Indian Ambassador Visits Clinical Center, Sees Film on NCI Oral Cancer Project

Viewing the award-winning film, "Tobacco Habits and Oral Cancer," are (l to r) NCI Director Dr. Arthur C. Upton; Dr. Soli K. Choksi, formerly with NCI and now at Howard University; Mrs. Palkhivala, His Excellency N.A. Palkhivala, Ambassador of India; and Mrs. Rhoda Mehta, a member of their party.

His Excellency N.A. Palkhivala, Ambassador of India, visited NIH on May 18 to tour the Clinical Center and to view a film, "Tobacco Habits and Oral Cancer," produced under a project supported by the National Cancer Institute which recently won the Silver Lotus Award of the President of India as the best educational film of the year.

Oral cancer is by far the most prevalent cancer in India, accounting for 45 percent of the cancer in that country compared with only 3 to 5 per cent worldwide. Many of the oral cancer victims do not seek or receive treatment until the tumor or disfigurement is severely advanced.

Project Began in 1969

Beginning in 1969 a project was begun to screen persons for oral cancer in as many villages as possible. Dr. Jens J. Pindborg, pathologist in the Royal Dental College, Copenhagen, Denmark, is the principal investigator.

Dr. James E. Hamner III, formerly of the National Institute of Dental Research and now associate director for Intervention Programs, Division of Cancer Control and Rehabilitation, NCI, has assisted in training the numerous dentists who have now visited more than 59,000 villages throughout India, examining at least 85 percent of the population of each village who have had a tobacco habit for 15 years or more.

The Indian Ambassador is a close friend of Dr. Fahi Mehta, epidemiologist for the project at Tata Institute.

R&W Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary on June 8

The NIH Recreation & Welfare Association is celebrating its 30th anniversary during the month of June. All members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting, Thursday, June 8, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Revised By-Laws Available

Copies of revised by-laws are available at the Activities Desk, R&W Gift Shops, and from B/1/D representatives.

Don't miss the anniversary specials available daily at all R&W Gift shops, June 1 through June 17.

Dr. Richard R. Bates Is Risk Assessment Ass’t To Director of NIEHS

Dr. Richard R. Bates has joined the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences as assistant to the Institute Director in the area of Risk Assessment.

Dr. Bates, a PHS commissioned officer, was previously Associate Commissioner for Science at FDA.

Before graduating from medical school, Dr. Bates was a research assistant at NIH in Bethesda, Md. He received his M.D. degree from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, in 1958.

Prior to joining the FDA in 1976, he served in the National Cancer Institute as a research scientist from 1964 to 1967, later as chief of NCI's Experimental Pathology Branch, and from 1973 to 1976 as scientific coordinator for carcinogenesis at the NCI facility at Ft. Detrick in Frederick, Md.

Between 1958 and 1964, Dr. Bates served at the PHS Hospital in Seattle, Wash., becoming deputy chief of pathology in 1963.

Dr. Bates will plan research in the assessment of human risk from toxic substances, including evaluation of clinical epidemiology data and correlation of human and animal pathologic findings.

He will also design studies to make use of data from animal toxicity tests in the extrapolation of these findings to the practice of preventive medicine.
We’ve Got a Lot To Offer—and It’s All Free!

We’ve got a lot to offer... and it’s all free!

- A simple, painless blood pressure check
- An individualized, confidential explanation of your blood pressure reading
- Information on “everything you wanted to know about high blood pressure but were afraid to ask”

Screen Building by Building

The Occupational Medicine Service is continuing a building-by-building blood pressure screening as part of its comprehensive program to help NIH employees detect and control high blood pressure.

During June, OMS will be offering blood pressure checks to Bldgs. 38, 1, 35, 36, 37, 30, 29, 20A, and 15. Watch for the smiling face on flyers and posters with your building’s schedule.

So that OMS will not miss employees who take summer vacations, blood pressure screening will stop during July and August, but will resume in September for the remaining buildings.

It’s a Bargain

You’ll only need a few minutes to take advantage of this health bargain.

Live as long as you may, the first twenty years are the longest half of your life.—Robert Southey

US-USSR Proceedings On Congenital Heart Disease Now Available


The Proceedings contains papers, published in English and Russian, which reflect research results and advances covering a variety of congenital heart disease conditions, indications for surgery, advances and problems with certain surgical techniques, new methods for diagnosis and treatment, and patient management protocols.

The symposium fostered a better exchange of research ideas and information between the two countries—a major goal of the US-USSR health agreements.

Single copies of the 661-page publication are available on request from the NHLBI Public Inquiries and Reports Branch, 496-5343, Bldg. 31, Room 5A-03B.

It may also be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at $7.25 per copy. Please identify stock number 017-043-00080-3 when ordering.

FINANCIAL SEMINAR SPONSORED BY R&W TO BE HELD JUNE 6

Two account executives from Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith, Inc. are holding a seminar on financial objectives on Tuesday, June 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 1.

The NIH Recreation & Welfare Association is sponsoring the financial seminar which will provide information to help employees decide if their investments suit their needs.
315 NIH’ers Form 63 Teams, Participate in Institute Relay

THE FIRST INSTITUTE RELAY on May 24 brought out 63 teams of five runners each. L to r, top to bottom: Health’s Angels president Allen Lewis and NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson started off the two heats of the relay, run on a half-mile course beginning near Bldg. 1. Dr. Fredrickson received his team’s baton from Pat Carmichael, ran the second leg, and handed the baton off to Ray Womeldorf. The Director’s team, Donald’s Ducks, finished in 18 minutes, 21 seconds. Top women’s team, the NIMH End-orphans finished in 17:01 (Ann Ballard, NICHD; Julie Guroff, Jean Collison, and Jan Hubbel of NIMH; and Judy Augenbaugh, NC1). Dr. Charles Schuls was anchor man for the winning men’s team (11:59), the NIMH Shrinks Team A: John Russell Allen, Thomas Ehlinger, Dr. Steven Targum, Dr. Schuls, and Dr. Jonathan Costa. The NIMH Shrinks Team B swept third place in 12:36. The Cancer Crabs took second place in 12:30. Complete results will appear in the NIH Jogging Club newsletter and R&W Smoke Signals.

