Dr. Emilie Black Named NIGMS Ass’t Director For Clinical Research

Dr. Emilie A. Black has been named assistant director for Clinical Research in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. She previously served as director of the Institute's Clinical and Psychological Sciences Program.

Dr. Black joined NIGMS in December 1968 as program adminis-

In addition to her other duties, Dr. Black will continue to administer NIGMS's research efforts in anesthesiology and burns and trauma.

Clinical Nutrition Conference: A Projection for the 1980's

By Tom Flavin and Julie Klug

Participants in the Biomedical and Behavioral Basis of Clinical Nutrition Conference affirmed the need for new knowledge concerning nutrition, as well as for programs designed to promote public education in nutrition.

Cited as the biggest supporter of NIGMS hosted the national conference on June 19-20 with participants from other Federal agencies and departments, academic authorities.

Dr. Emilie Black Named NIGMS Ass’t Director For Clinical Research

Dr. Emilie A. Black has been named assistant director for Clinical Research in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. She previously served as director of the Institute's Clinical and Psychological Sciences Program.

She received her B.S. and M.D. degrees from George Washington University. Following an internship and residency in internal medicine at Garfield Hospital, she served a residency in pediatrics at the D.C. Children's Hospital during which time she worked on the rickettsial viruses, especially Rocky Mountain spotted fever virus, and the use of broad spectrum antibiotics.

From 1949 to 1966, while in private pediatric practice in the Bethesda area, Dr. Black served concurrently as a medical officer (See DR. BLACK, Page 11).

Dr. Leon Jacobs Selected Director, Fogarty Center

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, has announced the selection of Dr. Leon Jacobs as Director of the John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences.

"I am pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Leon Jacobs as Director of the Center," Dr. Fredrickson said. "All of us who have had the good fortune to work with Leon in his present position—as well as in his previous position as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science in the Office of the Secretary, HEW—know of his vast knowledge and sage advice."

Established Contract Guidelines

Since 1972 Dr. Jacobs has served as Associate Director of Collaborative Research in the Office of the Director, NIH, maintaining surveillance of the NIH contracts program through the establishment of guidelines for the initiation and review of contracts.

FIC fosters international cooperation and collaboration in the interests of the health of mankind, and was the first Center for advanced study within the Federal structure. The Center coordinates interna-

Selected Director, NIH, maintaining surveillance of the NIH contracts program through the establishment of guidelines for the initiation and review of contracts.

FIC fosters international cooperation and collaboration in the interests of the health of mankind, and was the first Center for advanced study within the Federal structure. The Center coordinates interna-

(Continued on Page 8)
### Apprenticeship Training Position Applications Accepted in Late July

Applications will be accepted in late July for the following apprenticeship positions:

- Carpenter
- Electrician
- Painter
- Plumber
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic
- Sheet Metal Mechanic
- Stationary Engineer (Boiler Plant Operator)

There is one apprenticeship position for each job listed above except for the last—there are two positions for the Stationary Engineer job.

To be eligible employee must:
- Have been employed at NIH for 1 year as of close of business Aug. 14, 1978;
- Be in a permanent full-time position, or if part-time, be willing to be reassigned to a full-time position; and
- Be in a nonprofessional job series (one grade promotions).

Refer to the upcoming July 24 NIH Merit Promotion Vacancy Listing on NIH Bulletin Boards or in B/1/D personnel offices for application procedures.

**Women May Apply**

For more information, employees may attend the scheduled question-and-answer session in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, on either Wednesday, July 26, at 4 p.m., or Thursday, Aug. 11, at 9 a.m.

Women are encouraged to apply.

### Sign Up for R&W Trip To Orioles/Yankees Game

See the Baby Birds take on last year’s world champions, the Big Bad Yankees, at Memorial Stadium, on Monday evening, Aug. 14. Watch your favorites—Reggie, Thurmond, Craig, Willie, and their awesome pitching staff—take on the surging Oriole team.

**Charter Bus Included**

Gather your family and friends for an evening of fun in Baltimore: $5.75 includes reserved seats, round trip bus fare, and service charge. Buses will leave Bldg. 31C at 6:15 p.m. and return following the game.

A limited supply of tickets is available, so hurry—sign up at the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31 NOW!

### NIAID Honors Six Employees

Dr. Kenneth Sell, scientific director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, recently presented 30-year length of service awards to C. Elwood Claggert, Dr. Louis S. Diamond, Rodney H. Duvall, Louise P. Kendrick, Dr. Eugene C. Weinbach, and Serrah C. Wood.

### The NIH Record Office

Published biweekly at Bethesda, Md., by the Editorial Operations Branch, Division of Public Information, for the information of employees of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and circulated by request to interested writers and to investigators in the field of biomedical and related research. The content is reprintable without permission. Pictures are available on request.

The NIH Record reserves the right to make corrections, changes, or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with the policies of the paper and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

**NIH Record Office**

**Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03. Phone 496-2125**

**Editor**

Frances W. Davis

**Associate Editor**

Heather Banks

**Staff Correspondents**

ADA, Judy Pouche; CC, Susan Gerhold; DCRT, Mary Hodges; DRG, Sue Meadows; DRE, Jerry Gordon; DRS, Arthur F. Moore; FIC, George Presson; NCI, Dr. Robert M. Hadsell; NEI, Julian Morris; NHLBI, Bill Sanders; NIA, Ann Dieffenbach; NIAID, Jeannie Winnick; NIAMD, Harriet S. O'Neil; NICHD, Karen McIntosh; NIDR, Sue Burroughs; NIHES, Hugh J. Lee; NIGMS, Wanda Wardell; NIMH, Betty Zubovic; NINCDS, Carolyn Holstein; NLM, Roger L. Gilkeson.

**Personnel Continues Phone Series With Special Theme**

The telephone series of recordings on personnel topics will be available indefinitely on a 24-hour basis.

To hear topics featuring the theme, Employment Information and Career Development Opportunities, call 496-4608 on the dates indicated:

- July 10-14—Preparing an Effective SF 171 and Interviewing for a Job
- July 17-21—Office Skills Career Development Program
- July 24-28—Apprenticeship Program
- July 31-Aug. 4—Stride Program
- Aug. 7-11—NIH Management Intern Program

**FAES Graduate School Fall Semester Courses Listed in New Catalog**

The FAES Graduate School at NIH has scheduled its courses for the fall semester. The evening classes sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will be given on the NIH campus.

Courses are offered in biochemistry, biology, genetics, chemistry, physics, mathematics, medicine, physiology, immunology, microbiology, nursing, psychology, psychiatry, statistics, languages, and administration, as well as courses of general interest.

It is often possible to transfer credits earned to other institutions for degree work, and many courses are approved for AMA Category I credit.

