An eminent rheumatologist, Dr. Lamont-Havers has also been honored for his expertise in administering biomedical research programs.

Dr. Ronald W. Lamont-Havers, Deputy Director of NIH, has accepted a post at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, as Deputy for Research Policy and Administration to the General Director, Dr. Charles A. Sanders.

He will assume his new duties on about Oct. 1.

In his new position, Dr. Lamont-Havers will play a major role in helping to formulate and coordinate all aspects of the MGH research policy.

New Duties Defined

This will include coordination of the research programs with various public and private agencies. He will also assist investigators at the Hospital in developing resources and will represent the institution at major scientific meetings.

Appointed NIH Deputy Director in August 1974, Dr. Lamont-Havers was also named Acting Director of NIH in January 1975 and served in that role until Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson was sworn in on July 1, 1975.

For his "outstanding service to the Department" while serving in this post, Dr. Lamont-Havers received a special citation from HEW (See LAMONT-HAVERS, Page 6)

Huntington's Disease; Commission Begins; NINCDS to Support Staff in Bethesda

Eight members have been appointed to the Commission for the Control of Huntington's Disease and Its Consequences which was officially launched Aug. 31. Five members are non-Government health professionals, and three are from the consumer public. One additional health professional will be appointed later to complete the nine-member commission set forth by law.

The new Commission, established under the Health Revenue Sharing Act of 1975, is charged with developing a comprehensive national plan for the control of Huntington's disease and its consequences. Will Make Recommendations

Its recommendations are to be made to the President, to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate, and to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of the House of Representatives.

The National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, which conducts and supports the Government's research program on Huntington's disease, will provide financial support for the Commission and house the staff at NIH.

Huntington's disease (HD), sometimes called Huntington's chorea, is a hereditary, neurological disorder that gradually destroys the physical and mental well-being of its victims.

A progressive loss of brain cells produces difficulties in speech, loss of muscular control, bodily twitching and jerking, and frequently, severe changes in personality and intellectual deterioration.

The tragedy of HD is multiplied by the fact that at present the disorder can be diagnosed only after symptoms begin to appear—usually between ages 35 and 40.

By then many of its victims have married and had children. The new generation inherits a legacy of torment and uncertainty, knowing that the chances of escape are 50-50.

The recent discovery of a biochemical abnormality in the brains of HD patients has generated hope that the cause and cure for this disease are no better than 50-50.

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Med. Research, Practice Subject Bicentennial Program on Sept. 16-18

On Thursday through Saturday, Sept. 16-18, the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and NIH will offer a 2½-day Bicentennial Program on Research and the Practice of Medicine in 1976.

The Program has been approved by the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Board of Family Practice. The Program will be chaired by Dr. John C. Bose of Georgetown University School of Medicine.

The Program will include:

Thursday, Sept. 16
(Sheraton-Park Hotel)

9:00 a.m. Welcome
9:15-10:00 Neonatology
Dr. Gordon B. Avery, GWU School of Medicine
Dr. Paul H. Halbert, NIH
Dr. Philip M. Farrell, NIH

Coffee

10:15-11:30 Infectious Diseases
Dr. Donald C. Lincoln, NIH
Dr. Paul F. Keusch, Harvard School of Public Health
Dr. Richard D. Feuerstein, NIH

Lunch

12:15-2:00 Laboratory Medicine
Dr. William H. McFarland, NIH
Dr. Richard M. Kanof, University of Chicago

Coffee

2:00-3:00 Laboratory Safety
Dr. Donald E. Myer, University of Michigan
Dr. Stephen F. Billups, NIH

Thursday, Sept. 17 (At NIH. Buses leave for Washington, D.C., at 8 a.m. for some activities)

8:30-9:00 A Panel Discussion on Admission to Medical Schools
Dr. John D. LaRoca, GWU School of Medicine
Dr. Peter N. Herbert, NHLBI
Dr. Jesse Roth, NIAMDD

