New Guidelines Affect Conduct Of Recombinant DNA Research

New guidelines affecting the conduct of recombinant DNA research have been announced by HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

Some of the current restrictions on DNA recombinant research are being relaxed, allowing greater freedom of scientific inquiry but providing protections necessary to safeguard public health and environment.

The revised final guidelines that NIH developed and that the Secretary approved set new directions for regulation of future recombinant DNA research.

In two major respects these final guidelines relax the previous guidelines.

- The revisions exempt altogether five categories of experiments from the guidelines’ restrictions.

- The revised guidelines assign almost all categories of research physical containment and/or biological containment levels at least one step lower than in the 1976 guidelines.

Since the likelihood of harm now appears more remote than was once anticipated, the scientific community has now concluded that this downgrading is appropriate.

The four levels of physical containment and three levels of biological containment set by the 1976 guidelines would remain essentially the same.

In addition to his approval of the final guidelines prepared by NIH, Secretary Califano, Jr., on Dec. 29, HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr., said, “While this committee must possess great scientific competence, it is important that it also be equipped to offer the best possible advice on the ethical, legal, public health and environmental issues which surround recombinant DNA research.

The Advisory Committee serves as the principal advisory body to the HEW Secretary and to the Director of NIH on recombinant DNA policy.

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14 New Members Added To Advisory Committee On Recombinant DNA

Fourteen new members have been appointed to HEW’s Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, enlarging the committee from 11 to 25 members, and significantly enhancing its capacity to deal with the legal, ethical, and other nonscientific issues which surround recombinant DNA research.

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The NIH Record

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‘Operation Clean-up’ Seeks To Utilize Idle Equipment and Supplies

The 13th annual “Operation Clean-up” will be conducted this month at NIH to effect economies by utilizing idle equipment and/or supplies identified in all administrative, service, and scientific areas.

Last year’s campaign resulted in the identification of 285 line items of equipment valued at $181,008 which were subsequently transferred to the Property Utilization Warehouse for reissue to NIH. Again this year, NIH units should organize internal “walk-thru” teams to survey each program area in order to identify equipment which can be made available for redistribution to others on a cost-free basis.

In the interest of safety, fire hazard, and general appearance, it is suggested that special attention be given to cluttered hallways and/or storage areas.

Off-the-reservation buildings will be visited during the week of Jan. 23; on-campus buildings, on the week beginning Jan. 30. Property representatives will notify areas of specific dates.

The Scientific Equipment Rental Program, initiated by the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch, Division of Research Services, has numerous unfilled requests for equipment. Concurrent with the “walk-thru,” it would be appreciated if seldom used expensive research equipment were transferred to the loan pool for redistribution.

For further information call Herbert Horrell, 496-4131.

EEO Council Will Hold Open Meeting for Employees, Invites Advance Questions

The NIH Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Council will hold an open meeting for all NIH employees on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

The purpose of the meeting is to inform employees of current developments in the NIH EEO Program and about the complaint process, and to enable them to bring concerns to the Council for action.

A memorandum has been sent to all employees asking them to list any items they would like the Council or NIH management to respond to at the meeting. These lists should be returned immediately to George S. Yee, NIH EEO office, Bldg. 31, Rm. 28-40.

Supervisors are encouraged to give employees ample flexibility in work schedules without charge to leave, so that they will be able to attend.

An interpreter for hearing impaired employees will be in attendance.

Enjoy Winter Weekend In Blue Knob Ski Area

Enjoy a winter weekend in Pennsylvania’s Blue Knob Ski area with accommodations at the Sheraton Motor Inn.

Arrangements have been made for the weekend of Feb. 9-10, and prices begin at $78 per person, based on 2, 3, or 4 persons in a room.

This includes bus fee, hotel, buffet breakfasts and dinners each day, ski equipment for the weekend, and much more. Buses will depart at 5:30 p.m. from Bldg. 31C.

Contact June Jontiff at the R&W office, 496-6061, for further details.

FAES Graduate School
Spring Schedule Available; Register Through Jan. 31

Spring semester courses of the Graduate School at NIH, sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, have now been scheduled.

The evening classes, given on the NIH campus, will begin Feb. 5 with registration by mail through Jan. 12, and in person from Jan. 25 through Jan. 31.

Schedules are available in the FAES school office in the Clinical Center, Bldg. 10, Rm. B1-L-101. To have one sent, call 496-5272.

Courses are offered in biochemistry, biology, genetics, chemistry, physics, mathematics, medicine, physiology, immunology, microbiology, nursing, psychology, psychiatry, statistics, languages, and administration.

Frequently, it is 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.

Dr. Eichhorn Named 1978 Maryland Chemist Of the Year

Dr. Gunther L. Eichhorn, National Institute on Aging, has been named 1978 Maryland Chemist of the Year by the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Eichhorn is chief of the Section on Inorganic Chemistry at the NIA Gerontology Research Center.

The Maryland Section, American Chemical Society, recognized Dr. Eichhorn for his pioneering work in inorganic chemistry and his compilation of the definitive textbook in the field, Inorganic Biochemistry (1973). This two-volume, 1,000-page book has just been released in a Russian edition.

Dr. Eichhorn’s laboratory has made many research contributions, among them the discovery and explanation of numerous phenomena involving the effects of metal ions on nucleic acids, including the reversible folding and unfolding of nucleic acid helices.

He and his Baltimore co-workers have also made exciting discoveries concerning the effects of metalloantineoplastic agents on nucleic acid structure and on replication by polymerase enzymes.

