
- Address publications to Department, University, Hospital, etc., rather than to an individual.
- Stock only what is needed for mailing. It is suggested that only one office in each organization stock the most costly indicia items and have others draw from it, instead of everyone having a personal supply.
- Return indicia items which cannot be used because of typographical errors or overstocking to receive credit on postal cost. This credit can only be given during the current fiscal year.
- Do not request Special Delivery service except when evening or weekend delivery is necessary. Special Delivery rates will increase over $1 during FY 1976.

On Thursday, Feb. 12, during Black History Week, panelists discuss "Where to Now for Black America." L to r are: John Thompson, head basketball coach, Georgetown University; Dr. Vincent Gray, head, department of political science, Morgan State College; Theresa Shellcroft, Learning Center Coordinator, African Diaspora Program, Smithsonian Institution; June Caldwell, Coordinator, NIH Federal Women's Program; Dr. Thermon Evans, Director, Health Manpower Development Corporation, and President, D.C. Board of Education, and Dr. Roland Patterson, former superintendent of Baltimore City schools. Rev. Perry W. Smith, Chaplain at the University of Maryland, participated in the panel discussion but was not present for the photograph. Other programs throughout the week included the D.C. Black Repertory Theater, prominent speakers, musical presentations, and art exhibits.

Suggestions Are Made To Reduce Mail Costs As Postage Increases

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