9:00-9:15 a.m. Welcome
9:15-10:30 Diabetes: Old Problem—New Insights
Dr. Lillian Renc, VA Hospital and School of Medicine, Baltimore
Dr. Jesse Roth, NIAMDD

Lunch

12:15-2:00 Recent Advances in Pediatrics
Dr. Philip Schein, Georgetown University School of Medicine
Dr. William S. Waller, NIH
Dr. William S. Adams, NIH

Coffee

2:00-3:00 Recent Advances in Gastrointestinal Disease
Dr. Robert F. Murray, Howard University Hospital
Dr. Phillip M. Farrell, NICHD

Friday, Sept. 18 (At NIH. Buses leave for Washington, D.C., at 8 a.m. for some activities)

10:45-Noon Is Coronary Disease Preventable?
Dr. John D. LaRoca, GWU School of Medicine
Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Director, NIH

Coffee

11:15-12:30 Immunology: An Update
Dr. Zigmond M. Lebovitz, NIH
Dr. Charles C. Swan, NIH

Lunch

12:30-2:00 Recent Advances in Immunology and Anti-Infective Agents
Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH
Dr. J. R. Murray, NIH

Coffee

2:00-3:00 Recent Advances in Gynecological Disease
Dr. Peter N. Herbert, NIH
Dr. James A. Warnke, Emory University

Registration Materials

Registration materials may be obtained from and returned to: Miss Beth Custer, Medical Society of D.C., 2007 Eye St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, Tel. (202) 223-2250.
At Seminar on Oct. 6
Experts Will Explain
Statistical Services

A day-long seminar to explain three unique statistical services to which NIH subscribers is being held
Wednesday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 8.

The three subscriptions from IMS America, Ltd. are: the National Disease and Therapeutic Index, NDTI; National Prescription Audit, NPA; and Hospital Record Study, HRS.

Gives Estimates

These services provide national estimates of: diagnoses physicians make and drug prescriptions they write for patients visiting them (NDTI); prescription sales retail drug stores make (NPA); and the care short stay hospitals have given patients they discharge (HRS).

The statistical services may be used only in connection with work done by or through contractors for NIH units.

Subscribing to current issues carries the right of access to IMS files for earlier years. Back issues of NDTI are on file in the NIH Library, Reference and Bibliographic Services Section, Bldg. 10, Room 1L19, Constantine Gillespie.

For current issues of the three services, contact Dr. Herbert B. Woolley in Bldg. 1, Room 228.

Questions Answered

At the seminar, staff experts from IMS America, Ltd. will explain the nature and content of the statistical services and answer questions about their use and limitations.

NDTI will be discussed from 9 a.m. to noon; NPA from 1 to 3 p.m., and HRS from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

NIH employees may attend one or more sessions of the seminar. For preregistration, required by Sept. 29, call Ext. 66167.

Registration for FAES
Classes Begins Sept. 9;
Catalogs Now Available

Registration for evening classes sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences begins in Bldg. 10, Room B1-101, tomorrow, Thursday, Sept. 9, and continues through Sept. 15, weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday (Sept. 11) from 10 a.m. to noon.

Courses will be given on the campus in behavioral and social sciences, chemistry, biology and microbiology, genetics, immunology, physics, physiology, mathematics, statistics, languages, and administration.

Medical subspecialty review courses include endocrinology and

Two NIH'ers Receive Patent Display Awards
For Controlled Environment Culture Chamber

The Dvorak-Stotler Controlled Environment Culture Chamber.

You Will Stop Smoking
On October 29; Claim
Of SmokEnders Program

You will stop smoking on Oct. 29 . . . calmly and comfortably.

For cigarette smokers trying to "kick the habit," the NIH Recreation & Welfare Association is repeating its sponsorship of a highly successful program previously held here.

Quitting Made Easy

Representatives from SmokEnders will be here to explain the easy way to quit smoking at a free introductory meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 11:45 a.m., 12:30 p.m., or 1:10 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 10.