Tuition is $26 per credit hour, and courses may be taken for credit or audit. Those students whose expenses will be paid by the Government should apply at once to their administrative offices for training assistance.

Classes will begin Sept. 18, with registration possible by mail now through Aug. 18, and in person from Sept. 15.

Catalogs are available in the FAES office in the Clinical Center, Bldg. 10, Room BL-L-101. To have one sent, call 496-5272.

Jan. 21, 1979—The Vermeer String Quartet
Feb. 25, 1979—Sylvia Marcovici
Mar. 18, 1979—The Trio di Milano
Apr. 8, 1979—Laurence Lesser
Apr. 29, 1979—Rudolf Firkusny

**FAES has withheld a limited number of tickets for the 1978-79 Chamber Music Series to give those NIH Staff Fellows and Clinical Associates arriving after July 1 an opportunity to subscribe to the concert series. Tickets for those eligible will be available now through Aug. 15.**

For more information and a subscription form, contact the FAES office, Bldg. 10, Rm. BL-L-101, phone 496-5272.

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will present eight concerts in its 1978-79 Chamber Music Series.

The concert dates are:

- Oct. 8, 1978—The Cleveland Quartet with Richard Stolzman
- Nov. 4, 1978—Virtuosi di Roma
- Dec. 3, 1978—Peter Serkin
- Apr. 11, 1979—The Prague String Quartet
- Apr. 25, 1979—Péter Oszvald String Quartet
- May 9, 1979—Arturo Rodriquez and the York Quartet
- May 30, 1979—The St. Lawrence String Quartet
- June 6, 1979—The New York Philharmonic String Quartet

**FAES Graduate School Fall Semester Courses Listed in New Catalog**

The FAES Graduate School at NIH has scheduled its courses for the fall semester. The evening classes sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will be given on the NIH campus.

Courses are offered in biochemistry, biology, genetics, chemistry, physics, mathematics, medicine, physiology, immunology, microbiology, nursing, psychology, psychiatry, statistics, languages, and administration, as well as courses of general interest.

It is often possible to transfer credits earned to other institutions for degree work, and many courses are approved for AMA Category I credit.

Tuition is $26 per credit hour, and courses may be taken for credit or audit. Those students whose expenses will be paid by the Government should apply at once to their administrative offices for training assistance.

Classes will begin Sept. 18, with registration possible by mail now through Aug. 18, and in person from Sept. 15.

Catalogs are available in the FAES office in the Clinical Center, Bldg. 10, Room BL-L-101. To have one sent, call 496-5272.

Jan. 21, 1979—The Vermeer String Quartet
Feb. 25, 1979—Sylvia Marcovici
Mar. 18, 1979—The Trio di Milano
Apr. 8, 1979—Laurence Lesser
Apr. 29, 1979—Rudolf Firkusny

**Confidential Counseling Is Available to Employees**

The issue of confidentiality in counseling is raised repeatedly in reference to the Employee Assistance Program. Fear of repercussions is one of the major obstacles to seeking counseling.

Information given during the counseling sessions remains totally confidential under all circumstances.

If an employee's job performance deteriorates to the point of supervisory referral to the EAP, then, of course, such action is documented by the supervisor along with information relating to poor job performance. This documentation is available to the employee, and he/she may receive copies for his records.

**Offer Assistance**

The referral is an attempt to offer assistance and is not a disciplinary action. For self-referred individuals, confidentiality is strictly respected unless the person wants his or her supervisor to know about the counseling and/or needs time off to attend weekly sessions. Should the latter be the case, a release of information signed by the employee authorizes the counselor to reveal only attendance or outside referral if indicated.

Call 496-2738 for further information or to make an appointment.

### Sign Up for R&W Trip To Orioles/Yankees Game

See the Baby Birds take on last year’s world champions, the Big Bad Yankees, at Memorial Stadium, on Monday evening, Aug. 14. Watch your favorites—Reggie, Thurmond, Craig, Willie, and their awesome pitching staff—take on the surging Oriole team.

**Charter Bus Included**

Gather your family and friends for an evening of fun in Baltimore: $5.75 includes reserved seats, round trip bus fare, and service charge. Buses will leave Bldg. 31C at 6:15 p.m. and return following the game.

A limited supply of tickets is available, so hurry—sign up at the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31 NOW!
Aid PEF, Win a Prize for Guessing Total Health's Angels 24-Hour Relay Mileage

The NIH Health's Angels will be running in the Runner's World East Coast 24-Hour Relay Race at Ft. Meade, Md. The NIH team of speedsters is expected to run between 240 and 280 miles—a mile at a time per team member. They will run at the rate of 5:20 and 6:00 minutes a mile starting Saturday, Aug. 5, at high noon and finishing Sunday, Aug. 6, 24 hours later.

Here's the pitch: For $1 you can guess how far our team will run. The person with the closest guess to the total number of miles and yards (1760 yards per mile) will receive a $50 U.S. Savings Bond from the R&W Association.

Drop your guess—or guesses—off with a $1 check per guess—in the fish bowls (envelopes provided) at any R&W Gift Shop. Be sure to include name, and NIH Building and Room number.

For the past 2 years Health's Angels have won individual awards in this national event. Come out and cheer the team on. Fort Meade is off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on Route 198.

TRAINING TIPS

The following courses are being sponsored by the Executive and Management Development Branch in the next 2 months:

**Supervisory**
- Time Management for Supervisors—July 11 and 12
- Concepts of Classification and F.E.S.—July 18 and 19
- Management of Conflict and Agreement—July 26-28

**Managerial**
- Communication Issues—Aug. 7-9
- Supervisory and Managerial Effectiveness—Sept. 12-14

For more information call Saclelia Damuth, 496-6371.

Automated Typewriting Workshops To Be Held

The Graduate School, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is now offering daytime workshops in automated typewriting.

Classes at beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels on magnetic keyboards include the Memory Typewriter, Mag Card A, and Mag Card II.

The workshops will be held in July, August, and September. Tuition is $85 per course, and includes all books and course materials.

For information and brochures, call 447-7124.

Blood Bank, Red Cross Sponsor Joint Summer Drive at Landow Bldg.

The Clinical Center Blood Bank and the Montgomery County Chapter of the American Red Cross are sponsoring a joint summer blood drive on Wednesday, July 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in Conference Room C418/414 of the Landow Bldg., 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda.

This drive seeks to recruit new blood donors and make it convenient for regular blood donors in the Landow Bldg. to continue their donations.

The blood will be used to support patient care at the CC as well as in the Metropolitan Washington area plus keeping up the Blood Assurance Program for NIH employees.