Dr. Eichhorn is on the editorial boards of Bioinorganic Chemistry and the Journal of Molecular Catalysis, and is co-editor of a soon-to-be published multi-volume series, Advances in Inorganic Biochemistry.

Dr. Eichhorn pioneered the application of nuclear magnetic resonance and circular dichroism spectroscopy to the study of metal complexes of nucleic acids and their derivatives.

Nurse Wins Writing Award

Mary Curry, a nurse on the Clinical Center’s 2 East Nursing unit (Pediatric Oncology), recently received the American Journal of Nursing/Maryland Nurses Association 1978 Writing Award.

Her article, entitled Counseling Clients in Natural Methods of Family Planning, will be published in the February issue of The Maryland Nurse.
Dr. Woolridge Retires; NCI Program Director Had 32 Years’ Service

Dr. Robert L. Woolridge, program director for Research Grants in the National Cancer Institute’s Diagnostic Research Program, retired recently after 32 years of Government service.

He began his Federal career as a research assistant in pathology with the Office of Naval Research before the end of World War II.

Dr. Woolridge worked as a civilian with the U.S. Navy until 1966, when he came to the Office of International Research at NIH. In 1969 he was posted to Hong Kong to assist in studies on the notorious Hong Kong flu. After his return in 1971, he served as HEW science liaison officer to the State Department.

He joined NCI in 1972 and worked in the Cause and Prevention Section of the Division of Cancer Control and Rehabilitation. He was transferred to the Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis in 1976, serving as program director until his retirement.

At his recent retirement party, Dr. Woolridge received a bound leather book with signed best wishes from his many friends and associates.

Uniformed Services University Introduction, Guided Tour Offered on Jan. 31

An introduction and guided tour of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the new military medical school, are being offered on Wednesday, Jan. 31, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Colonel Kenneth Kinnamon, assistant dean for instruction and research support, is in charge of the tour.

Space for the tour—part of the STEP Continuing Education Program—is limited so necessary reservations may be made by calling Arlene Bowles, 496-5358, or Ruth Linn (Westwood Bldg.), 496-7181.

Bus transportation will be provided from and return to the offices indicated: leave Westwood, noon; Landow, 12:15 p.m., Federal, 12:17 p.m., and Bldg. 31 A wing, 12:35 p.m.

Eminent Pathologist Dr. Wilhelm Hueper Dies; Honored Many Times for Pioneering Studies

Dr. Wilhelm C. Hueper, retired chief of NCI’s Environmental Cancer Section, died Dec. 28 in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Hueper, 84, had recently received the NIH Director’s Award for his pioneering research in the causes and prevention of occupational cancers. He joined the Institute in 1948, remaining there until his retirement in 1964.

The German-born pathologist began his cancer research in Europe in the early 1920’s, where he published findings on the rise of lung cancer in industrial cities.

In the decades after he emigrated to the United States in 1923, Dr. Hueper produced a number of pioneering studies and case reports on cancer in several states. He authored five major books and more than 350 publications.

His classic book, Occupational Tumors and Allied Diseases, a standard text since its publication in 1942, convincingly established a relationship between occupational contact with certain chemicals, metals, and minerals and the subsequent high incidence of cancer among exposed workers.

Dr. Hueper’s work helped establish the current consensus that most human cancers are associated with environmental factors. He was among the first scientists to point out that a lag time of up to several decades can occur between exposure to a carcinogen and the appearance of first symptoms.

In the 1930’s, as assistant director and pathologist at DuPont Laboratories, he charted a high incidence of bladder cancer among dye workers and identified the carcinogenic chemical beta-naphthylamine as the substance that caused it.

Later, during the 1950’s, he helped spotlight the high incidence of lung cancer in workers in the chromate-producing industry.

Among awards received by Dr. Hueper were the 1959 Rosenthal Award from the AAAS and the 1962 United Nations Award from the WHO.

In 1963, the editors of Modern Medicine voted him a distinguished achievement award for “his identification of carcinogenic substances and his undaunted courage in effecting control of noxious environmental agents in industry.”

The April issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute will be dedicated to Dr. Hueper and will contain a number of his papers.

Hoover Rowel, DES, One of Four Recipients Of Civil Liberties Union Award

Hoover Rowel, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic with the Division of Engineering Services, has been presented the American Civil Liberties Union annual award for his contributions to equal employment opportunities in Government.

Mr. Rowel was one of four distinguished recipients of the award at the recent ACLU Henry W. Edgerton Annual Dinner. The others were Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Representative Walter E. Fauntroy, and businessman Don Edwards. The dinner also served as a testimonial salute to Roger Baldwin, ACLU founder.

An NIH employee for more than 24 years, Mr. Rowel has long been active in civil liberty and equal opportunity affairs. He served as DES EEO counselor from 1975 to 1978, and received the Harvey J. Bullock, Jr. Award for Equal Opportunity Achievement last year.

Upon receiving the ACLU award, a handsomely inscribed plaque, Mr. Rowel acknowledged the citation with brief remarks, following which he was accorded a standing ovation by the 2,000 persons at the awards dinner.
NEW GUIDELINES
(Continued from Page 1)

Califano announced other actions that he was taking:
• Taking immediate steps towards requiring that research conducted by private companies complies with the NIH guidelines, primarily through use of the regulatory authority of the Food and Drug Administration;
• Requesting the Environmental Protection Agency to review its authority and to take all action it can to require compliance with the NIH guidelines by companies that carry out recombinant DNA research but whose products are not regulated by the FDA;
• Directing NIH to increase its research designed to determine the extent of risk associated with recombinant DNA research;
• Broadening substantially the public representation on the HEW advisory committee that will assist NIH in administering the revised guidelines;
• Increasing significantly public access to information about recombinant DNA research activities and increasing public participation in the administration of the guidelines in local communities.