With "SmokEnders, they say, "you smoke as much as you like until you have learned to quit with dignity ... forever free of the desire to smoke."

The representatives invite NIHers to come to the meeting with their cigarettes, and suggest that in a few weeks they won't need them anymore.

Employees who have any questions may call the R&W office, Ext. 66061.

EEO Council Meets Oct. 13

The NIH EEO Advisory Council is tentatively scheduling an open meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall.

All NIH employees are invited to express their problems and concerns at this meeting.

Persons with a specific concern regarding the total NIH EEO program may contact their EEO counselor or the chairperson of the Communications Committee, Arthur Robinson, Ext. 66401.
Pfc. Ford R. Wilson and Pfc. Harry Womack monitor communications from members of the NIH Special Police and other law enforcement agencies.

Salad maker Peggy Jenkins (below I) loads trays for serving an average of 900 persons a day over weekends or on holidays between 6 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Bldg. 10 cafeteria. About four times as many patrons are served on regular working days.

Telephone operators, like Cathy Jackson (second from I), do double duty on holidays, nights, and weekends, combining voice page and beeper paging responsibilities to reach about 200 personnel on call for emergencies.

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND...**

*Some NIH’ers work while most relax*

While most Americans are having a holiday—relaxing, picnicking, enjoying a last swim for the season, catching up on home chores, visiting friends or relatives—some people must perform the jobs that enable essential services to be maintained. Labor Day, first celebrated in 1882, seems an appropriate time to salute those whose duties often require working at odd times, over weekends, or on round-the-clock shifts.

In addition to the personnel who are on duty or on call to provide continuous medical scenes, supporting the red line.

The NIH employees who perform essential services out, though weekends and schedules were not set before informed the same
L to r: Computers never get tired and seldom have a day off, so at least six people are on duty at the Division of Computer Research and Technology 24 hours a day. James Jacob, supervisory computer operator, notes that contract jobs are often done on holiday weekends when there is good "turnaround time" for catching up on big projects. Raymond Mullinix and Rudolf Sikora, boiler plant operators in Bldg. 11, constantly watch myriad gauges. Air conditioning operator Richard Kirkpatrick keeps an eye on the vast machines in Bldg. 34. Some laboratory work must continue regardless of holidays. Biologist Floyd Price feeds mammalian cell cultures that must be nourished on alternate days. The Laboratory of Biochemistry, NCI, maintains some of the oldest continuous cell lines in the U.S., begun after the Hygiene Laboratory moved to Bethesda nearly 40 years ago.—Photos by Heather Banks.

WEEKEND...

work while must relax

In order to provide continuous medical care, many others labor behind the scenes, supporting the research community and health care delivery.

The NIH employees shown here represent some of those who perform essential services that must be carried on day in, day out, through weekends and holidays. In some cases, because work schedules were not set before press time, other individuals may have performed the same jobs during the Labor Day period.

Waste disposal must continue uninterrupted. Robert Dillow (top) of the Plant Engineering Branch checks the control panel of the biological waste disposal system in Bldg. 36. Chester Tolliver of DAS' Transportation Branch maneuvers a huge truck into position to empty a container into a Dempster Dumpmaster.

William Herndon (c, in white), wears a beeper when he is on call as a diener (assistant) for autopsies performed in the Laboratory of Pathology, NCI. Ravenal Cornish and John Coppack of the Transportation Branch, Division of Administrative Services, load, drive, and unload warehouse tractors that transport GI cans and supplies in the tunnels between Bldgs 10 and 13. Agness Crouse and Martha Richardson dispense tender loving care as well as food and water to the guinea pigs in the Small Animal Section, Veterinary Resources Branch, DRS. Jathia Gleaton and Theodore Barnes of the same section in the Division of Research Services keep 300 guinea pig breeders in a nucleus colony clean and well fed,
Margaret Cram, Former Employee at NIH, Dies

Margaret H. Cram, a former NIH employee, died of cancer Aug. 27 in Falls Church, Va.

