Dr. Walter Gilbert, Lasker Award Winner, To Deliver NIH Lecture Tomorrow

Dr. Walter Gilbert, who will deliver the NIH Lecture tomorrow (Wednesday, Nov. 28) at 8:15 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium, has received two prestigious awards this month.

He was awarded an Albert Lasker medical research prize on Nov. 14, and the Gairdner Foundation Award—Canada’s highest award in medical science—on Nov. 2.

Dr. Gilbert, professor of molecular biology at Harvard University, and Dr. Frederick Sanger of Britain shared the $15,000 Lasker prize for their studies on the chemical makeup of DNA.

A pioneer in developing an understanding of the molecular basis of cellular regulation, Dr. Gilbert has been a longtime grantee of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and is also receiving support from the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.

NIH’ers Ride Bikes To Save Energy And Money

Rising gasoline prices and the initiation of parking fees in November have spurred NIH employees to find alternate ways of getting to and from work. Over the past 6 months, employees have turned to the bicycle as a way to beat the additional expense of transportation, to help save on energy, and to improve their health.

On Nov. 7, 150 employees heard NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Montgomery County transportation officials, and representatives of the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission speak on the development of the bikeway system for NIH and the surrounding area.

The meeting marked the first time a Federal organization solicited help from Montgomery County to assist bicyclists. NIH is the largest

NCI Scientists Attend Internat’l Symposium In USSR on Leukemia Research

By Pat Newman

Ten NCI scientists recently made the 2-day trip to Pitsunda, a small resort on the Black Sea in Soviet Georgia, to join nearly 300 scientists from 16 western countries and the USSR at the IXth International Symposium on Comparative Research on Leukemia and Related Diseases.

Papers covered such diverse topics as cell differentiation, expression of host and viral genes, immunology, the role of herpesviruses in primate and human lymphomas, and the epidemiology, diagnosis, and treatment of leukemia and lymphomas in humans.

Pat Newman, an NCI science writer, who attended the meeting, had an opportunity to visit several cancer laboratories in Moscow.

Pitsunda, is located north of Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, one of two autonomous Georgian Soviet Socialist Republics. It is the home of the Institute of Experimental Pathology and Therapy, whose scientific staff collaborates in leukemia and lymphoma research with scientists in the U.S. The Institute, the only primate research center in the USSR, boasts the largest collection of baboons in captivity in the world.

During opening ceremonies of this first cancer meeting to be held in that part of the world, Dr. Emil J. Freireich, head of the department of developmental therapeutics at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, Tex., received the 12th biennial DeVilliers Award from The Leukemia Society of America, Inc. The award, which included a plaque and $1,000, cited Dr. Freireich’s advocacy of intensive therapy for leukemia patients.

Dr. Harvey Rabin of the NCI Frederick Cancer Research Center summarized joint virus research by scientists from the Sukhumi Institute, the FCRC, and other U.S. laboratories. Although several viruses have been isolated from a 900-animal baboon colony at Sukhumi, including a baboon RNA type-C virus, one of the most interesting viruses is Herpesvirus papio, named after the Hamadryas

NIH Record

U.S. Department
of Health,
Education, and
Welfare

November 27
1979
Vol. XXXI
No. 24

National
Institutes
of Health

Dr. Gilbert will speak on The Structure and Evolution of Genes.

Dr. Fredrickson starts out for a noon-hour ride after taking his bicycle from a bike rack near his office.—Photo by Gary Best.

(See SYMPOSIUM, Page 8)
Free Clinic Needs Volunteers

The Bache Memorial Free Clinic needs volunteers. The clinic, also known as the Bethesda Free Clinic, is located at St. John's Episcopal Church in Chevy Chase, Md. It serves as a treatment center for venereal disease, contraception, and minor ailments. The clinic is also a diagnostic and referral center for more serious conditions.

If you would like to volunteer, call James Zidar, 656-3222; Dr. James J. Bailey, 496-2959; or Dr. Jonathan Costa, 496-3421.

‘Open Season’ Closes Dec. 7

Dec. 7 is the deadline for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program “Open Season,” during which eligible employees may enroll in 17 different plans, change options or types of enrollment, or any combination of these.