Help make this summer season a safe one for those who need blood. Be a volunteer blood donor at the Landow Bldg.

For information or an appointment, call the CC Blood Bank, Bldg. 10A, Room 1E33, 496-1048 or 1049, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Finals of the 1978 Spring Tournament were held June 11 on the NIH tennis courts. In a replay of last year's final, James Hamilton (l) defeated Antonio Rene to retain the Men's "A" Singles title.

In Women's Singles, Nona Rene (l) had to retire with a 7-6, 2-0 lead to give the title to defending Spring Tournament Champion Bonnie Kalberer.

Blood Bank, Red Cross Sponsor Joint Summer Drive at Landow Bldg.

The Clinical Center Blood Bank and the Montgomery County Chapter of the American Red Cross are sponsoring a joint summer blood drive on Wednesday, July 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in Conference Room C418/414 of the Landow Bldg., 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda.

This drive seeks to recruit new blood donors and make it convenient for regular blood donors in the Landow Bldg. to continue their donations.

The blood will be used to support patient care at the CC as well as in the Metropolitan Washington area plus keeping up the Blood Assurance Program for NIH employees.

Help make this summer season a safe one for those who need blood. Be a volunteer blood donor at the Landow Bldg.

For information or an appointment, call the CC Blood Bank, Bldg. 10A, Room 1E33, 496-1048 or 1049, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

1978 NIH Spring Tennis Tournament Finals

David Anderson (r) was the Men’s "B" Singles Champion with a straight set victory over Ted Breitman.

In Women’s Singles, Nona Rene (l) had to retire with a 7-6, 2-0 lead to give the title to defending Spring Tournament Champion Bonnie Kalberer.

L to r, Brad Lindgren and Richard Broadwell, last year’s Men's Doubles runners-up, captured first place this time in a three-set victory over Peter Rene and Steve Weise.

L to r, Steve Weise and Pat Harwood teamed up in Mixed Doubles to defeat Millie Steckman and Ray Chen.

From left, Pat Harwood and Flora Feld were Women’s Doubles Champions over Nancie Doran and Joan Casey.
Norman Mills Shows He ‘Can Do It’—Rises From Animal Caretaker to A.O.

There are not too many NIH employees around who have started at the GS-1 level and, by dint of self-motivation and sheer persistence, surfaced with a college degree and an appointment as an administrative officer.

Norman E. Mills, administrative officer of the Division of Research Resources, joined NIH as an animal caretaker in 1965, and was one of the original group of participants in the Stride program launched by NIH in 1972.

Graduated in 1976

He majored in personnel management at American University and says, “It was quite a shock to be competing with men and women 20 to 25 years younger.” He completed the course requirements in 3 ½ years, graduating in 1976—approximately 22 years after receiving his diploma from Cardoza High School.

Although the native-born Washingtonian was offered athletic scholarships as an outstanding swimmer by three colleges upon graduation from high school, he had no interest in higher education at that time.

After working for 2 years as a truck driver, Mr. Mills became a Civil Service employee at NIH as a GS-1 animal caretaker for the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness under Dr. Maitland Baldwin, chief of Surgical Neurology.

Did Medical Photography

An amateur photographer, Mr. Mills convinced Dr. Baldwin in 1960 that he was capable of doing medical photography.

He eventually set up a laboratory in the Bldg. 9 animal area, where he photographed and processed histological specimens of chimpanzees and rhesus monkeys. In 1966 he received a Superior Performance Award for his efforts.

In addition to his photography and laboratory assistant work, the energetic medical biology technician also taught autopsy preparation and embalming procedures to new laboratory employees. In 1970, he became a full-time laboratory photographer for the Institute.

Coordinates Move

He came to DRR in 1973 as a Stride employee participant and, upon receiving his B.S. degree in personnel management from American University, was made assistant administrative officer in 1976. He subsequently won a Special Achievement Award that same year for his efforts in coordinating a major move of the Division.

On Dec. 4, 1977, Mr. Mills was appointed DRR administrative officer.

A deeply religious man, Mr. Mills is an active member of the

Edward Lambert Retires From Dental Institute

Edward C. Lambert, mechanical engineering technician, National Institute of Dental Research, recently retired after 34 years of Government service.

Mr. Lambert served in the U.S. Navy before joining the Naval Ordnance Laboratory as an instrument maker in 1948.

He transferred to the Division of Research Services’ Laboratory Aids Branch of NIH in 1957, and shortly thereafter was assigned to NIDR where he remained for the balance of his career.

Responsible for Instruments

Responsible for designing and fabricating many special instruments for use in the ultrastructure studies of calcified tissues, Mr. Lambert also provided assistance to all the laboratories of the Dental Institute’s Intramural Programs.

Evangel Temple Church. He resides with his family in Landover, Md., and expects to have both of his daughters in college simultaneously within a few years.

He still retains his interest in photography and occasionally does some professional work for community functions.

The 43-year-old administrator says he has acquired a philosophy in recent years which may explain his rise in the NIH ranks. “Think positively,” Mr. Mills admonishes.

“Never look down at anybody or anything. Never use the words, ‘I can’t,’ and repeat the following to yourself every day: I can do it . . . I am doing it . . . damn it, it’s done!”

Edward C. Lambert, mechanical engineering technician, National Institute of Dental Research, recently retired after 34 years of Government service.

NIAID Expands International Health Efforts, Seeks To Link U.S., Foreign Investigators

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is expanding its efforts in international health by encouraging research in developing countries and by supporting programs that link the U.S. and foreign investigators. These new efforts will consist of two interrelated activities: International Program Projects Grants and International Exploratory/Developmental Research Grants.

The programs will emphasize research related to medical problems important to developing countries. NIAID is interested in research on tropical diseases involving medical protozoology, entomology, helminthology, malacology, mycology, virology, and bacteriology.

Emphasize Infectious Diseases

Special attention will be given to infectious diseases, including those emphasized in the WHO Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases—malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, and leprosy.

However, the program does not exclude other disease categories equally important to developing countries.

International Program Projects Grants will be aimed at establishing international conferences and administering international exchange fellowship, senior international fellowship, and scholars-in-residence programs.

Dr. Jacobs (Continued from Page 1)

Prospective applicants for one or both of the International Programs may submit a letter of intent for program information on or before Nov. 1, 1978. However, this letter is not a prerequisite to submitting a grant proposal.

Application kits containing a special format with accompanying instructions for each of the new programs are available from Dr. Earl S. Beck, NIAID, Room 749, Westwood Bldg., Bethesda, Md, 20014.

Deadline for receipt of proposals has been set for Jan. 15, 1979.

in the Office of the Secretary, HEW, returning to NIH in 1969 as Assistant Director for International Cooperative Research. In 1972 he was named Associate Director for such research.