Richard Masland, NIH for about 10 years, died of cancer

NIH'ers Chair New York Conference on Aquatic Pollutants, Carcinogens

Dr. Herman F. Krabybill, scientific coordinator for Environmental Cancer, Division of Cancer Cause and Prevention, National Cancer Institute, will chair a conference on Aquatic Pollutants and Biological Effects with Emphasis on Neoplasia.

Sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences, the conference will be held Monday through Wednesday, Sept. 27-29, at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel, N.Y.C.

Observations that cancer is occurring in fish and shellfish have presaged a new concern regarding chemical pollution in the environment. Identification of bio-refractory and carcinogens in some municipal water supplies and wastes has stimulated research.

The conference will identify needed research in this important area of environmental health.

For information, contact the Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10021, Tel. (212) 883-0230.

he became NIH Associate Director for Extramural Research and Training.

Four years later, he became deputy director of NIAMDD, and in 1974 was selected as NIH Deputy Director.

he earned a B.A. degree at the University of British Columbia and his M.D. at the University of Toronto.

After holding posts in several Canadian hospitals, Dr. Lamont-Havers took special training in rheumatology as a fellow at the Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons, and received a diploma in internal medicine from McGill Univ. in 1953.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

8/13—Dr. Louise M. Ball, England, Pharmacology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Rejendra S. Chhabra, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

8/15—Dr. Yosef Aloni, Israel, Viral Biology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Robert A. Manaker, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1B16.

8/15—Dr. Herman L. Ammon, U.S.A., Laboratory of Chemical Biodynamics. Sponsor: Dr. Irwin M. Chaiken, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N313.


8/16—Dr. Elizabeth J. Susman, Canada, Laboratory of Developmental Psychology. Sponsor: Dr. Marian R. Yarrow, NIMH, Bg. 16K.

8/16—Dr. Wen-Zong Whong, Taiwan, Environmental Mutagenesis Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Tong-Man Ong, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Upward Mobility Training Program graduates at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences were recently awarded certificates of achievement. Three Research Service Branch employees who completed training and their programs are (l to r): Willie Catherine White, Biological Laboratory Technician; Willis R. Link, Jr., Carpenter; and Carolyn Wadford, Clerical/Secretarial. Doris Meyers (r), Environmental Biology and Chemistry Branch, passed the Biological Laboratory Technician course.

Drs. Elliot, Coulter, and Henley Join DRR Staff

Three health scientist administrators have recently been added to the NIH Division of Research Resources.

Dr. Eric C. Elliot, formerly a senior research medical officer at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, has joined the General Clinical Research Centers Program.

A senior cardiac physiologist at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center since 1964, he is the author or co-author of 19 scientific papers involving coronary flow and cardiac dynamics.

A native of Ontario, Canada, Dr. Elliot received his M.D. from the University of Toronto in 1947. He took his M.S. degree in surgery and his Ph.D. degree in physiology at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Elliot practiced medicine in the Province of Saskatchewan for 6 years. In 1956, as a research associate of the Canadian Heart Foundation, he helped develop the heart-lung machine for the open-heart surgery team at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Elliot and drug systems at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Catherine Henley, an NIH Grants Associate and former resident of North Carolina, has been selected as a health scientist administrator in the Biomedical Research Support Program, DRR.

Dr. Henley’s major research activities have been in developmental cytology, cell biology, and electron microscopy. She has had a long association with the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., and presently serves on its Board of Trustees.

From 1951 to 1968, she had full responsibility for final editing, proof-reading and indexing the bimonthly journal, The Biological Bulletin.

After receiving both her B.A. and Ph.D. in zoology at the University of North Carolina, she attended Johns Hopkins University for her masters in biology. While at UNC, Dr. Henley conducted research in cytology and cell biology and taught classes in histology.
COMMISSION

(Continued from Page 1)

disease will be found, and that a predictive test—urgently needed to alert patients and affected families—will be developed.