Booklets Distributed

A booklet, Open Season Instructions, along with brochures on the major plans and premium rates for all plans, has been distributed to NIH employees.

Any employee who has not received this material should contact the B/I/D personnel office.

Burglary Information Is Needed by Police

The Montgomery County Police are seeking information regarding a burglary which took place on Oct. 23, between 7-9 p.m., at a home on the 5000 block of Cedar Lane. Approximately $60,000 worth of valuables were stolen. Police say that the burglars entered the home by kicking in the front door.

If you have any information, call Officer Susan Raymond of the Montgomery County Police at 632-9200.
Dr. Jakubczak Joins Expanded NIA Program

Dr. Leonard F. Jakubczak, a former NIH Grants Associate with an extensive background in clinical and experimental psychology, has joined the National Institute on Aging's recently expanded social and behavioral research program headed by Dr. Matilda White Riley. He will be responsible for stimulating research on the cognitive, perceptual, and psychomotor processes.

Has Written Widely on Aging

Dr. Jakubczak's appointment completes his transition from laboratory scientist to administrator. Earlier in his career, he investigated and published widely in the areas of dependency behavior; the behavioral aspects of nutrition, aging, and longevity; and the psychology of adult development.

Birth Defects in Children of Alcoholic Mothers

Scientific evidence has been presented for the first time to indicate that birth defects in children of mothers who consume excessive amounts of alcohol are directly related to an effect of alcohol on the developing fetus, without the confounding factors of altered maternal function, nutrition, or metabolism.

The experiments exposing rat embryos growing in culture to ethanol were conducted in the Laboratory of Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Investigators Drs. Nigel Brown, Eugenia H. Goulding, and Sergio Fabro are quick to point out that the in vitro system supports the growth and development of the embryo in a manner that is indistinguishable from growth and development within the womb.

Dr. Robert L. Dixon, chief of LDRT, said the embryo culture is ideally suited to study the direct effects of environmental agents on development.

The experiments by Dr. Brown, a visiting fellow in LDRT at the time of the studies, and Dr. Fabro, from the departments of pharmacology and OB-GYN at George Washington University, showed that both differentiation and growth of embryos cultured in the presence of ethanol (pure alcohol) were retarded as a function of dosage.

The investigators, whose work was reported in the Nov. 2, 1979, issue of Science, stated that their observations suggest that the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome may not be totally the result of maternally produced metabolites or altered maternal function and that continuous exposure to high levels of ethanol exerts a direct toxic action on the developing embryo.

2-Volume Work To Assist Specialists in Communicative Disorders Available

MEDLINE Users Manual and Thesaurus for Specialists in Communicative Disorders, 1979, is available without charge from Dr. Christy Ludlow, Communicative Disorders Program, NINCDS, 7550 Wisconsin Ave., Rockville, Md. 20852.

This two-volume work was prepared by NINCDS to assist clinicians and researchers working in the fields of communicative science and disorders.

It was designed to call MEDLINE to the attention of these professionals, and to guide them in interacting with information specialists, in using the system themselves, and in handling the specialized MEDLINE vocabulary.
BIKES

(Continued from Page 1)

employer in the county, and each day over 300 bicyclists enter and leave its grounds.

One of the new breed of employees travels up to 22 miles per day to get to work. Most employees who ride their bikes to work, however, average 5 to 6 miles per day round trip. Their bikes may be placed at bike racks located at 18 different NIH locations. All a "bikie" must provide is the lock and chain for his or her own bike.

One of the two-wheel enthusiasts is Dr. Fredrickson, who each day, weather permitting, rides his bike from his home to his office in Bldg. 1. "Besides encouraging our NIH employees to conserve energy, I can't think of a more appropriate organization to take the lead in supporting a form of transportation that provides a health benefit," he said at the NIH biking program meeting.

Currently there are no requirements to register bicycles with either the parking office or with the police at NIH.

Bike racks for 18 different NIH locations and the new proposed bikeway are shown above.