Secretary Califano indicated that the new guidelines increase public participation at both the local and national level.

Twenty percent of the members of local Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBC's) must represent the general public and have no connection to the institution.

Also, important records must be made public, and problems, violations, illnesses, and accidents must be reported to NIH.

At the national level, major actions cannot be taken without advice of the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee with public and Federal agency comment.

Major actions include decisions to approve on a case-by-case basis experiments that are generally prohibited, to exempt additional categories of research from the guidelines, to permit the insertion of genes in new types of bacteria, and to approve changes in the guidelines themselves.

HEW Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. Julius B. Richmond and NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson have been requested to have their overall plan to conduct risk assessment experiments published for public comment and presented for review to the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee annually.

The first such plan should be ready for publication and submission to the Advisory Committee by Mar. 30, 1979.

Four New Members Appointed to DRR's National Advisory Council

Four new members were recently appointed to the National Advisory Research Resources Council: Drs. Anna Cherrie Epps, Granino A. Korn, Frederick C. Robbins, and Linda S. Wilson.

Dr. Epps, professor in the department of medicine of Tulane University School of Medicine, is the author of numerous papers, mainly involving immunology and hematology. She has previously served on health professions review committees as well as national advisory councils.

Dr. Korn, professor of electrical engineering at the University of Arizona, is the author of numerous handbooks and manuals on electronic computers and electrical engineering.

He has surveyed engineering education in Chile as a consultant to the National Academy of Sciences and has received several honors for his outstanding contributions to simulation techniques.

Dr. Robbins, a Nobel Laureate, is dean of the School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University. As a result of his work with Dr. John F. Enders at the Children's Hospital in Boston, Dr. Robbins, together with Drs. Enders and Thomas H. Weller, received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1954 for their successful growth of polioviruses in cultures of tissues, and discovery of more effective methods of polio detection.

Currently, Dr. Robbins is a member of the Technology Assessment Advisory Council of the Office of Technology Assessment of the Congress where he also serves as chairman of the Health Advisory Panel.

Dr. Wilson, associate vice chancellor for research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has served on the faculty of various training programs for university administrators and NIH scientist administrators.

A former chairman of the NIH General Research Support Advisory Committee, Dr. Wilson has recently been appointed to the National Commission on Research.

CC Blood Bank Sponsoring Donor Drive This Month

The Clinical Center Blood Bank is sponsoring a blood donor drive during the month of January, “Voluntary Blood Donor Month.” Volunteers are needed so drop by the Blood Bank, Bldg. 10A, Rm. 1E-33, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., or call for an appointment, 496-2563.

Help make blood and blood products available for those at NIH who need them. Some day you or your family may need blood, too.

CAREFUL!

Smoking is the No.1 cause of building fires learn not to burn

Prevent Fires—Save Lives!!

Cancer Incidence of Nuclear Test Observers Discussed at NIH in Seminar Series

Research on the incidence of cancer in military observers at the August 1957 nuclear test in Nevada, code-named SMOKEY, was the subject of the fourth of a cooperative seminar series cosponsored by the Center for Disease Control and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences recently at the NIEHS in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Dr. Glyn G. Caldwell, chief of the CDC Cancer Branch, was the featured speaker.

Previous seminars in this series have been given by Dr. Walter J. Rogan, NIEHS Epidemiology Program medical officer, on the Breast Milk and Formula Project; Dr. Phil J. Landrigan, chief, Special Studies Branch, CDC, on Lead in Air: Science and Regulation; and Dr. John A. McLachlan, Lab. of Environmental Toxicology, NIEHS, on DES and Cancer.

Drs. Rogan and Landrigan are program coordinators for the series.
to recombinant DNA research.

"I believe that the membership of this committee will offer us excellent technical and broader policy guidance on these issues as we move forward in this field of biological exploration."

The panel will give advice on new types of bacteria for use in recombinant DNA experiments, on whether certain presently prohibited experiments should be conducted, whether additional categories of research should be exempted from the guidelines, and on future changes in the guidelines.

Revised guidelines on the conduct of recombinant DNA research were announced by the Secretary on Dec. 17. The new guidelines increase public participation significantly at both the local and national level in the advisory and biosafety committees the program requires.

The Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee is listed below:

**Current Members**
- Dr. Allan Campbell, professor, department of biology, Stanford University
- Dr. Peter Day, chief, division of genetics, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
- Dr. Susan Gottesman, senior investigator, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, National Cancer Institute
- Dr. Richard Horlick, director, division of infectious diseases, School of Medicine, University of Maryland
- Dr. Elizabeth Kutter, member of the faculty in biophysics, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Wash.
- Dr. Emmett Redford, Ashbel Smith Professor of Government and Public Affairs, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin
- Dr. Wallace Rowe, chief, Laboratory of Viral Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- Dr. Jane Selow, DNA chairperson, biologist, Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Dr. John Spatz, chairman, department of microbiology, Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation
- Dr. LeRoy Walters, director, Center for Bioethics, Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University
- Dr. Milton Zaitlin, professor, department of plant pathology, Cornell University