Dance, Disco Lessons Planned for Singles

Dance with the Singles Club at the Skyview Room of the Ramada Inn on Friday, June 2, from 7 p.m. till midnight.

Prior payment is $3 for members of the NIH Singles Club, $4 for non-members. Gate admission for all is $4. Buy your own drinks; money collected is for rental of the balcony. R.S.V.P. or send advance payment to Pete Eddy, Bldg. 31, Room B2B39 (496-2146).

This event will be cancelled if fewer than 40 persons pay in advance.

After work get-togethers continue on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Recreation Room of Bldg. 20. Refreshments are available, as well as free disco dance lessons for all. Join in the fun.

Construction Shifts

Camp Arrowhead Location

Camp Arrowhead has been moved from the NIH Campus to Ayrllawn Recreation Center at 5650 Oakmont Ave. because of potential safety hazards due to construction on the site.

For further information, call the Child Care Coordinator’s office, 496-1811.

Golfers Choose Officers; Sanders Memorial Held

NIH Women’s Golf Association held the Betty Sanders Memorial Outing, at Falls Road Golf Course on Monday, April 17. Thirty men and women turned out to establish handicaps and compete for prizes.

Prizes Awarded

The low gross was won by Ken Jones; the low net was won by Jean Mierley and Ann Proctor. Lois Duggan and Jean Russell tied for the most birdies. The prizes were awarded at an evening meeting held in the cafeteria of Bldg. 1 on April 25. Teams were announced and the captains were chosen for the current season:

Flight A: Betty Bolton, Tina Walter
Flight B: Sybil Wilson, Mary Sears
Flight C: Lois Whitley, Rita Dettmers

A good season is anticipated by all.

Are You Questioning Your Use of Alcohol?

Call 496-2738

Employee Assistance Program

Volunteers Sought

In Study of Ragweed Hay Fever Treatment

If you suffer during the months of August and September because of sneezing, runny, stuffy-nose, or red, itchy eyes, you may qualify to participate in an allergy injection treatment study sponsored by the Allergenic Products Branch of the Bureau of Biologics.

Will Compare Extracts

The study will compare the effectiveness of two commercially available ragweed extracts in the treatment of ragweed hay fever. Qualified volunteers will receive weekly injections of increasing doses of one of the selected ragweed extracts.

Injections will be administered at the Occupational Medical Service, Bldg. 10, Rm. B2A06.

In order to be considered for inclusion in the study, an allergy questionnaire available at the receptionist’s desk at the Occupational Medical Service should be filled out and returned to the receptionist.

All individuals submitting questionnaires will be subsequently contacted regarding their eligibility for participation in this study.

Health’s Angels To Hold Picnic June 25 Including Novel Relay

The NIH Jogging Club (Health’s Angels) will hold a picnic on Sunday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m. in the Kenang Recreational Center, Kennington. The center is located ¾ mile north of Knowles Ave. on Beach Drive. Bring your own food, drinks, and grill.

There will be a relay race with teams formed of equal ability and each person running 1 mile. However, there will be an unusual twist to the starting of the race—come along and find out! Guests and families, including children, are welcome. Future plans for the club will be discussed.

Used Eyeglasses, Frames Needed by SOS Program

The Society for the Prevention of Blindness is seeking assistance for the Save Our Sight program. Please contact Ronica Schwartz, Federal Bldg., Room 802, 496-5825, if you can contribute any of the following:

—glasses with good plastic frames;
—metal frames in any condition;
—sunglasses (not clip-ons);
—good plastic frames for re-use;
—discarded bits of gold or silver jewelry (metal is reclaimed).
Scientists from around the world recently participated in NIAID's Conference on Immunogenetics of the Rabbit—the first effort to systematize knowledge of the various immunogenetic systems of the rabbit so as to increase its use as an immunogenetic model. Left to right: Dr. Constantin Bona of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and the Institut Pasteur, Paris—currently a guest worker in NIAID's Laboratory of Immunology—confers with Dr. Jacques Oudin, Director of the CNRS and chief of the Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Institut Pasteur. NIAID Director Dr. Richard Krause and Dr. Charles Todd (r.), chairman of the Division of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Calif., admire the silver bowl presented to Dr. Oudin (c) by his friends and colleagues on the occasion of the Conference. Dr. Oudin, who will be retiring this year, has played a leading role in the development of the rabbit model. Far right, Dr. Rose Mage of the NIAID Laboratory of Immunology served as chairman and coordinator of the Conference.

Computer Resources: Booklet Describes Use Of DCRT Facilities

The Division of Computer Research and Technology has prepared a new comprehensive booklet, Computer Resources, to explain the wide variety of DCRT activities and tell how NIH scientists and administrators, as well as computer professionals, can make use of the Division resources.

Details Activities

The booklet has major sections covering Computer Services and Facilities, Analysis and Programming Services, ADP Policy Information, and DCRT Information Services and Facilities, including the DCRT Library.

Another section on Consultation and Collaboration gives details about activities in Laboratory Automation, Clinical Care and Research, and Administrative Data Management and Analysis. It also describes the DCRT capabilities in statistical and mathematical analysis and computer science.

Replaces Previous Publication

The booklet replaces Services and Facilities of DCRT, issued in January 1977. A new, easier-to-read format and an index enable readers to locate general topics, as well as specific items such as the location of people and places within DCRT and specific software packages supported by the Division.

Copies of the booklet are available from the DCRT Information Office, Bldg. 12A, Room 3011, 496-6203.

It would be an unsound fancy and self-contradictory to expect that things which have never yet been done can be done except by means which have never yet been tried.—Sir Francis Bacon

4 Carcinogenesis Test Reports Available

The Carcinogenesis Testing Program of the National Cancer Institute has recently published reports on animal tests of four compounds for carcinogenicity.

Fed Malathion for 80 Weeks

Malathion, an organophosphorous insecticide, was given in feed to rats and mice for 80 weeks. According to the report, malathion was not carcinogenic in either rats or mice under the test conditions.

Methodoxylchlor, an organochlorine insecticide related to DDT, was given in feed to rats and mice for 78 weeks, and was not found carcinogenic in rats or mice under the test conditions.