Locales of existing bike racks and their capacity

Proposed bikeways

Class on Media Relations Offered by USDA

A class on Media Relations—which Allan Shapiro, associate producer of WJLA-TV, will teach—is being offered by the USDA Graduate School.

Beginning Jan. 10, participants will learn how to make media contacts, write press releases, and get maximum benefit from radio, TV, newspapers, and magazines.

Classes will meet every Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. The cost of tuition is $60 for the 10-week course.

For further information, call 447-4419.

Children's Books Available Free From Consumer Inform. Center

It's the International Year of the Child, and the Consumer Information Center has some free children's publications for this special year.

The Thing the Professor Forgot (527G) written in rhyme, takes children on a journey to learn about the four food groups. As the professor says, "To have healthy bodies for work, sleep or play, eat many good foods from four groups, every day."

Smoky Bear's Story of the Forest (684G, USDA) involves children in keeping the forests safe. Smokey tells how to go about putting out matches and campfires.


For a copy of any of the above publications, send a postcard with your name and address to Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

Louise M. Nett, Expert In Respiratory Disease Care, J oins NHLBI Council

Louise M. Nett, respiratory care coordinator at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, has been appointed to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council.

In addition to her coordinator duties in the Pulmonary Division of the Medical Center, Ms. Nett also serves as a clinical associate professor of nursing in the University's School of Nursing.

She has produced and directed four educational films, co-authored four books, written 35 scientific articles, and directed many courses and conferences on respiratory disease care.

She has also served on the faculties of national meetings and symposia on respiratory diseases, and has presented more than 150 programs throughout Colorado sponsored by the State Regional Medical Program and the American Lung Association.

‘Obesity in America’ Available From FIC Publications Office

Obesity in America, a book stemming from a conference on obesity, has just been published by the Fogarty International Center.

The book was edited by Dr. George A. Bray, former HEW coordinator of nutrition programs and chairman of the conference. It includes reports on various aspects of obesity, and features an overview containing recent statistics—by sex, age, and race—on the prevalence of overweight, guidelines for body weight, mortality in relation to deviation from average weight, and median caloric intake values for persons aged 1 to 74.

Interested health professionals can obtain a copy of Obesity in America from the Fogarty Publications Office, Bldg. 16A, Rm. 205.
Meeting on Microcomputers in Patient Care Brings Together Developers and Users

The use of microcomputers in medical instruments, a development which has become feasible within the last decade, was the subject of a recent NIH consensus development conference.

The meeting, which was sponsored by the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch, Division of Research Services, was held to bring together both users and developers of the new technology during its formative stages. It provided a forum at which the physicians who use microcomputer-based instruments could convey their needs to the researchers who develop them.

Much attention has focused on microcomputers recently. Manufacturing advances have enabled engineers to design computers so tiny that they can fit inside medical devices or even be implanted in patients. The relatively inexpensive cost and miniaturization of computers has already led to the development of many new medical technologies.

Among the most interesting developments are those incorporating microcomputers into familiar medical devices. Microcomputer-based intensive care monitors, for example, might soon be capable of making medical judgments about patients and, where time is critical, autonomously modifying patients’ treatment in response to their needs.

Panellists at The Use of Microprocessor-Based “Intelligent” Machines in Patient Care considered three areas of usage for microcomputers in medicine: use in medical history taking, physical examination, laboratory testing, and special procedures; use in diagnosis and decision making; and use in treatment and monitoring.

They concluded that there is a role for microcomputers in the physician’s office. In some cases, they said, it would be helpful for the physician to have the results of certain tests before examining a patient, and microcomputers could be used to gather this information quickly and accurately.

They believe the goal of microcomputer usage should be to “exceed physician capability, not just emulate it,” especially as it applies to decision making. Computerization is not appropriate for many medical decisions.

The panelists called for the drafting of standards for microprocessor-based medical instruments. They stressed that the standards should be developed by medical and engineering professional societies, and should not inhibit innovation.

The participants at the meeting agreed that, despite impressive advances in microcomputer technology, a number of problems still exist. An example is the design of miniaturized sensors that could be implanted in patients to detect biological changes. At present, many such sensors can operate in the body for only a few days.