**New Members**
- Dr. A. Karim Ahmed, senior staff scientist, National Resources Defense Council, New York, N.Y.
- Dr. David Baltimore, Nobel Laureate, American Cancer Society Professor of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Dr. Francis Broadbent, professor of soil microbiology, Department of Land, Air, and Water Resources, University of California, Davis
- Zelma Cason, chief of cytotechnology, department of cytology, University of Mississippi Medical Center
- Dr. Richard Goldstein, assistant professor of microbiology and molecular genetics, Harvard Medical School
- Patricia King, professor of law, Georgetown University Law Center
- Dr. Sheldon Krinsky, acting director, Program in Urban Social and Environmental Policy, Tufts University
- Dr. Richard Novick, chairman of plac sold research, Public Health Research Institute, New York, N.Y.
- David Parkinson, associate professor of occupational health, University of Pittsburgh
- Dr. Ramon Pino, assistant professor of biology, University of California, San Diego
- Dr. Samuel Proctor, professor of education, Graduate School of Education, Rutgers University
- Ray Thornton, retiring member, U.S. House of Representatives (D., Ark.) and chairman of Subcommittee on Science, Research, and Technology
- Dr. Luther Williams, associate professor of biology and assistant provost, department of biological sciences, Purdue University
- Dr. Frank Young, professor and chairman, department of microbiology, University of Rochester

**TRAINING TIPS**

The Executive and Management Development Branch is sponsoring the following courses at NIH in February and March:
- **Supervisory Manager's Role in Personnel Management**
  - Feb. 21
  - Management of Conflict and Agreement
  - Feb. 28-Mar. 2
  - Introduction to Supervision
  - Mar. 12-16
  - Training for Supervisors
  - Mar. 19-23
  - Intramural Orientation
  - Mar. 27

**Management Survey of Modern Management**
- Concepts
  - Mar. 5 and Mar. 12-16
- Program Planning
  - Mar. 7-9
- Human Interaction in the Work Environment
  - Mar. 28-30

For further information concerning these courses, call Sacelia Damuth, 496-6371.

Dr. Frederick K. Goodwin and Monte S. Buchsbaum of the National Institute of Mental Health, Division of Clinical and Behavioral Research, will serve as co-editors of a recently-created journal, Psychiatry Research. The concept of this journal is to provide very rapid publication of short but complete research reports in the field of psychiatry. Its scope encompasses: biochemical, physiological, genetic, psychological and social determinants of human behavior; assessment of human behavior and subjective state; and evaluation of somatic and nonsomatic psychiatric treatments.

In addition, reports of clinically related basic studies in the fields of neuroendocrinology, neurochemistry, electrophysiology, psychology, and genetics will be published.

The Editorial Board is international in scope and includes a number of NIMH investigators.

Initially, the journal will be published bimonthly beginning July 1979; sometime in 1980 it will begin to appear monthly.

NIH scientists are invited to submit papers to Dr. Goodwin, Bldg. 10, Rm. 45-239. The deadline for the first issue is Mar. 15, 1979.

**History of Medicine Society Meets Thursday, Jan. 18; Axelrod, Weiner Featured**

The next meeting of the Washington Society for the History of Medicine on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m. in the Billings Auditorium, National Library of Medicine, will feature talks by Drs. Julius Axelrod and Dora B. Weiner.

**Drs. Goodwin, Buchsbaum Are Co-editors Of New Psychiatry Research Journal**

Drs. Goodwin and Buchsbaum of the National Institute of Mental Health, Division of Clinical and Behavioral Research, will serve as co-editors of a recently-created journal, Psychiatry Research. The concept of this journal is to provide very rapid publication of short but complete research reports in the field of psychiatry. Its scope encompasses: biochemical, physiological, genetic, psychological and social determinants of human behavior; assessment of human behavior and subjective state; and evaluation of somatic and nonsomatic psychiatric treatments.

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NIEHS Looks Forward to 2nd Decade of Research And To Occupying Permanent Facilities

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences—the principal Federal agency for biomedical research on the effects of environmental agents—will mark its 10th anniversary this Friday, Jan. 10.

On the verge of occupying a new laboratory and administrative facility on 509.25 acres at Research Triangle Park, the Institute looks forward to its second decade of research.

In response to growing public consciousness and concern about the health problems caused by harmful man-made agents in the environment, the Division of Environmental Health Sciences originated on Nov. 1, 1966.

An early expression of this concern was the 1958 Bayne-Jones report, "The Advancement of Medical Research and Education," which recommended continuation and extension of research related to environmental factors.

In 1961, the Public Health Service recommended establishment of an environmental health center, and that same year the Committee on Environmental Health Problems recommended to PHS that a national center for environmental research be established.

By 1964, Congress authorized planning funds, and in 1965 a site was selected where North Carolina State University, Duke University, University of North Carolina, the State government, and private industry were jointly developing Research Triangle Park.

When the Division of Environmental Health Sciences was established in 1966, Dr. Paul Kotin was designated as Director.

Dr. Kotin continued as Director when the Division became NIEHS on Jan. 12, 1969, at a ceremony at NLM in Bethesda with then-HEW Secretary Wilbur J. Cohen presiding.

Dr. Kotin was succeeded as Director by Dr. David P. Rall on Mar. 1, 1971.

Dr. Rall was recently selected by HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr., to head the new National Toxicology Program concurrent with his duties as NIEHS Director.

Task Force Reports Clarify Future Research Directions

"The Institute's first 10 years have been characterized by excellence in research," Dr. David P. Rall, NIEHS Director, said.

"NIEHS has been the originator of two major Task Force reports that have clarified... future directions in environmental health science research," he noted.

These two Task Force reports are the efforts of 2 years of work by over 80 scientists from a variety of disciplines focusing on the prevention of illness, disability, and premature death caused by man's contact with environmental agents.

The reports deal not only with problems that are of immediate concern to NIEHS, but include areas within the purview of other agencies.

On Sept. 26, 1967, the deed for 509.25 acres of the Research Triangle Park was presented to Surgeon General William H. Stewart (c) by Governor Dan K. Moore (l) of North Carolina and former Governor Luther Hodges.