The Commission will conduct a comprehensive study of the state-of-the-art of research needs and of the medical and social management of Huntington's disease in the U.S.

It will also investigate and make recommendations concerning the proper roles of Federal and State governments and public and private agencies in research, prevention, identification, treatment and rehabilitation of persons with Huntington's disease.

The Commission will hold public hearings in various parts of the country throughout the year to receive testimony from appropriate consumer and professional groups. The Commissioners also hope to serve as ambassadors to the lay and professional communities, increasing public awareness of this hitherto little-known disease.

Mrs. Guthrie Is Leader

Mrs. Marjorie M. Guthrie of New York City has been named chairman of the Commission, and Dr. Milton Wexler, Beverly Hills, Calif., vice-chairman.

Other members and Dr. Stanley Maynard Aronson, Providence, R.I.; Dr. Ching Chung Li, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. Guy Mead McCann, Baltimore, Md.; Dr. Lee E. Schacht, Minneapolis, Minn.; Dr. Stanley Stellar, Livingston, N.J.; and Mrs. Alice Evans Pratt, Houston, Tex.

Dr. Nancy S. Wexler, N.Y., will serve as executive director, and Dr. Charles R. MacKay, D.C., deputy director.

Mrs. Guthrie is a prominent international lay leader in the fight against Huntington's disease. When her husband, folk balladeer Woody Guthrie, succumbed to HD in 1967, Mrs. Guthrie founded the Committee to Combat Huntington's Disease.

Through the CCHD Mrs. Guthrie has sought to educate the public about HD, assist patients and their families, and encourage and support research on this puzzling and disabling neurological disorder.

Other Groups Called

Dr. Milton Wexler, a psychoanalyst practicing in Los Angeles, is the founder and president of the Hereditary Disease Foundation which began as the California Chapter of the Committee to Combat Huntington's Disease.

The Foundation has launched a major research effort utilizing Huntington's disease as a model genetic disorder and has helped generate interest in HD among scientists throughout the world.

Californians Develop Tantalum Technique To Photograph, Study Mucus Secretion

Scientists at the University of California, San Francisco, have developed a new technique which enables them to photograph secretions from individual submucosal glands. The photographs indicate that mucus to clog the airways, shutting off air from the lungs.

Previously, the most common way to characterize mucus output was to analyze it as sputum, a less than precise method because the mucus had mingled with saliva, says Dr. Brian Davis, a CVRI fellow who presented the team's findings at a meeting of the American Thoracic Society in New Orleans in May.

The powdered metal enabled the researchers to observe the action of acetylcholine, a substance which transmits impulses across the nerve network.

The scientists' previous work showed that acetylcholine increases ion transport across the tracheal membrane, which may in turn generate more water flow into the airways.

A defect in the system linking the parasympathetic nerves (which release acetylcholine) to iron transport may cause less water to move into the airways, resulting in stickier secretion.

These findings coincide with studies in cystic fibrosis which indicate the possibility of an abnormality in the system linking the parasympathetic nerves with cellular functions.

The UCSF team, which is supported by a grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, expects this new photographic technique will allow them to look at other possible causes of mucus increase in the lungs, such as allergic reactions in asthma and chronic bronchitis.

Combine Techniques

They have combined this with a micropuncture and microsampling technique to study the regulation of secretion from individual glands.

Co-authors of the paper are: Dr. Matthew Marin, Stephen Fischer, Paul Graf, and Dr. Nadel—all of UCSF—and Dr. John Widdicombe, professor of pathology at St. George's Hospital Medical School, London.

Conference Will Discuss Breast Cancer Problems

A Conference on Breast Cancer: A Report to the Profession, 1976 will be held on Nov. 22-23, at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The conference is sponsored by the White House, the National Cancer Institute, and the American Cancer Society, and supported with funds resulting from the sale of President Ford's Inaugural Medals and Plates.