Tom Coleman, Medical Communications Expert, Joins NIAID

Tom Coleman, an expert in the medical communications field, recently joined the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Assigned to the Office of Research Reporting and Public Response, Mr. Coleman will increase the flow of information to professional groups and the general public and make minority students aware of career opportunities in medical research. Initially, he will concentrate on increasing NIAID’s use of television, films, and satellite communications for professional and patient education.

Mr. Coleman’s extensive experience as a health administrator and communicator began in 1951, when he joined the University of Nebraska Medical Center. There he produced some of the earliest television shows for educating the public about medicine and health.

Later, while assistant to the vice chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center from 1955 to 1957, Mr. Coleman served as public affairs representative and trouble shooter for Dr. Jonas Salk and his staff during the development and licensing of the polio vaccine.

In 1958, while assistant director of the Association of American Medical Colleges, Mr. Coleman established a Teaching Hospital Section, and in 1962 he conducted a nationwide study of medical communications for the PHS Neurological and Sensory Disease service program.

Hospital Epidemiologist Named at the CC

Dr. Henderson and his staff will be in charge of the hospital’s infection prevention program.

Dr. David K. Henderson is the new epidemiologist at the Clinical Center. He is certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases and will direct the Infection Control Program.

The main objective of this program is to prevent the occurrence of hospital-acquired infections and to prevent transmission of infection from patients to patient care staff or visitors.

Dr. Henderson, with the help of two nurses, Joan Laniak and Ramona Myers, will assist nursing staff and other clinical departments on infection prevention measures.

Dr. Hoel Leads Group On A-Bomb Study

A work group of several U.S. scientists, led by Dr. David G. Hoel, is participating in an on-site study of the long-term health effects on survivors of the atomic explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

Dr. Hoel, chief of the Biometry Branch, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, was invited to participate by the National Cancer Institute and the National Academy of Sciences, which are conducting the study in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy and Japan.

This project will use data gathered since 1950 on a cooperative basis by U.S. and Japanese scientists about survivors of the atomic bomb explosions, and will analyze how the epidemiological data on carcinogenicity compares with data from animal experiments. The work will be done in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, centered at the Radiation Effects Research Foundation in Hiroshima.

Because Dr. Hoel is an expert statistician in experimental design, epidemiology, extrapolation of research results, and human risk assessment, he was selected to head the multidisciplinary delegation which will conduct the study over a 9-month period.

Dr. Hoel received the Mortimer Spiegelman Gold Medal Award from the American Public Health Association in 1977; also, that same year, he was the recipient of the NIH Director’s Award.
Philip Sapir Joins Staff of NICHD
As Special Assistant to Director

Philip Sapir has joined the staff of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as special assistant to the Director of NICHD for Behavioral and Social Sciences, advising on the full range of research resources, and supervision and revision of procedures for research grant applications. He also was professor of community medicine.

At NIMH, where he worked from 1949 until 1967, Mr. Sapir worked in the research grant program, serving for 12 years as chief of the Research Grants and Fellowships Branch. He managed extramural support in mental health research, with a major emphasis on programs in the behavioral and social sciences.

Mr. Sapir graduated from Yale University and attended the New School for Social Research and the Washington School of Psychiatry.

In his most recent post at the Grant Foundation, Mr. Sapir developed and directed a broad program of support in areas relevant to child health.

Rural Community Programs
To Develop Plans
For High Blood Pressure Control

Model rural community programs to control high blood pressure will be developed under three grants, totaling $2.8 million, awarded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. The programs will be conducted in areas with higher-than-average prevalence of the disease.

Each program, to be funded over 5 years, will be a community-wide effort, enlisting public and private resources for patient education, disease detection, treatment, and follow-up, in order to reach every person with high blood pressure.

"The Institute’s decision to develop these model programs is based on information which shows that communities with an above average percentage of citizens with high blood pressure—more than 20 percent of the adults in the pilot communities—often lack adequate programs for managing and controlling the disease," said Dr. Robert Levy, NHLBI Director.

An estimated 18 percent of American adults between ages 18 and 74 have high blood pressure.