For his studies on toxoplasmosis and other infections, he has received the Washington Academy of Science Award, the Award of Achievement in the Biological Sciences, the Arthur S. Flemming Award, and the Henry Baldwin Ward Medal of the American Society of Parasitologists.

Dr. Jacobs received his B.A. degree from Brooklyn College and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from George Washington University.
Environmental Chemical Effects on Mother’s Milk Will Be Studied

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, in cooperation with two North Carolina hospitals, has begun the first study of its kind in the United States to determine whether the presence of environmental chemicals in mother’s milk has any effects on the growth and development of children from birth to 6 months.

The 2-year epidemiologic study was developed jointly by Drs. Walter J. Rogan and Beth Gladen of the Biometry Branch along with Dr. James McKinney, head of the Chemistry Section, all at NIEHS.

Jabalayne nurses have found varying amounts of environmental chemicals in the breast milk of U.S. mothers, but whether these chemicals, particularly the polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB’s), have any effect on nursing children has never been studied directly.

Currently participating in the study are Wake Medical Center, Raleigh, and Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville, N.C. A third North Carolina hospital will soon be added.

Each mother who enrolls in the study as a volunteer will initially be interviewed concerning her general health and eating patterns during pregnancy and asked to supply a sample of the milk or formula that the baby is fed.

Measure Contaminants

Contaminant levels will be measured in placenta, cord blood, and the mother’s serum at the time the baby is delivered. The children will be evaluated serially over the first 6 months of life with particular attention paid to their growth and development, and breast milk or formula will be collected.

Prior to leaving the hospital, each infant will be given a Brazelton Neonatal Behavior Assessment, and at 6 months, a Bayley Scales of Development will be administered. Data on bottle fed and breast fed infants will be compared, and dose-response relationships will be estimated.

Data from the study will be analyzed at NIEHS after chemical analyses are performed under contract at laboratories in Wisconsin and California.

Dr. Rogan said, “We know from earlier studies that the milk of mothers in the United States contains varying amounts of environmental pollutants, including PCB’s, DDT, and DDE.”

“All of these agents are toxic to some degree. However, there has never been a study designed to compare the amount of such compounds ingested by breast fed babies and their bottle fed contemporaries. Also, the question of transplacental exposure has not been explored adequately.”

Limited Copies Available: Workshop Proceedings On Sugar Substitutes

The proceedings of an international workshop to evaluate sugar substitutes which do not cause tooth decay are now available.

The conference was supported by a grant from the National Caries Program of the National Institute of Dental Research to Dr. James H. Shaw of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

Recommend Future Research

After 23 scientific reports were presented and discussed—on subjects ranging from the role of sugar in nutrition and tooth decay, and sweet perception and its influence on food selection, to sugar’s varied uses in commercial food preparation and the economics of the international sugar market—the participants formed task forces and made recommendations for future research and action.

Publish Consensus

The published recommendations represent the consensus of the task forces, made up of participants from Government, industry, and health and research groups.

The diversity of backgrounds meant that not all recommendations were unanimous.

The recommendations included:
- That snack foods manufactured with sugar content carry a warning label stating that frequent use of the product between meals may be detrimental to dental health
- That food and beverage labels should state the total amount of sugar in the product
- That research be conducted to identify the most cariogenic foods and ways to reformulate them to reduce cariogenicity
- That the food industry develop noncariogenic snacks
- That nutrition counseling and other techniques be tested to see how they affect eating patterns and tooth decay incidence
- That studies be undertaken on mechanisms of sweet taste and perception
- That a test system be developed for determining cariogenicity more quickly and reliably than animal tests now used.

The proceedings, edited by Dr. Shaw of Harvard and Dr. Gerasimos G. Roussos of NIDR, appeared as a special supplement to the Feeding, Weight, and Obesity Abstracts.

A limited number of copies are available from the NIDR Office of Scientific and Health Reports. In quantity, the book can be purchased for $15 a copy from Information Retrieval, Inc., 1911 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Va. 22202.

Two NCI Staff Groups Receive Awards For Extraordinary Service and Support

NCI Director Dr. Arthur C. Upton recently presented group cash awards at two ceremonies honoring the staffs of the International Cancer Research Data Bank and the Mail and Files Unit, both in the Office of the Director, National Cancer Institute.

3-Year Effort Cited

The nine recipients of the ICRDB award were cited for the extraor-

dinary amount of work performed for the 3-year period from April 1, 1974, shortly after the ICRDB was established and placed in the Office of International Affairs.

“The high level of performance required for this rapid initial implementation of the ICRDB plans by a very small staff was an outstanding accomplishment which significantly exceeded expectations and normal work loads.”

Praises Dedication

“I wholeheartedly support and recommend this cash award to a dedicated and effective cadre of outstanding NCI employees,” Dr. Gregory T. O’Connor, associate director for International Affairs and director of the Division of Cancer Cause and Prevention, wrote in his recommendation for the award.

The ICRDB’s primary objective is to promote the exchange of information on cancer research throughout the world.

The statement in support of the group award to six members of the Bldg. 31 Mail and Files Unit pointed out that there had been a “dramatic increase in workload” since 1974, often requiring long hours of overtime.

Often Work Overtime

“Despite the fact that no additional positions have been allocated to this unit, the group of six employees has managed to keep pace with daily mail deliveries, classifying of materials, and filing requests. They have worked overtime many evenings and weekends to prevent a filing backlog, often at a sacrifice of their personal plans,” NCI administrative officer Thomas L. Kearns said in the awards statement.

Others Also Compliment

He also cited the many compliments the Mail and Files Unit has received from other NCI offices, attesting to the unit’s reliability and efficiency.
SUMMER COMES TO NIH...

By Lisa Garrigan

Have you noticed some new faces lately? Probably, because NIH employs approximately 700 young people in the Summer Employment Program. Different criteria are used to select participants in nine separate youth programs.

Summer employment at NIH is designed to give young adults valuable experience as well as a chance to learn about Government activities.

According to Joyce Schools, NIH Summer Employment coordinator, approximately 4,000 applications were received for 700 summer employment positions this year. Science-related jobs are the most sought after, and the ratio of applications received is large.

Recent policy has emphasized hiring minority, disadvantaged, and handicapped students.

The process of procuring summer employment by the Federal Government begins during the early part of the year.

Occasionally students wander into the NIH employment office in June and ask for a summer job. They are told to try again next year and not to miss any deadlines.

Procedures for the Federal Summer Internship Program begin in November. Colleges and universities have until Nov. 5 to respond if they are interested in participating.