Dr. Kotin

Dr. Rall
Support Wide Variety of Research, Training

The Institute has a full range of intramural research activities which include the areas of biometry, epidemiology, biochemical genetics, biophysics, animal genetics, molecular genetics, reproductive and developmental toxicology, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pulmonary toxicology, behavioral and neurological toxicology, comparative biology, chemistry, inhalation toxicology, comparative pathology, comparative medicine, and marine biomedicine.

Investigations focus on the effect of specific environmental agents such as asbestos, lead, cadmium, arsenic, and the halogenated hydrocarbons.

In this research, the Institute attempts to learn how and where environmental agents are released into the environment; how and where they interact with other physical, chemical, and biological agents; what the exposure levels are in vulnerable populations; how these levels—alone and in combination with other factors—impinge on biological systems; and what the mechanisms of toxicity and pathogenesis are in human and lower organisms.

Through its Extramural Program, NIEHS provides funds for support of research and research training activities within educational institutions, research institutes, and other public and private nonprofit organizations.

In this way, it reaches out into the scientific community to those scientists and research teams which can make contributions to understanding problems in the environmental health field.

By this means, it also increases the supply of environmental health research manpower in accordance with identified national needs.

In addition to contributing to biomedical and clinical knowledge, NIEHS-supported research provides health criteria for establishment of standards by those Federal agencies charged with regulatory responsibilities.

Other beneficiaries of the basic knowledge developed are medical personnel concerned with causes of new diseases peculiar to certain locales; research teams dealing with environmental components of cancer, heart and lung diseases, birth defects, and neurological disorders; and physicians responsible for health care delivery.

Acquatic Species Emerging As Important Tools in Research

In addition to the Environmental Health Science Centers, the Institute has identified research with marine and freshwater organisms as an emerging direction in environmental health sciences.

In this program, aquatic species are being used as laboratory animals. Aquatic species are significant in three ways: as a potential source of contaminants in the human food chain; as models of living systems which interact with contaminants in ways that are comparable to human organ systems; and as indicators or “sentry animals” which can warn of dangerous levels of contaminants in a specific area or body of water.

Four core center grants have been made to university marine/freshwater centers for environmental health sciences research. These are at Oregon State University at Corvallis, the University of Southern California at Los Angeles, Duke University Marine Laboratory at Beaufort, N.C., and the Medical College of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

NIEHS also supports two laboratories for its intramural scientists at off-site locations at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory in Maine and the C. V. Whitney Laboratory of the University of Florida near St. Augustine, while carrying out marine research in its own wet laboratory in Research Triangle Park.

Extensive Intramural, Extramural Programs Support Wide Variety of Research, Training

In this research, the Institute plans to hold the second of its Environmental Research Fair for 1979, a two-day event January 24 and 25, which will provide a means of communication between the scientists, researchers, and practitioners of environmental health sciences community.

Both the intramural and extramural programs have an emphasis on technology transfer as an integral part of their planning.

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Two Information Centers Aid Technology Transfer

Conscious of the need for technology transfer, NIEHS has taken an active role in finding and funding the Environmental Mutagen Information Center (EMIC) and the Environmental Teratology Information Center (ETIC), both of which maintain growing computerized bibliographic data bases available to health professionals and others throughout the world.

As part of the technology transfer process, the Institute plans to hold the second of its biennial Science Fairs in late spring.

This Fair will highlight, through poster sessions and presentations, NIEHS’s decade of research accomplishments. The Fair is expected once again to create considerable scientific interest. In addition to NIH and other Government scientists, invitations will be sent to key figures in the environmental health sciences community.

In conjunction with the Fair, the Institute plans to have a celebration commemorating its 10th anniversary year.

Health Science Centers Serve as Nat’l Resource

Currently, NIEHS provides core support to eight university-based Environmental Health Science Centers which serve as a national resource on causes and nature of environmentally related disease.

The centers, and their special areas of inquiry, are: University of Cincinnati, heavy metals and other toxicants; Harvard School of Public Health, occupational and environmental health; Mount Sinai School of Medicine, relation of environmental agents to human health; and New York University Medical Center, environmental health sciences in general.

Also, Oregon State University, environmental management; University of Rochester School of Medicine, heavy metals; Vanderbilt University, environmental toxicants; and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, effects of fossil fuels utilization.
Intestinal and gastric bypass surgery, often controversial treatments for massive obesity, and related techniques were evaluated by more than 200 experts and interested persons at an NIH Consensus Development Conference held here last month.

The conference was sponsored by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, assisted by the NIH Office for Medical Applications of Research and the Fogarty International Center.

Morbid (extreme) obesity has been defined as 100 percent or more in excess of desirable weight. It increases the risks of early death in these persons up to 11 times that of non-obese persons of the same age and sex.

Severe obesity also predisposes to a variety of serious disorders such as coronary heart disease, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, marked osteoarthritis of the weight bearing joints, respiratory distress, gallbladder disease, and psychosocial incapacity.

The benefits and hazards of the more common operations, namely, jejunoileal and gastric bypass, were analyzed in terms of their short- and long-term physical, physiological, and psychosocial effects.

It was agreed that, in contrast to the more established jejunoileal bypass, for many patients the new gastric bypass operation may have fewer long-term side effects. However, followup for the gastric operation has been only over a 2- to 3-year period compared to 5 to 7 years for the earlier procedure. Moreover, gastric bypass appears to be technically more demanding than the small bowel bypass.