The three grantees are: Fort Valley State College in Georgia, the University of North Carolina School of Public Health, and the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

10/10—Dr. S. Roy Caplan, Israel/U.S. Laboratory of Theoretical Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Mones Berman, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. 4B58.
10/16—Dr. Carmelo Bruni, Italy, Laboratory of Biochemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Matthew Rechler, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. B1-14.
10/16—Dr. David Messer, Luxembourg, Social and Behavioral Sciences Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Leon Yarrow, NICHD, Bg. 31, Rm. B2815.
10/16—Dr. Lesley Messer, Luxembourg, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Judith G. Levin, NICHD, Bg. 4, Rm. B1-22.
10/16—Dr. Susy Marie Scholl, Luxembourg, Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis. Sponsor: Dr. Paul Levine, NCI, Landow Bg., Rm. C218.
10/17—Dr. Leon Kuczynski, Canada, Laboratory of Developmental Psychology. Sponsor: Dr. Marian Yarrow, NIMH, Bg. 15K.
10/17—Dr. Satchithananda Pai, India, Laboratory of Pulmonary Function and Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. Vernon Steele, NIHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
10/17—Dr. Isabelle Seif, France, Laboratory of Molecular Virology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Manaker, NCI, Bg. 41, Rm. 200.
10/17—Dr. Peter Zuurendonk, Netherlands, Laboratory of Metabolism. Sponsor: Dr. Richard Vech, NIAAA, Flow Lab.
10/21—Dr. Richard Clayton, United Kingdom, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Kevin Catt, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 13N232.
10/21—Dr. Eliyzer Kedar, Israel, Laboratory of Immunodiagnostics. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Herberman, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. 8811.
10/22—Dr. Shay-Whey Koh, Taiwan, Laboratory of Nutrition and Endocrinology. Sponsor: Dr. Michael Lin, NIAMDD, Bg. 6, Rm. B1-22.
10/22—Dr. Benjamin Rivnay, Israel, Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Henry Metzger, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N206.
10/25—Dr. Corrado Garbi, Italy, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Seymour H. Wollman, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1E16.
10/26—Dr. Jacob Wilf, Israel, Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Allen Minton, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. B1-06.
10/29—Dr. Katie R. Daruwalla, India, Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Allen Minton, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. B1-06.
10/30—Dr. Ding-Shian Chen, Taiwan, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Purcell, NIAID, Bg. 7, Rm. 202.
10/31—Dr. David Wray, Scotland, Laboratory of Oral Medicine. Sponsor: Dr. Abner Notkins, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 121.
11/1—Dr. Fang-Ting Chiu, Taiwan, Laboratory of Biochemistry and Metabolism. Sponsor: Dr. William Jakoby, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N109.
11/1—Dr. Andrea Pavirani, Italy, Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. John McIachlan, NIHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
11/1—Dr. Andrea Pavirani, Italy, Laboratory of Immunology. Sponsor: Dr. Rose Mage, NIAID, Bg. 10, Rm. 11D10.
11/1—Dr. Satoru Shimizu, Japan, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Jurrien Deen, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N321.
11/4—Dr. Goran Falkenberg, Sweden, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications. Sponsor: Dr. A. Donald Merritt, NLM, Bg. 38, Rm. M137.
11/4—Dr. Asher Frensdorff, Israel, Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis. Sponsor: Dr. Jeffrey Schlam, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1B19.
11/4—Dr. Matthew M. Mathai, India, Laboratory of Developmental Psychology. Sponsor: Dr. Lynn Gerber, CC, Bg. 10, Rm. 5D27.
11/4—Dr. Pierluigi Onali, Italy, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Erminio Costa, NIMH, St. Elizabeths Hospital.
11/4—Dr. Toshiyuki Yoneda, Japan, Laboratory of Developmental Biology and Anomalies. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Pratt, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 405.
11/5—Dr. Cleansh-Demetre Froussios, Greece, Laboratory of Chemical Physics. Sponsor: Dr. Herman Ziffer, NIAMDD, Bg. 2, Rm. B1-06.
11/5—Dr. Peter R. Gardiner, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases. Sponsor: Dr. Dennis M. Dwyer, NIAID, Bg. 5, Rm. 114.
11/6—Dr. Sevilla D. Detera, Philippines, Laboratory of Biochemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Samuel Wilson, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 4D23.
11/6—Dr. Josiane Wantyghem, France, Laboratory of Immunology. Sponsor: Dr. Myron Waxdal, NIAID, Bg. 10, Rm. 11N260.
11/7—Dr. Mariam K. I. George, India, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Gopal Krishna, NHLBI, Bg. 10, Rm. 8N107.
11/9—Dr. Shiroh Ida, Japan, Laboratory of Oral Medicine. Sponsor: Dr. Abner Notkins, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 121.
11/13—Dr. Kyozo Tsukamoto, Japan, Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis. Sponsor: Dr. Charles Boone, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1C09.
NIH Plays Host to AAMC Public Relations Group