The name of the school is then placed on a list. Government agencies, departments, and branches choose schools from which they would like to receive applications. Not just any student in a chosen school may submit an application. Applicants are normally matched to jobs which will give them experience in their major fields.

During January a special nominating committee or board selects two nominees. Each university or school may use its own nominating procedures.

The names of the nominees and other pertinent data are forwarded to the agency or office where a summer job is available in the nominee's major field. The decisions are made in the spring.

For another program, the Civil Service Summer Employment Examination applicants must file by Jan. 27 and take the test on a specified Saturday in February. Candidates must score above 70 to be considered for employment.

Students wishing to be employed at NIH must send an application along with the test scores directly to the NIH personnel office. Here the student's name is placed on a roster according to his/her score on the Summer Employment Examination. Clerical positions are filled from this list.

Some of this year's NIH summer employees demonstrate many of the necessary steps an applicant must take before gaining employment at NIH. Here, Federal Summer Intern Lisa Garrigan circles a deadline on the calendar. Most of the summer jobs require that early deadlines be met. Ms. Garrigan is a junior at The George Washington University. Presently she is working in the Office of Communications, OD.

Jody Hochberg agonizes over the mailbox, checking to see if his rejection or acceptance notice has yet been delivered. For the past 2 summers he has received acceptance notices. A graduate student from N.Y. State University, working under Dr. Ted Theodore of NIAID, he is labeling compounds which cross cell membranes. "The job I have now is exactly what I want to be doing when I have finished with my education," he says.

Doria Law (l) and Craig Sakai, both sophomores at the University of Maryland, say it's easy to get lost on one's first day of work. Mr. Sakai is majoring in biochemistry, and Ms. Law's field is biology. Both work for NEI as clerk typists. Last year Ms. Law wanted to work for the Federal Government, but she took the wrong test. This year she took the Summer Employment Examination and was called for a job while she was studying for final exams.

After finding the right place, more forms must be filled out. Joyce Schools, the Summer Employment coordinator (l), hands Jocelyn DeLaine some NIH literature. Ms. DeLaine, who attends the University of the District of Columbia, is majoring in special education. She is a clerk typist in the Stay-in-School program.

Photos by Heather Banks
BRINGING 700 NEWCOMERS

A program for professional school students, the Commissioned Officers Student Training Extern Program (COSTEP) is a year-round program, with three time segments in which a student can gain experience in his/her field.

The summer portion, May through August, requires applications to be in by Feb. 1. The September to December segment has a May 1 deadline; and for January to April, Oct. 1 is the deadline.

This summer more than 475 students have been placed across the country in various PHS divisions. In the past, more than 14 percent of the summer COSTEP employees have returned to PHS work upon graduation from professional school. Students from medical, dental, and veterinary schools are accepted as well as students who have completed 2 years of study in pharmacy, therapy, dietetics, nursing, sanitary science, medical records administration, or engineering. Also, students enrolled in masters or doctoral programs in health-related fields are eligible for COSTEP.

Approximately 100 COSTEP students are employed at NIH this summer.

Filling out SF-171 is a project for a long afternoon. Jon Meisner, a senior physics major at Yale University, is now working under Dr. William Hagins in NIAMDD on vision oriented research. This is his fifth summer working at NIH. "I've learned as much working here as I have in any of the classes I've taken at school," he says.

The Stay-in-School Program assists many Washington area students in continuing their education by allowing them to work 16 hours per week during the school year and full time in the summer. Many students between 16-21 start as summer aids and become Stay-in-School employees during the school year.

The Junior Fellowship Program is comprised of students who are graduating from high school in the spring. Once selected, the fellows can continue their summer employment in subsequent summers, rotating to different agencies each year.

The Graduate Program is an aid for recruiting temporary, professional full-time employees. Positions in this program are in scientific or analytical areas.

The Handicapped Students Program provides jobs for the mentally retarded or severely handicapped students. They hold positions in clerical, technical, or professional areas.

Senior high school students are eligible to work at NIH through a program administered by American University. NIH selects students from a list of eligibles compiled by American University. The program is financed by contributions from the Washington Academy of Sciences, the National Space Club, and the Chemical Society of Washington.

All of the programs for summer employment are intended to educate students and offer them experience they could not find in a classroom.
Dr. J. Michael McGinnis, H.E.W. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health and chairman of the H.E.W. Nutrition Coordinating Committee, chaired the second day's proceedings on the Federal, Congressional, and Consumer Aspects of Nutrition Research and Education.

Concur in Need for Studies

As a Projection for the 1980's, the subtitle of the conference, the participants concurred that the greatest promise for solution to nutrition-related diseases and improved health will be in fundamental studies concerning the absorption, metabolism, and mechanism of action of nutritional factors, the biological control of such processes, and the identification of as yet unknown nutrients and their metabolites.

Of equal importance will be investigations into the interaction of nutrition with stress, disease, hormones, imbalance of nutrients, drugs, and other environmental factors.

Members of the consumer panel challenged the role of the scientific community in raising the “QI” — questioning intellect — of the American public about nutrition.

Billions Spent on Advertising

They noted the billions of dollars spent on food advertising and the attendant “misnutrition” as well as malnutrition evident in the U.S.

Consumers should have an input in determining nutrition research priorities, but they must not forget that they are complex and difficult science, cautioned Kristen McNutt of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Johanna Dwyer, director of the Francis Stern Nutrition Center, chided the bench scientists for adopting attitudes ranging from intellectual humility (“we don’t know anything”) to superior understanding (“too difficult to explain”). They should rather adopt a “tell it like it is” attitude, educating the consumer and involving him in the research process (“here’s what we know, here’s what we don’t know”).

Amplify Consumer Ideas

Chaired by Chris Hitt of the Senate Nutrition Subcommittee, the Congressional staff panel amplified the thoughts of the consumer advocates. Scientists have the option of becoming more involved in educating and informing Congress and the public how nutrition research dollars are spent and what should be established as nutrition research goals and priorities.

Failing that option, the federally-supported scientific community may find itself with dwindling influence on the future direction of nutrition research.

Present research as reviewed by the six panels covered the evolving concepts of clinical nutrition.

Significant developments in the area of genetic disease and nutrient interaction include elucidation of the defect in the control mechanisms regulating cholesterol biosynthesis in familial hypercholesterolemia, defects of transport mechanisms resulting in a higher than normal requirement for a nutrient, and defects in binding affinity of an enzyme for a coenzyme resulting in a higher than normal requirement for a vitamin.

Question Biochemical Differences

An important question in nutritional science is in the area of biochemical differences, either inborn or environmentally induced. Detecting such differences and using nutrition to overcome many of the detrimental effects offers a clear opportunity for improving health. As demonstrated by the panelists, nutrition can irrevocably affect developmental processes.