Advance registration is requested. There is no registration fee. For further information write to Dr. D. Jane Taylor, chair, Breast Cancer Program Coordinating Branch, Landow Bldg., Room A422, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

Dr. William F. Raub, associate director of the National Eye Institute Extramural and Collaborative Programs, recently received a certificate of meritorious achievement for outstanding public service from the William A. Jump Memorial Foundation. The certificate cited Dr. Raub's leadership in the planning, development, and administration of national biomedical resource programs and his contributions to the advancement of scientific investigations.

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Scientists Prove That One Form of MD Is an Intrinsic Disease of Muscle Cells

By Carolyn Holstein

The first proof that one form of muscular dystrophy (MD) is an intrinsic disease of the muscle cell has been discovered by a National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke grantee in collaboration with an Institute scientist.

Their findings are based on tissue culture studies of small fragments of biopsied muscle tissue from patients with this form of MD, called acid-maltase deficiency.

Muscle cells grown from these cultured fibers developed characteristics of the disease, in the absence of all other bodily influences. Therefore, the studies have ruled out the possibility of involvement of circulating factors or the central nervous system.

According to Drs. Valerie Askanas of New York University, who is also a grantee of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and W.King Engel, chief of the NINCDS Medical Neurology Branch, their findings may lead to new approaches to treatment of acid-maltase deficiency.

It may also provide important clues to the cause of other forms of MD which together affect an estimated 200,000 Americans.

Acid-maltase deficiency is an inherited disorder which in the adult form causes progressive muscular weakness similar to that caused by limb-girdle MD. The inherited infantile form causes severe muscular weakness and an enlarged heart which usually leads to heart disease.

Drs. Askanas and Engel believe a number of adults now diagnosed as having limb-girdle MD, may in fact have this biochemically distinct form.

Acid-maltase is an enzyme which normally breaks down glycogen (animal starch) within tiny bodies called lysosomes residing in muscle cells.

In the absence of this enzyme, glycogen accumulates until, at some point, it is thought to burst through the thin walls of the lysosomes and harm the muscle fiber itself.

The scientists’ ability to demonstrate that acid-maltase deficiency is a primary muscle disease is attributed to improvements in techniques for culturing adult human muscle.

Scientists now are able to study muscle cells of tissue which has been newly grown in culture from the original muscle biopsy. Drs. Askanas and Engel term their results a “reincarnation in vitro of the disease,” since the cultured muscle cells, grown free of all other bodily influences, still developed the biochemical and ultrastructural abnormalities of the patient’s original muscle biopsy.

Contraction Observed

Spontaneous contractions characteristic of acid-maltase deficiency even were observed in some mature tissue.

Some other rare forms of muscle disease also have been “reincarnated” in tissue culture by the scientists.

Whether more common forms of MD originate in the muscle cell remains to be determined and the doctors, therefore, now are ascertaining whether studies of some of these more common forms can be approached in a similar manner.

Draft Available on DNA Recombinant Research Impact on Environment

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Director of NIH, has announced the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules. Notice of the availability of this document appears in the Sept. 2 Federal Register.

Risks Minimized

The Guidelines—issued by NIH on June 23 after extensive discussion of this subject with the scientific community and the public—are designed to minimize risks in the conduct of recombinant DNA research by establishing physical and biological containment procedures within the laboratory.

The possibility that organisms containing recombinant DNA might escape and affect the environment led to suggestions that NIH also prepare an environmental statement on such research. The Draft Statement, in response to these concerns, is issued in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Dr. Fredrickson invites public consideration of and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Copies are available from Dr. Rudolf Wanner, Associate Director for Environmental Health and Safety, Division of Research Services, Bldg. 12A, Room 4051, NIH, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

Comments should be submitted to the NIH Director by Oct. 18.