NIH played host to the Group on Public Relations of the Association of American Medical Colleges recently with a special half-day orientation in Wilson Hall. Representatives from nearly 70 grantee institutions attended.

Storm Whaley, NIH Associate Director for Communications, welcomed the visitors, and NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson briefly commented on the stewardship of the taxpayers’ money for medical research, including the current reviews of NIH research programs, the need for grantee institutions to acknowledge Federal support in press announcements, and the NIH 1981 budget outlook.

Several panels met. One discussed issues which may affect grantee public relations, including recent court cases relating to the Freedom of Information Act, investigative audits of grantee institutions, and the early warning system for announcing the awarding of grants.

Another panel alerted the visitors to NIH information services such as consensus development conferences, two-way press referrals, and local tie-ins to NIH promotional projects.

Dopamine May Play Role in Movement Problems of Aged; Drug Therapy Can Help, Research Suggests

Research on rats suggests that age-related changes in the central nervous system may be responsible for many of the disturbances in movement that are seen with advanced age and that this impairment can be reversed by drug therapy.

National Institute on Aging grantee Dr. John F. Marshall, department of psychobiology, University of California, Irvine, has found that when compared with younger adult rats, aged animals move their limbs less vigorously during prolonged exercise. Such movement dysfunctions are strikingly similar to those seen in young adult animals that have sustained injury to dopamine-containing neurons of the brain.

Dr. Marshall’s findings, reported in the Oct. 26 issue of Science, include evidence that the impaired function of the aged rats can be reversed by administration of L-dopa (the biosynthetic precursor of dopamine) or apomorphine (a dopamine receptor stimulant).

Research on aging has shown that elderly persons generally require more time to prepare for and carry out movements, that they pace themselves poorly in tasks requiring continuous performance, and that they fail to adjust their movements to compensate for their errors. At NIA’s Gerontology Research Center, investigators have noted that ability to perform complicated tasks declines more quickly with age than the ability to perform simple tasks that don’t call for coordination, like pushing and pulling a stationary object. Historically, such changes have been thought to relate to decreased muscle strength or the accumulation of fat with age.

Similarly, numerous investigations in both animals and humans have indicated age-related changes in neurotransmission at brain dopaminergic synapses.

It has long been known that the dopamine-containing neurons of the brain play a critical role in movement. Parkinson’s disease, for example, is characterized by rhythmical muscular tremors, rigidity of movement, and similar disturbances which are clearly attributable to a loss of dopamine-containing neurons.

Dr. Marshall’s research provides the first clue that dopamine might play a role in the movement problems of healthy aged populations.

FTC Updates Pamphlet on Mail Order Rights

Your rights when you order by mail are spelled out in an updated pamphlet issued by the Federal Trade Commission.

If the ad says, “within 10 days,” that’s when the company must send it, and if the company cannot send the merchandise when they say they will, they must give you the option of cancelling the order and getting a full refund.

If the seller does not say when the merchandise will be mailed, it must be shipped to you no later than 30 days after they get an order. If you don’t receive the article shortly after that 30-day period, you can cancel your order and get your money back.

For a free copy of Shopping by Mail, send a postcard with your name and address to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 690G, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

Howard Morgan Named To Sports Hall of Fame

Howard Morgan of the Office of Grants and Contracts, NICHD, was recently inducted into the 1979 Athletic Hall of Fame of his alma mater, Morgan State College in Baltimore.