For example, undernutrition during early life can permanently reduce the number of brain cells, whereas overnutrition may lead to increased numbers of fat cells with consequent predisposition to obesity throughout life.

Researchers are far from knowing all there is to know, and additional nutrients or nutrition-related factors are still being discovered. Additional trace elements are being found to be essential for growth and well-being.

Anticipate Clinical Applications

The clinical applications of these discoveries can be anticipated. An example is the recent discovery of a diphosphoryl metabolite of vitamin D, which functions as a hormone in the control of calcium and phosphorus metabolism. It is now being utilized in the treatment of bone diseases.

The Conference found that the status of nutrition research remains an urgent and complex situation.

As Senator Henry Bellmon of Oklahoma observed in his opening address, “Most of us do not have the luxury of waiting for a decade or two before deciding what to eat.”

And yet, as Dr. René Dubois of Rockefeller University stated in his keynote speech, “Biological and social factors inhibit the definition of an ideal diet for the average person. . . . Each person has nutritional requirements as unique as his fingerprints.”

Afraid To Assert Yourself?

Call 496-2738

Employee Assistance Program

A Las Vegas, Nev., television host (1) interviews Drs. Sarah C. Kaiser and George Kittles of NIAMDD’s Digestive Disease and Nutrition Program about research advances. The two program directors appeared on the ABC station after being awarded Certificates of Special Recognition from the American Gastroenterological Association during Digestive Disease Week.

Proceedings of Workshop Concerning Blood Plasma Fraction Studies Issued

A new publication, Proceedings of the International Workshop on Technology for Protein Separation and Improvement of Blood Plasma Fractionation, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 78-1422, is now available.

These published proceedings are a result of a workshop held in Reston, Va., Sept. 7-9, 1977.

Workshop Jointly Sponsored

The workshop was jointly sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Bureau of Biologics, FDA; Fogarty International Center; and Bureau of Community Health Services, HSA.

International interest in technological advances in plasma fractionation was demonstrated by the attendance of representatives from 19 other countries.

This workshop represents the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources Initiative to address a national need, mandated by Congress, to support the study of fractionation of blood and clinical investigation of plasma fractions, including research on the use of blood products and management of blood resources.

Consider 5 Main Topics

Participants in the workshop addressed five main topics: 1) biochemical engineering studies, 2) assessment of innovative methods in plasma fractionation, 3) a prospective survey of new or improved proteins for potential clinical use, 4) a survey of new methods of protein separation with potential for large-scale applications, and 5) regulatory, safety, and quality issues.

This 561-page publication is available at $6.75 from the Superintendant of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, stock number 017-043-00087-1.

Everybody complains of his lack of memory, but nobody of his want of judgment.—La Rochefoucauld
Wayne Levillain Retires; Biolab Technician Recalls Years of Change at NIH

The American Type Culture Collection Develops Resources With NIH Support

As noted in the previous issue of the NIH Record (June 27, 1978), “the most diverse collection of reference cultures in the world is maintained, American Type Culture Collection in Rockville.”

New resources are being developed at the ATCC.

A new Lung Cell Resource Facility is being developed by the ATCC Cell Culture Department with support from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. An advisory committee of experts has been organized by the ATCC to assist in this effort.

The central goals of the program are to develop, characterize, expand, and distribute populations of lung cells for use in studies of lung biochemistry, function, development, and/or pathophysicsiology.

Emphasis is on cell lines derived from normal and abnormal (but not cancerous) lung tissues of the human and various laboratory animals.

This is part of an over-all ATCC research program on the development and study of functional types of cultured cells.

Test Cells for NIH

Remaining supplies (low-passage) of the human diploid lung cell line, WI-38, have also been depositoried with the ATCC. The cells have been characterized, expanded, and tested for NIH under contract with the Division of Research Resources.

Special low-passage lots are available for vaccine purposes through an NIH Use Committee. Characterized lots at slightly higher passage levels are available for research purposes.

Other human diploid lines available for general distribution are MRC-5 and IMR-90.

After 38 years at NCI, Wayne Levillain leaves with fond memories and assurances that he will be missed.

When Wayne Levillain was a boy in Washington, D.C., his family decided he was wasting his time in school; he'd be better off with a job. He became one of a crew known as the “bull gang,” general helpers in the animal rooms of the old National Cancer Institute labs down on 25th and E Streets.

At the end of June 1978, Mr. Levillain retired as a lab technician in a descendant of the same lab—the Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis’ Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Thirty-eight years had elapsed.

In the course of those years, Mr. Levillain became a surgical technician during his only years away from NIH, a 4-year stint during World War II with the Army Medical Corps at O’Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Mo.

Became Interested in Education

He acquired a new interest in education and took the equivalent of a degree in college-level science courses.

He worked under the renowned Dr. Walter Heston, whose DRB mouse classification system is now used across the United States. With Dr. Heston, who retired from NCI in 1975, he assisted in developing prototype equipment used in gel electrophoresis.

The changes that come inevitably with increasing size have been those most notable to Wayne Levillain. “I remember when a little building known as Top Cottage stood where the Clinical Center is now. Everyone in Cancer used to get together for dances and parties. Work used to get done by calling someone on the phone. Now it takes paperwork and a month’s time.”

Not that he became one of the crotchety old-timers, grumbling about the past. “I never met anyone who knew more about NIH works,” remarked Dr. Michael Gottesman, of the LMB. “And he knows because he’s on good, cor- dinal working terms with everyone here. His flexibility when the lab changed emphasis from animal genetics to molecular structure was most impressive. We’ll miss him.”

A sentiment echoed when reservation by his chief, Dr. Ira Pas- tan, and others. “He’s reliable and conscientious and he will definitely be missed,” Dr. Pastan noted.

Mr. Levillain has the future pretty clearly mapped out. “My wife and I plan to do a lot of traveling. I’ve read about the Florida Keys and the Grand Canyon, and now we hope to see them.” And, he adds, he plans to do a lot of fishing, the kind of fishing that has won him trophies in the past. “You can’t leave that out.”

The ATCC also characterizes, stores, and distributes additional diploid lines from the human, monkey, and rabbit for the Bureau of Biologies, Food and Drug Administration.

The Cell Culture Department is also engaged in the development of cultivable epithelia for the National Cancer Institute, and recently the ATCC was awarded a contract by NCI for the development and characterization of differentiated cells from various leukemias, bone marrow, and other tissues.

Conducts Virological Assays

Virological assays on some of the derived cells will be carried out in collaboration with the Virology Department.

The ATCC has established a Cell Source Information Bank to provide information to investigators about potential sources for specialized types of cultured cell strains and lines. The role of the CSIB is solely that of a clearing house and referral service.