It is still not known whether patients with gastric bypass will lose as much weight or maintain substantial weight loss for as long as those undergoing the intestinal bypass procedure. Some patients may learn to "out-eat" the gastric bypass operation by consuming very frequent small meals. Other procedures such as gastroplasty (a new variant of gastric bypass), vagotomy, and jaw-wiring also were discussed.

The most common, serious complications of jejunoileal bypass include oxaluria and high incidence of oxalate-containing kidney stones, unremitting diarrhea, development of various nutritional deficiencies, including protein malnutrition, and possibly accelerated gall-stone formation. Life-threatening liver failure may also develop.

Unless they also receive long-term dietary management, some patients may regain much or all of their lost weight. Other long-term complications can include arthritis and metabolic bone disease. Many, but not all, of these complications can be prevented or mitigated by meticulous followup care.

No criteria are currently available to predict reliably whether surgical intervention will be successful in a given individual.

It was agreed that the development of a truly informed consent is essential. Also, it was emphasized that patients should receive a thorough explanation of the risks, benefits, and uncertainties of both procedures.

The experts encouraged future clinical trials of the most promising new techniques and improvements of existing procedures. They also stressed the need for more attention, better understanding of the different types of obesity, the incidence of massive obesity, and the degree of risk associated with it. Also required are better techniques to identify early in life those individuals destined to become "super obese."

The summary and recommendations were prepared by panels of experts chaired by Dr. Theodore Van Itallie, professor of medicine, Columbia University, and Director of the NIAMDD-supported Obesity Center at St. Luke's Hospital Center, New York.

Principal conference organizers from NIAMDD were Dr. Benjamin T. Burton, associate director; Merilyn C. Hiller, special assistant for planning and evaluation; and Dr. Gladys Hirschman, staff physician.

A short summary of the conference will appear in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in the near future, as well as in a number of other medical and surgical journals. The entire proceedings will be published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.*
VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

11/6—Dr. Ellen Millstein, USSR, Neonatal and Pediatric Medicine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. James B. Sidbury, NICHD, Bldg. 31, Rm. 2A50.
12/1—Dr. Takashi Hirano, Japan, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Daniel Zaharko, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 5D16.
12/1—Dr. Eleonore Lehr, West Germany, Laboratory of Behavioral Sciences. Sponsor: Dr. Richard J. Wyatt, NIMH, WAW Bldg., St. Elizabeths.
12/1—Dr. Mary Dence Pato. Canada, Molecular Cardiology Section. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Adelstein, NHLBI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 7B15.
12/2—Dr. Robert Weisberg, NICHD, Bldg. 6, Rm. 339.
12/3—Dr. Dhruba Kumar Chatteraj, India, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Weisberg, NICHD, Bldg. 6, Rm. 339.
12/3—Dr. Farouk Karoun, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Clinical Psychopharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. George Martin, NIDR, Bldg. 30, Rm. 416.
12/3—Dr. John Decker, Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch chief and National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases clinical director.
12/1—Dr. George Martin, NIDR, Bldg. 30, Rm. 416.
12/13—Dr. J. Kung, China, Laboratory of Immunology. Sponsor: Dr. William E. Paul, NIAID, Bldg. 10, Rm. 11N309.
12/17—Dr. Michael Hirsch, Israel, Developmental Brain Pathology Section. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Myers, NICHD, Park 5 Bg., Rm. 451G.
12/17—Dr. Gabriel A. Schmunis, Argentina, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases. Sponsor: Dr. James A. Dvorak, NIAID, Bldg. 5, Rm. 134.
12/18—Dr. Prince K. Arora, India, Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis. Sponsor: Dr. Robert McIntire, NCI, Bldg. 8, Rm. 204.
12/18—Dr. Krystyna J. Wolska, Poland, Laboratory of Tumor Virus Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Gordon I. Hager, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 1817.
12/19—Dr. Fumikazu Hayashi, Japan, Laboratory of Chemistry. Sponsor: Dr. David F. Johnson, NIAMD, Bldg. 4, Rm. 141.
12/21—Dr. Vincent Chau, Taiwan, Laboratory of Nutrition and Endocrinology. Sponsor: Dr. Martin Rodbell, NIAMD, Bldg. 6, Rm. B1-28.
12/28—Dr. Tichimir Torda, Czechoslovakia, Laboratory of Clinical Science. Sponsor: Dr. Irwin Kopin, NIMH, Bldg. 10, Rm. 2D46.

Capacity crowds were always on hand to fill Masur Auditorium for the lectures.

The Clinical Center's health series, Medicine for the Layman, concluded its 12-week program Dec. 12 with a talk on arthritis by Dr. John Decker, Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch chief and National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases clinical director.

Attendance for the entire series was high, and for several lectures capacity crowds filled Masur Auditorium. An overflow audience of nearly 300 that showed up one Tuesday evening was able to see the lecture over television monitors set up in the 14th floor auditorium.

Special efforts to tailor the subject matter of the series and to the lay audiences resulted in highly imaginative and informative presentations. Scientists worked closely with local artists to develop clear graphic interpretations of their ideas. They also utilized film segments to illustrate, often dramatically, body functions or research advances. Certain lectures featured multiple projection techniques and musical introductions.

Topics included cardiovascular surgery; cholesterol, diet and heart disease; allergies; depression; blood transfusions—benefits and risks; cancer and the environment; peptic ulcer; food, growth and your baby; sexually transmitted diseases; genetics and recombinant DNA; the eye and diseases; and arthritis. Literature on each subject collected from Institute information offices and voluntary health agencies was distributed before each lecture.

Plans are underway to develop pamphlets on each of this year's topics. Publications based on last year's series will be available soon.