Contact OCC for Copies

Copies of the reports on each of the bioassays for possible carcinogenicity are available from the Office of Cancer Communications, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

Krause Gets Honorary Degree For 'Notable Achievements'

Dr. Richard M. Krause, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, was recently presented an honorary degree by his alma mater, Marietta College in Ohio.

The Doctor of Science degree was awarded for his “notable achievements in the fields of immunology and infectious diseases.”

Control of High Blood Pressure Is Discussed At 4th Nat'l Conference

Over 800 national and international health professionals recently participated in a 3-day conference on high blood pressure control.

The fourth national conference, held April 2-4 in Los Angeles, was sponsored by 18 of the more than 125 organizations participating in the National High Blood Pressure Education Program.

The Program is a joint Federal Government/private sector effort coordinated by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to bring the importance of hypertension detection and control to the attention of public and health professionals.

Dr. Levy also stressed the Program’s continued emphasis on prevention, from basic research to practical application and medical care.

150 Presentations Made

At the conference there were 10 continuing education panels and presentations of more than 150 abstracts including discussions on:

- hypertension in children
- role of nurses in hypertension control
- rational approaches to dietary management of hypertension
- hypertension at the worksite
- the community hypertension program
- innovative treatment programs
- long term maintenance

For conference abstracts or information, contact: High Blood Pressure Information Center, 120/80, NIH, Bethesda, Md. 20014.
Hanford Moxley Retires; Well Known as Manager Of Health Fair Exhibits

Hanford E. Moxley, long-time NIH employee who managed National Heart Institute exhibits for nearly 20 years, was honored by friends and associates at a luncheon in Bethesda May 3.

Widely known in health and medical fields and by professional associations of the U.S. for his work in presenting PHS-NIH-HEW exhibits at national and international meetings, Mr. Moxley received many commendations for his work.

Organizations Commend Exhibits

Among organizations commending exhibits he managed are: the American Medical Association, Southern Medical Association, American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, American Psychiatric Association, National Association for Mental Health, American Public Health Association, American Osteopathic Association, and various health fair groups.

In a typical year, while working at NIH and the then-National Heart Institute, Mr. Moxley produced, arranged, scheduled, and presented exhibits with information on cardiovascular subjects at 20 to 25 meetings and health fairs to audiences totalling over 3 million people.

Mr. and Mrs. Moxley received numerous congratulatory letters from friends and former associates across the country who were unable to attend his retirement party, including Dr. Thomas Dawber, former Director of the Framingham Heart Study; Placide Schriever, former head of Health Education Materials Development, American Heart Association, N.Y.; and Rosalynn Carter, The White House.

Conference Proceedings Issued on Blood Banking Management, Logistics

A new publication, The Management and Logistics of Blood Banking, Conference Proceedings, Volume II, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 78-1471, has been issued by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Division of Blood Diseases and Resources.

The conference, held in June 1977, supports NHLBI's mandate to promote improvement in the management of the Nation's blood resource. The quality of blood bank management has a significant effect on the extent to which blood is efficiently and safely used.

The purpose of these proceedings is to help blood bank administrators identify and resolve some of the management problems associated with a rapidly growing and changing field.

Major Topics Presented

Four major topics pertaining to blood bank operations are discussed in this volume: the effect of automation on blood banking systems, financial management of blood banks, problems and challenges in blood banking, and the physician as a blood bank manager.

The first three parts of the book consist of 14 papers presented at the conference, followed by their transcribed question-and-answer sessions.

Includes Panel Discussion

The fourth part, The Physician as Blood Bank Manager, is a panel discussion composed of four brief presentations and an exchange of comments among the panel participants.

Single copies of the book are available on request from the NHLBI Public Inquiries and Reports Branch, 496-5343, Bldg. 31, Room 5A-03B.

This 264-page publication is also available at $4.75 per copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, stock number 017-043-00082-0.

He was then recruited by the National Institute of Mental Health to initiate an expansion of the mental health exhibit program.

Future Plans Noted

A native of Mount Airy, Md., Mr. Moxley resides there with his wife, Alamedia. Mr. Moxley plans to consult and other work and travelling as "my retirement career." He is currently active in a local rehabilitation group.

Ingenious Device Helps NIEHS Scientists To Measure Lab Animals' Grip Strength

As a researcher lowers the rat, by reflex it grasps the ring. It is then pulled gently away from the strain gauge until it lets go of the ring. The maximum pull in grams required to release the animal's grip is recorded by the gauge.

The gripping strength of the forepaws of rats and mice may not interest human body-builders, but to investigators at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences measuring this strength is of great importance.

NIEHS scientists have developed an ingenious and low-cost unit that precisely measures the grip strength of lab animals. It is used in studying the effects of different environmental chemicals on nerve and muscle systems.

A description of the innovation was recently published in the professional journal of Pharmacology Biochemistry & Behavior (Vol. 8, pp. 101-102).

Referred to as a Simple Recording Grip Strength Device, it was developed by Drs. Patrick A. Cabe, H. A. Tilson, and Clifford L. Mitchell in the Laboratory of Behavioral and Neurological Toxicology, NIEHS. They were assisted by machinist Ralph Dennis in the Institute's Research Services Branch.

Device Described

The device is made from a lightweight strain gauge which is equipped with a grasping ring and mounted on a stand parallel to a lab table.

A hand-held animal is lowered close to the ring which it grasps by reflex. It is then pulled gently away from the strain gauge until it lets go of the ring. The gauge records the maximum pull in grams required to release the animal's grip.

The test which requires no learning behavior from the animal is repeated three times to obtain an average result. The method was first tried using animals that had been administered chemicals that had a known effect on muscle and nerve systems.

"An advantage to this device is that it measures increased grip strength as well as decreased strength," Dr. Mitchell said. Also, he noted the device provides a quantitative result. "Previous methods provided all or nothing results," he said.

Already the device has been used in a number of projects, for example, research on the polybrominated biphenyls (PBB's).

PBB's came to light as an environmental problem in Michigan in 1973 where a chemical fire retardant used in solid plastics was bagged and used mistakenly as an additive for cattle feed. Disease symptoms were later reported in the cattle that ate the feed and in people who ate animal products from the cattle.