Information on the sources and unique characteristics of specialized cells is currently available only upon direct inquiry but may be developed into published form at a later date.

The ATCC Virology Department is incorporating into its collection the viral reagents formerly distributed by the Research Resources Branch of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Initially, this will include 4 major groups of viruses (68 enteroviruses, 31 adenoviruses, 90 rhinoviruses, and 70 arboviruses) plus their respective homologous antisera. As the reagents are being accessioned by the ATCC is performing assays for potency.

The ATCC will store, catalogue, and distribute the reagents and, when necessary, will replenish depleted stocks or stocks with low viability. This is being carried out with contract support from NIAID.

A program to establish a complete reference collection of DNA and RNA oncogenic viruses is also being carried out by the Virology Department with contract support from NCI.

Representative lots of the oncogenic viruses supplied to researchers by the Office of Program Resources and Logistics of the Virus Oncology Program are being thoroughly characterized by the ATCC and are being preserved as reference reagents for eventual distribution.

Further information about the ATCC resources can be secured from Dr. Richard Donovich, Director, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, Md. 20852; telephone (301) 881-2600.
K3YGG Provides Aid in Real, Simulated Emergencies; Makes 805 Radio Contacts During 24-Hour Exercise

During a 24-hour period beginning at 2 p.m. on June 24, the NIH Radio Amateur Club demonstrated its ability to provide emergency communications by participating in the annual American Radio Relay League Field Day.

From a location in the Multi Level Parking garage, and powered by a portable gasoline generator furnished by the Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Branch, DES, 13 club members operating in shifts were able to make 805 individual contacts—a rate of more than one every 2 minutes.

The 2, 10, 15, 20, and 80 meter FCC-authorized amateur radio frequencies were used, and both CW (code) and phone (voice) modes were employed.

Also Monitor CB

As a further demonstration of capabilities in an emergency situation, area police, fire, and CB channels were employed.

Contacts were recorded from 45 of the 48 continental United States, five Canadian provinces including Newfoundland, several ships at sea, and one contact each in the South Pacific, Mexico, and Great Britain.

Began in 1963

In the 15 years since the inception of NIHRAC, the club has dealt with real, not just simulated emergencies. In fact, just after NIHRAC began operating K3YGG in 1963—with partial support from the Plant Safety Branch and from the NIH West Africa Research Unit—Dr. Victor Zeve in Ghana sought help for further information.

Dr. William Hook inspects the portable antenna located atop the Multi Level Parking garage.

Call Leonard Aberbach, 496-4131, for further information.

Emergency in Africa

Through NIHRAC, Dr. Zeve, with his own 2-way radio equipment to offset the lack of telephones, contacted colleagues at NCI concerning medicines needed to aid his son, suffering from an asthmatic condition.

Later, a schedule of twice-weekly contacts was set up, greatly reducing the time lag in obtaining essential supplies and equipment for the researchers then in Africa.

Since that time cardiograms have been transmitted, numerous requests for special medicines and treatment have been received and referred to appropriate sources.

OSCARS Boost Range

Eight OSCARS (Orbital Satellites Carrying Amateur Radio) have been launched by NASA, and two remain active, greatly extending the range of broadcast and reception.

About half of the visitors to the field day operations were CB'ers, contacted on their own frequencies, who expressed interest and stopped by. Beginner’s license exams can be given by mail.

Visitors are welcome at the club’s regular meetings in Bldg. 10, Room B2-N104, at noon each Thursday. Call Leonard Aberbach, 496-4131,

In Vitro Carcinogenesis' Ad 4 Technical Reports Now Available at NCI

Availability of a report, In Vitro Carcinogenesis, was recently announced by the National Cancer Institute.

The report provides a guide to the literature, recent advances, and procedures for short term studies of carcinogenesis (cancer causation) in laboratory systems.

The publication is based on presentations made at the seminar and workshop held at the Given Institute of Pathobiology, University of Colorado in Aspen, July 18-22, 1976.

In Vitro Carcinogenesis is one of the series of Technical Reports published by the Institute's Carcinogenesis Testing Program. Copies are available from the Office of Cancer Communications, NCI, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

The program has also recently published reports on animal tests of four compounds for carcinogenicity.

Used in Dyes, Explosives

An ingredient in explosives and an intermediate in dye manufacture, 2,4-dinitrotoluene, was given in feed to mice and rats for 78 weeks.

According to the report from NCI, 2,4-dinitrotoluene caused benign tumors in male and female rats. The benign tumors were not considered a sufficient basis for establishing carcinogenicity, however.

The test produced no evidence of carcinogenicity of the compound in mice.

A naturally occurring nitro chemical found in plants, nuts, and fungi, 3-nitropropionic acid, was given by stomach tube to rats and mice for periods between 104 and 110 weeks.

The NCI report indicated that 3-nitropropionic acid was not carcinogenic in female rats or in male or female mice under the test conditions.

In male rats there was an increase of liver and pancreas tumors, primarily benign, but no conclusive evidence that the chemical was carcinogenic.

Another compound, 1-nitronaphthalene is a chemical intermediate in dye manufacture, and has a variety of other commercial uses. This compound was given in feed to rats and mice for 78 weeks.

NCI reported that 1-nitronaphthalene was not found carcinogenic under the test conditions.

Chloropirin, developed as tear gas and currently used as an agricultural fumigant in stored grain and soil, was given orally by stomach tube to rats and mice for 78 weeks.

Symbols in HEW's Seal

Most NIH'ers have seen the HEW seal many times, on stationery, publications, and other materials. But have you ever looked closely at the HEW seal? Do you know what the symbols mean?

The bold eagle stands for the United States. The staff of Aesculapius, at the center, is the accepted symbol for medicine or health. Aesculapius is the god of medicine in classical mythology. The snake is the symbol of renewal and regeneration, probably because it sheds its skin.

The open book symbolizes education; the surrounding chain represents strength or coordinated welfare.

The Latin motto inscribed on the scroll, Spes Anchora Vitae, means "hope is the anchor of life."

Designed by Sculptor

The designer of the seal was Thomas Hudson Jones, the sculptor who created the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1931. He worked for the Army’s Institute of Heraldry at Cameron Station, Va., from 1944 until 1969 and designed sculpture and medals for many agencies and officials. He died in 1969 at the age of 77.

He created the World War II Victory Medal, to which all veterans of the conflict are entitled, and the medal for the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service.

The first HEW Secretary, Oveta Culp Hobby, submitted the design of the official seal soon after the Department was established in April 1958, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower approved the design Dec. 17, 1953.

According to an NCI report summary, the bioassay of chloropirin did not give conclusive evidence for carcinogenicity in mice. In rats, the test was inadequate because of short survival time of dosed animals.