Camera crews from NIH's Audiovisual Section, DAS, were on hand to videotape lectures and question-and-answer periods. Edited tapes will be made available to community organizations and school systems.

The series, conceived by Clinical Center Director Dr. Mortimer B. Lipsett and coordinated by the Clinical Center information office, will be offered again next fall. If there are topics you would like included, please send your suggestions to the Clinical Center information office, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1A-05.

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Jan. 21 Concert Features
Vermeer String Quartet

The fourth concert in the 1978-79 Chamber Music Series, sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, will welcome the return of the Vermeer String Quartet.

The concert will be held on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 4 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Admission is by ticket only.

Get Away From the Chill

R&W has made arrangements for you to get away from the chill. Trips are available to the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas and St. Croix. Also available are other spots in the sun, Cartagena, Guatemala, and Bermuda. If you like to cruise the Caribbean, the Britannia sails to St. Maarten, Martinique, Curacao during February and March.

Join us to stay warm. Contact June Jontiff between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., 496-6061.

Spend 6 Days Skiing in Canadian Rockies

Six days of glorious skiing in the Canadian Rockies. You'll explore the trails of Sunshine, Mt. Norquay, and Lake Louise. Your home for 7 nights will be the famous Banff Springs Hotel.

The trip, from Mar. 11 to Mar. 18 includes 6-day lift tickets, and round trip air fare from Washington, D.C. If you are an adventurous expert skier you will have the option of Heliskiing, a once in a lifetime experience.

For further information, contact Linda Perry (evenings), 493-5167, or Rita Bailey, 296-8160, during the day. Sign up now—space is limited.

Conference in N.Y.C.
Focuses on Concerns With Hypertension Among Puerto Ricans

The first Conference on Hypertension Among Puerto Ricans held recently in New York City was sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Ad Hoc Committee on Hypertension Among Puerto Ricans.

Fifth in a series of conferences on hypertension in minority populations, the meeting included more than 200 health professionals, paraprofessionals, and volunteers providing services to the Puerto Rican community.

Through concurrent workshops, participants focused on three concerns: health education, family oriented comprehensive care, and research on the prevalence and control of high blood pressure among Puerto Ricans.

Recommendations included:
- Encouragement of research
- Development of culturally relevant health prevention and education materials
- Organization of hypertension prevention and control programs as part of a total family health care program
- Development of hospital-sponsored detection programs, using satellite health care units throughout the country

A conference report will soon be available.

For a copy and more information contact Annie Collins, National High Blood Pressure Education Program, NHLBI, Bldg. 31, Rm. 5A-10, Bethesda, Md. 20014.
R&W Sponsoring Trip, Showing Slides on Russia

Want to travel to Russia? R&W is sponsoring a trip from Mar. 11 to Mar. 18.

Why go to Russia? Because it's fascinating, because it's different, because it's fun, because it abounds with cultural delights, because the heritage is so different from ours, because the Soviets are learning about our world and we are learning more about theirs.

Join R&W on Jan. 18 in Wilson Hall for a slide presentation. The first seminar is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the second, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Door prizes will be given at each presentation.

Thymic Hormones and Aging Forum Jan. 18 Is Open

Employees are invited to attend a forum on Thymic Hormones and Aging on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 31, C Wing, Conf. Rm. 6.

Leading experts in the field of thymic hormones who will make presentations are: Dr. Jean Francois Bach, Dr. Marie-Anne Bach, Dr. Nathan Trainin, Dr. Allan Goldstein, and Dr. Gideon Goldstein.

For additional information, call Dr. Lester Smith, 496-9350.

NIH Singers Seek New Members

Do you like to sing classical music? The NIH Singers are a group who meet every other Sunday night to do just that.

Since singing choral music is more enjoyable when a large number of people participate, you are invited to join the group. Prospective members are not required to audition, but they must be able to sight-read music reasonably well.

The NIH Singers prepare at least two concerts each year to present to the NIH community. The next rehearsal will be on Jan. 14.

If you are interested in participating in this R&W-sponsored activity, call Dr. Lewis M. Norton, 496-1686, for additional information.

Data Base Management Seminar Offered for Second Time

A second 2-hour seminar on Data Base Management Systems has been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 17, in Bldg. 31, Conference Rm. 9 (6th floor, C wing) at 1 p.m. Michael M. Gorman of Computer Sciences Corporation INFONET technical staff will again make the presentation.

Topics will include:
• What are DBMS's and what can they do for you?
• DBMS structures
• Standards
• Fundamental definitions.

All interested persons are invited. For further information contact Carolyn G. McHale, 496-2194.

12 Polish Cardiovascular Specialists Attend NHLBI Symposium, Visit U.S. Centers

A 12-member delegation of Polish cardiovascular specialists participated in the U.S.-Polish Symposium on Cardiovascular Diseases at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute on Nov. 27-28.

The symposium honored Polish-American Week, and was sponsored by the Office of International Health and NHLBI.

Delegation chairman was Professor Stefan Rywik, Director, Polish Trial on Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease and Director of Research, Institute of Food and Nutrition, Warsaw. Dr. Robert Levy, Director, NHLBI, cochaired the symposium.

Papers focused on the epidemiology of cardiovascular diseases, an overview of major areas of research emphasis, specific research areas such as arteriosclerosis and hypertension, and the transfer of technology in cardiovascular diseases.

Following the symposium, the Polish delegation went to Houston, Tex., and were hosted by Dr. Antonio Gotto of the National Research and Demonstration Center at Baylor. On Dec. 1 they visited the Lipid Research Clinics Coordinating Center, Chapel Hill, N.C.