Gives PBB Exposure Results

Human symptoms reported by those exposed to PBB's include sores, loss of hair, loss of memory, and fatigue, among other problems.

This experience recalled a similar contamination of rice oil in Japan in the 1960's which involved a related chemical product, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's).

Research was done at NIEHS and by scientists at the NIEHS-supported Environmental Health Sciences Center at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City to determine the effects of PBB's and PCB's.

The grip strength device was developed at NIEHS to determine what effects these chemicals had on the nerve and muscle systems of lab animals.

LOCK YOUR BIKE!
4 New Members Join NIAID's National Council
To Give Expert Advice

Four new members, whose appointments will be effective through 1981, have recently been named to the National Advisory Council for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

They are: Dr. Hugh McDevitt, Stanford University School of Medicine; Dr. Roy Patterson, Northwestern University Medical School; Dr. William B. Bias, Johns Hopkins University; and Adonna Riley of Louisville, Ky.

Dr. McDevitt, one of the foremost scientists in the field of immunology, is professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Immunology at Stanford, where he began his association in 1966.

There he and his associates worked with inbred strains of mice, showing that in the mouse specific genes (Ir) control an individual animal's ability to make circulating antibody to a particular antigen. Further, these genes are located within the same region on the chromosome as the so-called H2 genes that, in mice, govern acceptance or rejection of a transplanted organ or tissue.

Dr. Patterson, Director of one of NIAID's 14 Asthma and Allergic Disease Centers, is an expert in the field of allergy and diseases of the immune system.

Trains Young Researchers

Professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine at Northwestern University, he is a past president of the American Academy of Allergy.

Dr. Patterson has contributed new ideas in important areas of the Institute's programs, and has trained many young investigators in these fields.

He and his group at Northwestern have improved "allergy shots" for ragweed suffers by preparing a special form (polymer) of ragweed antigen E—the major culprit in hay fever—that, when injected, affords the same benefits as the standard pollen extract in about one-third the time and with less risk to the patients.

Dr. Bias began her long association with Johns Hopkins as a Fellow in medical genetics at the School of Medicine, 1963-64, and is now associate professor of medicine and director of medical genetics at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene as well as assistant professor of surgery at the School of Medicine.

Her background in human genetics will be of special assistance to the Council, particularly in the fields of immunology, transplantation immunology, and immune deficiency disease.

Mrs. Riley is a prominent and active member of the state and national Parent Teacher Association. She is vice chairman of the Health and Welfare Commission, Board of Directors, National PTA, and served as president of the Kentucky PTA in 1973-75.

Plans Tri-State Conference

She has also served as Area Coordinator for 21 PTA's in Southwest Jefferson County, and was active in implementing and planning the Tri-State Parenting Conference hosted by Kentucky and involving North Carolina and Tennessee.

Mrs. Riley has an active interest in health problems, having assumed a leading role in the March of Dimes and Metro-United Way activities in Louisville.

She was instrumental in setting up Sabin Oral Sundays during the early days of polio immunization and has maintained a particular interest in the national immunization program.

Presently the Area Coordinator for Community Health, Human Relations Department, Jefferson County Board of Education in Louisville, Mrs. Riley has also served on the Advocacy Assembly for Kentucky of the White House Commission on Children and Youth.

CANCER FILM

(Continued from Page 1)

In India, tobacco is used in many ways—including cigarette smoking; cigar smoking in reverse with the lighted end in the mouth; smoking clay pipes; chewing tobacco mixed with betel leaves, areca nut, and lime; and rubbing tobacco ashes on the teeth and gums.

Explains Lesions, Treatment

The 18-minute award-winning color film details all of these tobacco habits and the oral cancers associated with them as well as showing the method of examining villagers, obtaining biopsies, and photographing oral lesions. The film has been successfully used to introduce the project to villagers in even very remote areas accessible only by foot after lengthy Jeep journeys.

Funding for continuing the project was recently extended for an additional 3-year term.

What Do You Know About Savings Bonds?

Test your knowledge about Savings Bonds—here are answers to the most frequently asked questions:

Bonds provide an automatic savings plan for as little as $3.75 per pay period by utilizing the payroll deduction plan.

- Series E Savings Bonds earn 6 percent interest compounded semiannually if held to a maturity of 5 years.
- If the bonds are lost, stolen, or destroyed, they will be replaced without charge and with the original date of issuance.
- Bonds are redeemable after the first 2 months of ownership.

Special Tax Exemption

- Savings Bonds are exempt from State and local income taxes, and property taxes.
- Parents can buy E Bonds registered in the child's name, either alone or with one of the parents as beneficiary. These become an outright gift from parent to child.
- The income tax can be shifted to the child by filing a Federal return at the end of the first year of Bond purchases in the child's name, listing the increase in Bond value as income to him. No tax will be due if the interest plus other income come to less than $2,050.

This initial return establishes the intent, and no future returns will have to be filed as long as the child's total annual income remains under the above amount.

Rules for Co-owners

- Co-owners or beneficiaries can be changed by completing an HEW-357.
- Co-owners are not mandatory when purchasing Bonds.
- Co-owners can be under 18 when the requirement that they have a Social Security number.
- Bonds purchased from the inception of the U.S. Savings Bond Program are still earning interest.
- Series E Savings Bonds can be converted to Series H Bonds upon retirement in multiples of $500.

If you have questions, contact your tax preparer/assistant — or Steven Groban, NIH Savings Bond Coordinator, 496-2341.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

5/1—Dr. Charles R. Watson, Arkansas, Laboratory of Psychobiology, Evolution and Behavior. Sponsor: Dr. Howard Lovejoy, NIH, Bethesda, Md.

5/4—Dr. Baralama Kalyanaraman, India, Laboratory of Environmental Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Mason, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

5/7—Dr. Katsuhiko Fukasawa, Japan, Laboratory of Experimental Pathology. Sponsor: Dr. Henry Metzger, NIADDK, Bldg. 10, Rm. 9N208.