He was honored for his athletic performance during his college years, 1950-54. Mr. Morgan was on the first freshman track team for Morgan State to win the Freshman Mile Relay Championship of America. The main event in which he competed was the open 440. Occasionally, he ran the half mile and the 220.

Mr. Morgan’s participation in sports goes back to high school and includes football, basketball, boxing, and track. His achieve-
National Institute on Aging Has Several New Publications

The National Institute on Aging has the following new publications now available for distribution:

Recent Developments in Clinical and Research Geriatric Medicine: The NIA Role, NIH Pub. No. 79-1990, explains the development of geriatric medical care of the elderly by incorporating geriatrics into provider training.

Marizes presentations given at the State of the Art Seminar on Aging Research in 1977. Does Intelligence Decline with Age? NIH Pub. No. 79-1859, and Cells and Aging, NIH Pub. No. 79-1860, also may be obtained. To order single copies, include the number, your name and address, and mail to: NIA, c/o Expand Associates, 8630 Fenton St., Suite 508, Silver Spring, Md. 20910 or call 496-1752.

The NIH Record

November 27, 1979

NIEHS Scientists Develop Improved Technique To Identify, Measure Environmental Toxins

A screening procedure to identify and measure levels of one of the most toxic groups of environmental contaminants, chlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (CDBD's), has been developed by scientists at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

The double-antibody radioimmunoassay procedure is relatively inexpensive, and can be used with equipment already available in hospitals.

The CDBD group of contaminants includes TCDD (tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin), which is possibly the most toxic man-made chemical known. TCDD was involved in the environmental disaster at Seveso, Italy, in which a residential neighborhood had to be evacuated.

Previously, identification and monitoring of CDBD's had to be done through high resolution mass spectrometry, a procedure which identifies a substance by sorting a stream of charged particles (ions) by their mass.

This technique requires expensive equipment and highly trained staff, which in turn limits the amount of identification and monitoring that can be done. Until now, there has been no way to confirm the spectrometric results.

The new radioimmunoassay procedure can be prepared in kit form, with step-by-step instructions for hospital technicians. The only pieces of equipment needed are a centrifuge and a gamma counter, which are available for other radioimmunoassays at many hospitals.

TCDD has no chemically reactive functional groups. In developing the assay, NIEHS scientists synthesized a TCDD derivative that retained most of the TCDD structural features and added a reactive site. The derivative was coupled to an immunogenic protein carrier so that test animals would respond to it by producing antibodies.

In the assay procedure, these animal-generated antibodies are combined with a second compound similar to TCDD which is labeled with a radioactive isotope.

If no TCDD is present, all of the labeled material is bound by the antibody. If TCDD is present, it will compete with the labeled derivative for binding sites on the antibody, and less of the labeled material will be bound. TCDD is detected and measured by the decreased presence of labeled derivatives bound to antibodies.

The radioimmunoassay procedure was described in the October issue of Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology. Authors of the article were Drs. Phillip Albro, Michael Luster, Kun Chae, and Sunil Chaudhary; George Clark; Lela Lawson; and Jean Corbett, all of the Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry, and Dr. James McKinney, laboratory chief.

Professor Zhdanov conducts his research at a hospital for patients with viral infections. Nearly 40 percent of the research at the Institute of Virology is on molecular problems such as the structure and replication of RNA viruses.

Prof. L. M. Shabad, department for carcinogenesis research, Oncologic Scientific Center, USSR Academy of Medical Science, described his studies of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, especially benzo-(a)-pyrene, in diverse environmental settings.

Studies of parenteral nutrition before and after surgery in patients with localized cancers of the esophagus, throat, and stomach were described by Dr. A. V. Surghjan, chief of the Laboratory of Parenteral Diet at the Center. Stomach cancer is the most common form of the disease in adults in the Soviet Union.

(Continued on Page 9)
An animal holding pen houses research primates at the Institute of Experimental Pathology and Therapy in Sukhumi. Founded in 1927, the Institute conducts studies on leukemia and lymphoma, the nervous system, acclimatization, and other aspects of primate research today.