Dr. Karl E. Mason Dies; Noted Authority Served as Consultant After Retirement

Dr. Karl E. Mason, 78, former extramural program director in gastroenterology and nutrition, National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, died in Bethesda Dec. 8 after a heart attack.

Dr. Mason joined NIAMDD in 1965 and retired 10 years later, serving NIAMDD as a consultant until his death.

He was a noted authority in the fields of nutrition, anatomy, and physiology, conducting studies in the fields of vitamin deficiencies and reproduction, and on the metabolic role of vitamin E which led to his discovery of its relatively poor status in the newborn.

He also investigated leprosy, muscular dystrophy, and the role of trace elements in reproduction. He was the author of some 80 research reports and articles.

Dr. Mason earned a B.A. degree at Acadia University, Nova Scotia, Canada. After receiving a Ph.D. degree from Yale University in 1925, he joined the department of anatomy at Vanderbilt School of Medicine.

From 1940 to 1965 Dr. Mason was professor and chairman of the department of anatomy at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Dr. Mason, a former associate editor of the American Journal of Anatomy, was a Fellow of the American Institute of Nutrition and a past president of the American Association of Anatomists.

He is survived by his wife Pearl S., a daughter, a brother, and three sisters.
Black History Committee
Sponsors Events To Honor
Dr. King’s Birthday

Two events, sponsored by the NIH Cultural Committee for Black History, have been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 17, to honor Dr. Martin Luther King’s birthday.

The day will begin with a fellowship breakfast (free coffee) from 7:30 to 9 a.m. in the Clinical Center cafeteria.

A program featuring Congressman John Conyers, Jr., from Michigan, will take place at noon in the Masur Auditorium. Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, is scheduled to introduce the Congressman.

Born and educated in Detroit, he received his B.A. and J.D. degrees from Wayne State University and later served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict.

His honors include being awarded the Rosa Parks Award for civil rights activities in 1967 from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A champion of civil rights, Congressman Conyers sponsored the Martin Luther King Holiday Bill which would make Jan. 15 a national holiday.

Also scheduled for the noontime program are the Howard University drama department dance group with an interpretative dance tribute to Dr. King’s spirit, and a choral group.

National Research Council
Invites Comments
On Committee Report

The Committee on a Study of National Needs for Biomedical and Behavioral Research Personnel of the National Research Council will hold its third annual public hearing on Mar. 8 at 9 a.m. at the National Academy of Sciences Auditorium, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments on the committee’s report, Personnel Needs and Training for Biomedical and Behavioral Research: 1978 Report, and to receive suggestions for the committee’s future work.

Persons wishing to testify are requested to submit written statements by Feb. 16. Comments from the floor are also welcome.

Single copies of the report are available from the committee, JH 717, at the above address. For further information, contact Robert G. Snyder, (202) 389-6656.

Volunteers Still Needed
For Poison Ivy Study

Volunteers are still needed to participate in an NIH-approved research protocol involving individuals who are sensitive to poison ivy.

This study requires hypnosis to alter the expected rash from poison ivy so volunteers should call only if strongly interested.

Volunteers must be between 18 and 50 years of age, and some financial remuneration will be included according to NIH guidelines. Anyone interested in participating in this study should contact Dr. Steven Shama, Dermatology Branch, NCI, 496-2481.

NHLBI Seminar Introduces Minority Students
To Intramural Research

Dr. Walter Lovenberg, chief of the Biomedical Pharmacology Section, discusses research on the regulation of neurotransmitter synthesis being carried out in his laboratory. He described the technique needed to answer scientific questions and the academic training required for this type of research.

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute recently held at NIH its first annual Seminar to Introduce Minority Students to Intramural Research.

The seminar, initiated by the NHLBI Committee on Minority Programs for 1978, was attended by 24 students engaged in research at 16 minority institutions supported in part by NHLBI through the Division of Research Resources Minority Biomedical Support Program.

The seminar was designed to encourage minority students to consider careers in heart, lung, and blood research by personally meeting and talking with NHLBI scientists in the intramural research program.

It included introductions by Dr. Thomas E. Malone, NIH Deputy Director, and Dr. Robert I. Levy, Institute Director. Dr. Jack Orloff, director of the NHLBI Division of Intramural Research, explained on-campus research activities.

Following these talks, staff members accompanied students to their selected laboratories, where lab chiefs discussed the nature of research in the laboratory and encouraged students to participate in an “experiment of the day.”

Laboratory activity continued the following morning, after which the students heard descriptions of the planning process, NHLBI’s grant administration program, and Institute employment.

The seminar concluded with Nobel Laureate Dr. Marshall Nirenberg discussing his current research program.

Dr. Herbert E. Kaufman Joins Nat’l Advisory Eye Council

Dr. Herbert E. Kaufman of New Orleans has been appointed to the National Advisory Eye Council.

Dr. Kaufman, chairman of the department of ophthalmology at Louisiana State University Medical Center, was a clinical associate in ophthalmology at NIH during 1957-59.

He is internationally recognized for his studies of diseases of the cornea, especially the immunological aspects of herpes simplex viral infections. In 1978 he received the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Proctor Medal, the highest award in vision research.

Dr. Marshall Nirenberg discussing his current research program.

Nobelists Dr. Nirenberg, chief of the Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics, speaks about his current research with neuroblastoma cells as models of neurons. He described some of his recent findings concerning synapse formation.

More informal contact between the students and NHLBI intramural staff was made at the end of the first day at a buffet dinner.

Juanita Cooke, who developed and coordinated the program, noted that it succeeded in bringing together the research and administrative staff to informally discuss their work.

The seminar was capped at the end of the second day by an evaluation session.