5/12—Dr. Katsuhiko Fukasawa, Japan, Laboratory of Experimental Pathology. Sponsor: Dr. Henry Metzger, NIADDK, Bldg. 10, Rm. 9N208.
certain non-viral agents can stimulate antitumor properties. From previous studies they knew that interferon—a naturally produced antiviral substance—may be one of the body's weapons against the development of cancer.

Interferon—a protein produced by the body's cells—has recently been shown to have antitumor effects in clinical studies where patients with osteogenic sarcoma and other types of cancer received interferon produced outside the body. Although unproven, interferon is believed to contribute to tumor immunity by enhancing the cellular immune response and by inhibiting tumor cell growth itself.

In the reported study, the investigators explored the mechanisms involved in interferon's observed antitumor properties. From previous studies they knew that certain non-viral agents can stimulate interferon production.

To determine if cancer cells could induce interferon, the researchers mixed fresh human lymphocytes with normal and cancerous human cells that were growing in laboratory cultures. The antiviral activity was measured by extracting fluid from the culture, incubating it with cultured fetal cells that were infected with viruses and then noted the inhibition of virus growth in the fetal cells.

The scientists reported that—with two exceptions—only cultures with cancer cells showed significant antiviral activity. The two exceptions were cultures containing cells transformed by a known cancer-causing virus in animals—SV-40 virus. In contrast, none of the 12 cultures with normal cells demonstrated antiviral action.

Upon further testing, the investigators confirmed the fact that the virus inhibitor was indeed interferon. In addition to its antiviral properties, the interferon boosted the cell-killing capacity of lymphocytes and impeded the growth of cancer cells.

To determine whether tumor cells or lymphocytes produced the interferon, the scientists cultured mouse cells with human lymphocytes. They found that all the interferon produced was of human origin, indicating that lymphocytes in these mixed cultures were the actual interferon producers.

The stimulus for inducing lymphocytes to produce interferon in the presence of cancer cells is unknown. However, according to the researchers, contact between lymphocytes and tumor cells seems to be required, since fluid from cultures of cancer cells alone are unable to produce interferon.

Although current theories of immune stimulation, such as the presence of tumor antigens or viruses on the surface of cancer cells, cannot be excluded, they do not adequately explain the interferon production observed in this study. For instance, the interferon was produced at a faster rate and at higher levels than in previous studies where interferon was produced by lymphocytes stimulated by viral-antigens.

Among the different cancer cells that were analyzed, two types—melanoma and colorectal—produced puzzling results. Cell cultures from all four of the melanoma patients tested produced interferon, whereas only two of the six cultures from colorectal cancer patients did. Moreover, both of these cultures were from the same patient.

If interferon is involved in tumor immunity, why do cells from certain cancer patients, and not others, induce its production? For the present, the investigators conclude, that, if tumor cells in the body are able to react with lymphocytes to produce interferon, as observed in this study, then interferon may well be one of the body's weapons against cancer invasion and growth.

The report of this research by Drs. Giorgio Trinchieri, Daniela Santoli, and Barbara B. Knowles from the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia, Pa., appeared in the Dec. 15, 1977 issue of Nature.
Many Diabetics Undetected

Diabetes is known to affect a population of about 4.8 million Americans. It has been estimated, however, that an equal number of individuals will develop or have undetected diabetes. In 1977, this disorder cost the Nation approximately $8 billion in lost productivity and medical expenses—an average of $1,125 per patient—without considering the cost of complications.

Coupled with the escalating economic loss from diabetes is the intangible toll taken from the quality of life of affected individuals. Diabetes ranks fifth as a cause of death by disease and is a major factor in the development of cardiovascular, ocular, renal, and neurologic complications in the diabetic population.

Need for Data Essential

Because of the magnitude of this public health problem, the need for accurate demographic and epidemiologic data on diabetes has become essential.

In response to this need, the National Diabetes Data Group, a component of the Institute's Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism Diseases Program, directed the publication of Diabetes Data.

The broad range of statistical information was compiled by the National Commission on Diabetes in collaboration with NIAMDD, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the American Diabetes Association.

Three Factors for Impetus

Three major factors provided the impetus for the compilation of Diabetes Data: the development of new information and concepts of diabetes over the past decade; the extensive updating, assembly and discussion of data by the National Commission on Diabetes and the need for a current collection of diabetes statistics for program planning by health agencies.

The new publication provides a central source of this information for clinicians and allied health professionals, scientists, investigators, service program coordinators, and for all who are concerned with the public health aspects of diabetes.

Interferon Effective in Limiting Herpes Zoster Complications in Cancer Patients

Interferon effectively limits dissemination of herpes zoster (shingles) in cancer patients, according to a study by scientists at Stanford University. Treatment with interferon also significantly diminished visceral (internal) complications, such as involvement of the brain, lung, or eyes, as well as the frequency of post-herpetic neuralgia in these patients.

Interferon is a natural body protein produced by cells in response to a virus or other stimuli. It can be manufactured in limited quantities in the laboratory by stimulating human white blood cells (leucocytes) or human fibroblast cells with Sendai virus or other interferon inducers.

The resulting exogenous human interferon, primarily leucocyte, has been tried with promising results in the treatment of respiratory infections, herpes keratitis, and chronic hepatitis B.

2 Institutes Support Research

The new study, conducted by Dr. Thomas C. Merigan and his colleagues, was supported by a contract and grants from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and a grant from the National Cancer Institute.

The effect of interferon on early localized herpes zoster infections was tested in a series of three placebo-controlled, randomized double-blind trials involving 90 patients with malignancy. In these patients, herpes zoster can be both serious and prolonged.

The investigators used human leucocyte interferon prepared and purified in a Finnish laboratory and supplied by the NIAID Antiviral Substances Program.

During the three trials, different dosages were given to 45 patients for 7 to 8 days, beginning on the first or second day of the infection.

The best results were seen in patients who were treated early in the infection and who received the highest dosage of interferon.

Results Encouraging

No cutaneous dissemination of the zoster infection occurred in these patients, and the duration of pain was shortened. No visceral complications occurred in patients who received the two highest dosages.

One patient of the group who received the lowest dosage developed a visceral complication; six of the 45 placebo-treated patients developed these complications. Side effects were few.