Copies of these four bioassay reports on tests by the Institute’s Carcinogenesis Testing Program may also be obtained from the Office of Cancer Communications, NCI, Bethesda, Md. 20014.
Heart Disease Experts Evaluate and Update 1971 Task Force Report

A working group of cardiovascular disease experts, convened to evaluate and update the Report of the 1971 Task Force on Arteriosclerosis, recently submitted their findings and recommendations to Dr. Robert I. Levy, Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Reexamine 1971 Report

Chaired by Dr. Alfred F. Fishman, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, the group determined the extent to which recommendations of the 1971 Task Force had been implemented and to evaluate their impact on research and clinical progress toward prevention and control of arteriosclerosis and its complications.

The group was asked to decide whether the 1971 report was still timely as a basis for future program planning by NHLBI or should a second task force similar to the first be established to extend or redefine earlier goals and priorities.

The working group noted that the 1971 Task Force had done its job exceptionally well. It had developed sound research strategies for combating a disease nearly ubiquitous among American adults and whose complications, such as heart attacks, sudden cardiac death, and strokes, account for some 85 percent of all disability and death from cardiovascular disorders.

Many Task Force recommendations had been put into effect by the Institute, including:

- Initiation of clinical trials to ascertain whether modification of certain factors known to increase risk from premature arteriosclerosis could reduce morbidity and mortality.
- Initiation of clinical trials assessing relative roles of medical and surgical treatment in patients with angina pectoris or other clinical manifestations of coronary heart disease.
- Intensification of research seeking safe, sensitive, non-invasive methods for detecting arteriosclerosis.
- Expansion of research on genetic factors in arteriosclerosis or predisposing conditions.
- Increased research emphasis on mechanisms of blood-vessel injury and repair.
- Development of animal models of arteriosclerosis.
- Establishment of special research and clinical facilities to attack specific problems posed by precursors of arteriosclerosis.
- Expansion of research concerned with health education and attitudes.

These efforts have produced numerous research and clinical advances. They have also opened up a variety of promising new avenues for exploration and numerous research opportunities that should be explored.

Need To Redefine Priorities

The working group concluded that the time was ripe for a second task force to help redefine goals and priorities.

Menopause: Topic of TV Simulcast From NIH, S.C. For Public, Professionals

Menopause: An Update was the subject of a live medical presentation via satellite yesterday, July 11, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., as part of the REACH program (Research, Education, and Community Health). REACH brings together scientists from NIH and the Medical University of South Carolina to discuss the latest findings in medical research and their implications for a variety of health problems. Monthly programs are planned.

The live telecast, along with videotaped segments, enabled two-way interaction between panelists at NIH and at MUSC.

Viewers were also able to ask questions of panelists via toll-free telephone.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

6/12—Dr. Liang-Hsien Eli Hahn, Taiwan, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Yamada, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 4E16.

6/12—Dr. John L. Plummer, Australia, Laboratory of Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. J. R. Bend, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

6/18—Dr. Sarah Ben-Or, Israel, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Kevin Catt, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 12N212.

6/18—Dr. Jagdish Gulati, United States, Laboratory of Physical Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Richard Poldolsky, NIAMD, Bg. 6, Rm. 110.

6/26—Dr. Mesenhe Ben-David, Israel, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Andreas Chrambach, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 12N212.

6/26—Dr. Takahisa Shindo, Japan, Laboratory of Kidney and Endocrine Metabolism. Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Spring, NIHBI, Bg. 10, Rm. 6N310.
Dr. Frederic C. Bartter Receives the Koch Award From Endocrine Society

Dr. Frederic C. Bartter, chief of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute’s Hypertension-Endocrine Branch, has been named 1978 recipient of the Fred Conrad Koch Award, the highest honor bestowed by The Endocrine Society. Dr. Bartter was cited for original research in clinical and experimental endocrinology performed over the past 35 years.

He is internationally known for his contributions on the role of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system in the regulation of blood pressure; the part played by adrenocortical and pituitary hormones in the maintenance of fluid and electrolyte balance; and the roles of fields, including biochemistry, tropical medicine, pediatrics, and clinical director from 1971 to 1976.

The conference is being sponsored by the National Institute of Dental Research, and the Fogarty International Center.

The conference will be published soon.

Dr. Clairence J. Gibbs has been elected to membership in the Washington (D.C.) Academy of Medicine. It is the latest honor for the noted microbiologist who, within the past year, has received the Distinguished Alumni Award in Medical Arts from Catholic University and an honorary doctorate in medicine from the Faculte de Medicine, University of Marseille, France. Dr. Gibbs, recipient of the DHEW Distinguished Service Award, is deputy chief of the NINCDS Laboratory of Central Nervous System Studies.

Two Recent Explosions Are Reminder of Need For Safety Practices

Because explosions in two NIH laboratories recently occurred as a result of unsafe handling of chemicals, a thorough review of safety practices by everyone handling chemicals has been suggested.

This recommendation was made by Dr. Dolf G. Wanner, associate director for Environmental Health and Safety, Division of Research Services.

At the scene of the first explosion, the NIH Fire Department responded to a 2 a.m. call on smoke odor and located the source as a Clinical Center laboratory.

Entrance to the laboratory was delayed. The door lock had been changed and did not yield to the NIH master key system.

When entry was finally gained through an escape hatch and a neighboring lab, firemen found a smoldering stack of paper directly over an exploded refrigerator.

Some of the contents were thrown out; but fortunately, containers with radioactive material and flammable liquid remained undamaged.

Also, exterior windows were broken, and several bottles in an adjoining laboratory were shattered.

The cause of the explosion was a beaker with isopentane residue, stored in the refrigerator 6 hours earlier. An explosive vapor mixture developed inside and detonated, ignited by an electrical spark from the thermostat.

The other explosion occurred during working hours at a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Laboratory. It involved several test tubes containing perchloric acid and an employee suffered face injuries.

The fume hood was not suitable for work with perchloric acid. The test tubes were placed near the front edge of the hood without a safety shield.

Safety Glasses Essential

Safety glasses were not worn by the injured employee. Other chemicals were stored in the hood, and one bottle with picric acid was broken.

Since this explosion, Christopher Hunt, NIEHS safety officer, has initiated a system to ensure safer handling of perchloric acid: the chemical has been placed on a control list and protocol requires permission for its use.

Only explosion-proof refrigerators are safe for storage of flammables and explosives. Employees handling chemicals should always use safety glasses, shields, and hoods designed for work with toxic, corrosive, and explosive chemicals, according to Dr. Wanner.

The Environmental Safety Branch, DRS, will provide consultation on the safe handling, storage, and disposal of all chemicals, and is available for assistance in problem areas.