These promising results emphasize the need for development of a way to produce larger quantities of interferon for broader studies.

Private Health Agencies Comment on Directions Of Neurological Research

Suggestions for future directions of the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke should take to meet the needs of patients were voiced by representatives of more than 40 private voluntary health agencies at a recent public forum sponsored by the Institute.

NINCDS invited these suggestions and comments on the scope and impact of neurological disorders as part of its effort to develop a 10-year research strategy in the basic and clinical neurosciences.

The forum was organized by Dr. George C. Murray, director of the NINCDS Office of Program Planning and Evaluation, who is in charge of developing the plan.

According to Dr. Murray, "The forum served two purposes. First, it enabled us to hear needs as perceived by members of the private health organizations. . . . And, second, it provided an important opportunity for the private health agency members to get to know one another and to learn of their mutual concerns."

In his welcoming statement, Institute Director Dr. Donald B. Tower described the system of funding for the NIH institutes and explained how the NINCDS determines which research grant proposals will be funded within budgetary limitations.

He stressed the cost to society in terms of health care expense and lost wages for the more than 55 million Americans with neurological and communicative disorders. These costs are estimated to be about $65 billion annually, while research funding for these disorders currently totals $0.18 billion.

Reports Strategy

The Institute's report of its research strategy will be based on deliberations by several major panels composed of experts in the neurological and communicative fields. These panels will be augmented by dozens of consultants in special areas.

Among questions being considered by the panels are:

- What is the magnitude and societal impact of health problems in each disease?
- What scientific opportunities exist to help meet these health problems?
- What future directions or shifts in emphasis should be considered?

Private health agency representatives suggested continued research on the cause, prevention, and cure of neurological and communicative disorders; and improved education of the public and patients in dealing with these disorders.

The representatives also stressed the need for research on care of the chronically ill, and said it was important to develop drugs that, because they are needed by only a small population, are overlooked by commercial companies.

In addition, they underlined a need for a more organized and integrated approach to the care of patients with neurological and communicative disorders.

NIA Contractor Will Test Cell Cultures To Detect Mycoplasma Contamination

If man were to design the ideal nuisance for cell culture science, it would probably resemble mycoplasma.

These tiny, evasive organisms, smaller than bacteria but larger than viruses, frequently contaminate cell cultures. They can alter the behavior and characteristics of cultured cells so dramatically that their mere presence compromises research results.

In April, the National Institute on Aging (which currently supports a major program in cell culture biology) awarded the Institute for Medical Research in Camden, N.J., a 3-year contract to establish a mycoplasma contamination testing service.

NIA hopes that cell culture scientists in the aging field will send in samples of their cell lines for mycoplasma testing as a routine part of experimental protocols.

The contract focuses not only on mycoplasma detection but also on mycoplasma prevention and control. Unfortunately, once these contaminants are present, the cultures in which they reside are virtually useless. Mycoplasma can unpredictably alter cell products, cell growth, time of cell "death," chromosome composition, immune factors, and physical appearance.

Newsletter Reports Techniques

In addition, the mycoplasma may induce a wide range of cell diseases and metabolic changes. The contractor will communicate prevention and control techniques through a quarterly newsletter and through individual consultation to laboratories experiencing chronic incidence of mycoplasma.

Culture contamination is a concern to all cell scientists but it is especially significant for researchers in the aging field. Studies designed to examine the aging process often require that scientists observe cells over a long period of time and through many cell divisions and passages.

With each passage—sometimes more than 50 in normal aging cell lines—there is an increased chance of mycoplasma contamination. Each manipulation of the cells presents an opportunity for introduction of mycoplasma.

The ubiquitous nature of the organism makes its control particularly difficult. These contaminants are found naturally in both human and animal oral cavities, blood, mucous membranes of respiratory and urogenital tracts and other tissues.

Difficult to Detect

Mycoplasma are relatively difficult to detect microbiologically and chemically. Lacking cell walls, they are resistant to common antibiotics and do not even produce the usual "tell tale" turbidity or cloudiness characteristic of contaminated cell cultures.

The testing service will perform a minimum of three detection procedures on each cell sample sent to them and will also attempt to identify exact mycoplasma species in order to isolate the contamination source. Initially, the service will be available, free of charge, to NIA grantees, contractors, and other NIH-approved laboratories.

For further information on this resource contact Dr. Gerard Mc­Garrity at the Institute for Medical Research, (609) 966-7377, or Dr. Nirmal Das, (301) 496-9350.
Frank Gardner of DFM Retires as Branch Chief

Mr. Gardner joined NIH in September 1967.

B. Frank Gardner recently retired as chief of the Budget Presentation and Coordination Branch, Division of Financial Management, Office of the Director, a position he had held since May 1970.

Mr. Gardner began his Government service with the U.S. Army during World War II in the South Pacific, where he received the Bronze Star for service as Assistant Adjutant General when four officers were simultaneously returned to the U.S. because of illness.

His civilian career included experience as credit manager for the American Hospital Supply Corporation and as manager of a furniture store.

He also held Government posts in the Navy Department and the D.C. Public Library, and served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1963 to 1967, receiving a Special Service Award in 1965.

In September 1967 he joined the NIH Division of Financial Management.

Mr. Gardner now plans to continue his interests in travel and in raising and showing Persian cats.

Frank B. Showers Dies; Budget Officer at NCI Received Several Awards

Frank B. Showers, National Cancer Institute, died May 21. An NCI budget analyst, he was serving as acting budget officer at the time of his death.

Mr. Showers was a veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict. He was employed for 16 years with the Aluminum Company of America as a production and staff planner and in other management positions.

He came to NIH in 1970 as a management analyst, and had been employed in the Financial Management Branch of NCI for the past 6 years.

Mr. Showers was a graduate of the College of William and Mary. During his career, he received several awards for outstanding performance, the latest in March 1977.

He is survived by his wife Marguerite; three parents, Lester and Marion Mahoney Showers; two sons, Michael and David; three daughters, LouAnn Morgan, Marguerite, and Kelly; and a sister, Mrs. Ann Chambers.

Prevent Theft! Lock Your Bike Securely

Bike theft season is here again—don't let your bike be the next to go. NIH has installed bicycle racks with chains to help in protecting your bicycle.

Statistics show many cyclists never register their bikes with the police—as they are required to do by law—and never bother to write down the serial number. Keep in mind that if your bike is recovered by the police, you must be able to prove ownership before the police can release it to you.

The Protection and Security Management Branch asks, Does it make good sense to lock up a $200 bike with a $2 lock?

Three New Members Are Added to Panel Of Research Resources Advisory Council

Three new members have been appointed to the National Advisory Research Resources Council for terms ending Oct. 31, 1981. The Council—a 12-member panel of scientists, scientist administrators, educators, other qualified health care professionals, and public leaders—reviews applications for NIH grants by the Division of Research Resources to fund support grants for clinical research centers, animal resources, biotechnology resources, minority biomedical support, and biomedical research.

Dr. Aksel A. Bothner-By, University professor at Carnegie-Mellon University, has received his B.S. degree at the University of Minnesota, his M.Sc. degree at New York University, and his Ph.D. in chemistry at Harvard University.

A native of Laredo, Texas, he has authored or co-authored more than 35 papers on biogenic amines, and effects of drugs and stress on drug metabolism.

Dr. Medina has served as chief research pharmacologist and research biochemist at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace and as an analytical chemist for The American Oil Company.

Taught in Peru

In 1973, as a Fulbright Teaching and Research Fellow in Peru, Dr. Medina taught a course in drug metabolism at the School of Medicine of Cayetano Heredia University in Lima, and was guest lecturer at Eduardo Villarreal University, San Agustin University, and Universidad del Altiplano.

In past years, he has served as an ad hoc grant review board member of DRR's Minority Biomedical Support Program.

Currently, he is a member of the advisory board of the Tricollage Consortium of the MBS grant in San Antonio, and a consultant for the office of Health Resources Opportunities at the Health Resources Administration.

Jean Riddle Young, since May 1977 director of the Television for Learning project, a cooperative awareness project of the Public Broadcasting Service and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, has also been appointed to the Council.

Previously, Ms. Young has been the director of public information for PBS, directing the Washington, D.C. and New York staffs handling national promotion, advertising, public information, and public relations functions for the 260 PBS member television stations.

Ms. Young holds a B.S. degree from Memphis State University and has had study in journalism and mass communications at the University of Wisconsin.

An accredited member of the Broadcasters, Society of America, Women in Communications, and the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, she is listed in numerous national and international directories.
The National Library of Medicine family of computerized online bibliographic data bases has a new member: BIOETHICSLINE. It joins MEDLINE, TOXLINE, CATLINE, and the other data bases available over the NLM online network.

BIOETHICSLINE provides online access to citations which appear in the Bibliography of Bioethics, a series developed by the Center for Bioethics, Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University.

The online data base presently contains approximately 5,000 citations from 1973 to date. The file will be updated every 4 months, and about 1,500 new records will be added each year.

BIOETHICSLINE is a comprehensive, cross-disciplinary collection of references to print and non-print materials on bioethical topics. Bioethics can be defined as the systematic study of value questions which arise in the biomedical and behavioral fields.

Specific issues include euthanasia, psychosurgery, human experimentation, genetic testing, abortion, the definition of death, medical confidentiality, and the allocation of scarce medical resources.

To maintain the file, the Center for Bioethics systematically monitors 60 secondary reference tools and 70 primary journals for English language materials which discuss bioethical issues.

The file incorporates a variety of media and literary forms, including journal and newspaper articles, monographs, essays in books, court decisions, bills, State and Federal statutes, attitudinal materials, and unpublished documents.

Materials are selected from the literature of the health and medical sciences, philosophy, law, religion, psychology, and from the popular media.

BIOETHICSLINE may be searched by NLM's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), by terms from the Center's Bioethics Thesaurus, or by free text terms appearing in titles.

Citations within the BIOETHICSLINE data base will continue to be published annually in the printed Bibliography of Bioethics. The first three volumes of the Bibliography—edited by Dr. LeRoy Walters, director, Kennedy Institute for Bioethics—cover 3,500 documents from 1973 through 1976. They are available for $24 per clothbound volume from the Gale Research Company (Book Tower, Detroit, Mich. 48228).

The National Institutes of Health Research, and Development Contracts, Fiscal Year 1977 Funds has recently been published.

The publication presents tabulations of 2,257 research and development contracts awarded from fiscal year 1977 funds by NIH.

Contracts are shown by recipient area, project director, and the organization having professional responsibility for the work. In addition, a summary indicating the extent of financial support given by each supporting component is presented.

Volume Lists FY 1977 Health R&D Contracts

The publication National Institutes of Health Research Grants, Fiscal Year 1977 Funds was recently issued.

The volume presents 15,665 research career program awards and research grants awarded by NIH from FY 1977 funds.

A summary indicating the extent of financial support given by each supporting component is presented. In addition, grants and awards are shown by recipient area, principal investigator, and the organization having professional responsibility for the work.

Soon to be released are volumes presenting training construction, and medical libraries support.

Single copies of the volume, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 78-1042, are available free of charge from the Division of Research Grants.

Multiple copies may be purchased at $5.25 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (GPO stock no. 017-040-00425-7).

HEW Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Dr. Cohen is associate professor at the School of Medicine of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Oregon Health Sciences Center in Portland. Previously, he was adjunct associate professor at the College of Education at the University of Oregon in Eugene and at the School of Social Work at Portland State University.

His other teaching posts have included associate professor at the University of Oregon College of Education and assistant professor at the California State Polytechnic University in Pomona.

Early in his teaching career, Dr. Cohen was an instructor at the Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., and the Delinquency Control Institute of the University of Southern California.

Another of his current activities is working as a research and training consultant to the Los Angeles County Conciliation Court's Family Law Division and the Clatsop County Circuit Court in Oregon City, Oreg.

Also, he is an approved training supervisor for the American Association of Marriage and Family Counselors and conducts research on various aspects of marriage and divorce. In the past, Dr. Cohen served as a marriage and family counselor for the Family Law Department of the Los Angeles County Conciliation Court in Los Angeles and spent 2 years in private practice as a marriage and family counselor.

Dr. Oyemade is associate director for Research at the Institute for Child Development and Family Life at Howard University. She is also a teaching assistant at Howard University.

She has held several academic positions including adjunct professor at Fisk University, and assistant professor at Meharry Medical College and at Southern University.

Research Grants by NIH From FY 1977 Funds Listed in New Volume

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Big Bird of Sesame Street was in town May 23 to assist HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr., in cutting the HEW 25th Anniversary cake. Hundreds of employees and members of the public, including former HEW Secretaries, participated in the 2-day Celebration of People held at the Hubert H. Humphrey Bldg. and featuring exhibits, music, dancing, films, and dramas.

Drs. Blumenthal, Cohen, and Oyemade Appointed To NICHD Adv. Council

Three new members have been appointed to the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council: Drs. Eileen P. Blumenthal, Stanley N. Cohen, and Ura Jean Oyemade.

Dr. Blumenthal is a research associate for the Committee on Child Development Research and Public Policy of the National Academy of Sciences.

Before joining NAS, she was director of the Child Development Program and assistant professor of education at Mercy College of Detroit. There she taught courses in early childhood curriculum and socialization.

While earning her doctorate in educational psychology, she studied and observed early childhood programs in Singapore, the USSR, and the People's Republic of China and later wrote her dissertation on the moral education of Chinese children.

She has taught at the Lycee des Nancy in Geneva, Switzerland, where she also studied with Jean Piaget, the renowned Swiss psychologist. Later she provided follow-through instruction for children who completed Head Start training in South Brunswick, N.J. She went on to teach at the University of Michigan and at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

Dr. Cohen is associate professor at the School of Medicine of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Oregon Health Sciences Center in Portland. Previously, he was adjunct associate professor at the College of Education at the University of Oregon in Eugene and at the School of Social Work at Portland State University.

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She has held several academic positions including adjunct professor at Fisk University, and assistant professor at Meharry Medical College and at Southern University.

In 1976 she won the Outstanding Research Award of Howard University.

In addition, she has served as a consultant to the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Peace Corps.

Among other voluntary positions, she is a board member of the National Council for Black Child Development and a study panel member of the Joint Commission on Child Mental Health, American Psychological Association. She served on HEW's Child Development National Advisory Committee.
Research on Cadmium Toxicity Is Topic Of International Conference June 7-9

An International Conference on Cadmium will be held from June 7 to 9 in Wilson Hall in Bldg. 1.
The conference, sponsored jointly by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; the Department of Environmental Hygiene, Karolinska Institut, Stockholm, Sweden; and the Permanent Commission and International Association on Occupational Health of London, England, will assess the current level of scientific knowledge about cadmium as an environmental toxicant and identify areas of research where additional investigations are needed.

Discuss Bioavailability

The meeting will include speakers from Sweden, Denmark, New Zealand, Japan, Yugoslavia, England, Belgium, Canada, and the U.S. Among topics of discussion will be the bioavailability of cadmium in edible crops as a result of soil enrichment using sewage sludge.

Affects Shellfish

The movement of cadmium through the country's waterways and what effect it might have on commercially important shellfish will also be discussed.

Other participants at the meeting will discuss nutrition and diet as factors influencing the uptake, distribution, and excretion of cadmium which might enter the body from drinking water and other dietary sources.

Study Occupational Exposure

Information presented from studies on cadmium should aid interpretation of epidemiological and clinical studies on persons occupationally exposed to this heavy metal.

Recent toxicity studies will also be presented concerning the effects of cadmium on developing embryos, cadmium as an agent inducing hypertension, and biochemical mechanisms of cadmium toxicity to the liver and kidney.

A press briefing will be held in Wilson Hall at 10 a.m., June 7 by NIEHS Director Dr. David Rall and Dr. Bruce Fowler and Lars Friberg.

Conference on Biomedical and Behavioral Basis of Nutrition To Be Held in June

Interest in nutrition has steadily increased in the past decade. Today all segments of the scientific community, Congress, and the public are concerned and involved in the progress and benefits of nutrition research.

Recognizing the increased interest in nutrition over the past decade, the Nutrition Coordinating Committee of NIH will sponsor a conference on The Biomedical and Behavioral Basis of Clinical Nutrition: A Projection for the 1980's. The conference will be held in the Masur Auditorium at NIH June 19-20.
The conference will review biomedical and behavioral research in nutrition, relate this research to current clinical practice, and project future nutritional investigations and applications.

Ongoing nutrition research programs at NIH, FDA, USDA, and the Department of Defense will be discussed, and six scientific panels will consider the following topics:

- Genetic Disorders: Lessons for Clinical Nutrition
- Early Nutrition: Developmental Consequences
- Basic Biochemical Research: A Key to the Solution of Nutritional Disorders
- Nutritional and Environmental Practices: Consequences for Health
- Nutrition and Performance
- Nutrition and Behavior: Interactions

Melvin Spann Named Head, NLM Biomedical Info. Services Branch

Mr. Spann's interests also include computerized methodologies for relating chemical structures to biological activities and computer predicted biotransformations of drugs and other chemicals.

Melvin L. Spann has been appointed to head the Biomedical Information Services Branch of the National Library of Medicine's Specialized Information Services Division. The Toxicology Information Program is a major activity of SIS.

In support of this program, Mr. Spann will be responsible for the development and production of a variety of information products and services concerning toxic substances and their effects on health.

These services include computer-based files and specialized publications describing the properties of such substances.

The branch also is responsible for the NLM-sponsored literature services performed by the Toxicology Information Response Center at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Mr. Spann has been with the Library for 2 years, being associated with chemical information activities including the CHEMLINE service. Previously, he had spent 10 years with the Food and Drug Administration, first as a chemical information specialist and then as chief, Scientific Information Systems Design Branch.

Mr. Spann received his B.S. in chemistry from Howard University in 1964 and his M.S. in chemistry information science and technology from the American University in 1970.

He is presently a Ph.D. candidate in chemistry computer systems at American University. A part of his doctoral program included an FDA-sponsored Visiting Research Fellowship at Princeton University's Computer Graphics Laboratory.