(Continued from Page 8)

particularly in the northern parts of the country.

**Drug Development Lengthy in Both Countries**

Prof. Maria N. Preobrazhenskaya, chief of the Laboratory of Chemical Synthesis at the Center, described work in her laboratory on the synthesis of new antimetabolites that may be screened for antitumor activity in preclinical test systems. If found to be more active than existing drugs, a newly synthesized analog is formulated in amounts large enough for clinical testing for toxicity and efficacy. The USSR drug development process, she explained, is similar to the U.S. system for development of new anticancer drugs. In both countries, the process usually requires many years.

Across Moscow at the P. A. Hertsen Scientific Research Institute of Oncology, which specializes in radiotherapy and surgical treatment for cancer, its director Prof. Boris E. Peterson described the Soviet medical care system and the organization of cancer care. He said that medical examinations, including tests for cancer, are compulsory for all people over 40.

N. P. Kuleshov described mutagenicity evaluation of new drugs, chemicals in foods, and industrial compounds, using tests in fruit flies, cells from mice, and microorganisms. Dr. S. I. Kozlova discussed a medical referral service that provides genetics counseling to prospective parents. The service includes medical tests such as amniocentesis, cytogenetic analysis, and biochemical tests to help predict occurrence of hereditary diseases and other possible abnormalities. Finally, Dr. K. N. Grinberg described cell culture studies to analyze the processing of genetic information in cells.

Talks with Soviet scientists reflected a keen interest in research results from the West, appreciation of progress resulting from current US-USSR cooperation, and recognition of cancer as one of the most basic problems in biology.

**Environmental Health Group Directory Available**

A Directory of Federal Interagency Groups Concerned with Environmental Health has recently been published by the Task Force on Environmental Cancer and Heart and Lung Diseases.

**Monthly Calendar Published**

In addition to the directory, the Task Force publishes a monthly calendar which lists events that pertain to environmental cancer and heart and lung diseases.

A copy of the directory and the latest edition of the calendar may be obtained from Patricia R. Emerson, GEOMET, Inc., 15 Fairfield Rd., Gaithersburg, Md. 20760. For further information, contact Ms. Emerson, (301) 948-0755.

November 27, 1979

The NIH Record
Prominent Scientists Join NIEHS Council

Three prominent scientists—one in the field of toxicology, one in developmental biology and teratology, and one in pharmacology and cardiovascular physiology—have been appointed to the National Advisory Environmental Health Sciences Council: Drs. John Edward Casida, Jeanne M. Manson, and Janice Lee Stickney.

Dr. Casida is professor of entomology and an insect toxicologist at the University of California at Berkeley. He was honored as a Haight Travel Fellow in 1958 and 1959, a Guggenheim Fellow in 1970 and 1971, and won an international research award for pesticide chemistry from the American Chemical Society in 1970.

That same year he was awarded a Medal at the Seventh International Congress on Plant Protection in Paris for his research excellence. Dr. Casida's research interests include pesticide chemistry and comparative biochemistry.

Dr. Manson, assistant professor in the department of environmental health at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, was an NIH postdoctoral fellow from 1974 to 1976, working in the department of environmental health at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Her research interests focus on developmental biology and teratology (study of birth defects).

Dr. Stickney, associate professor of pharmacology at Michigan State University, was assistant professor of pharmacology in the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, from 1972 to 1975. Her research interests include studies on the role of the sympathetic nervous system on cardiac arrhythmias and the general cardiovascular effects of narcotic analgesics and anti-arrhythmic drugs.

Overeaters Anonymous Meets Weekly At Westwood and Bldg. 31

Overeaters Anonymous, sponsored by the Occupational Medical Service, meets every Wednesday at noon in the Westwood Bldg., Conf. Rm. 428. Weekly meetings are also held in Bldg. 31.

Newcomers are welcome.}

New Catalog Cites Some 3600 Human Genetic Mutant Cell Lines

A new catalog, citing approximately 3600 human genetic mutant cell lines available to investigators upon request from the Institute for Medical Research, Camden, N.J., has been published by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, sponsor of the cell resource.

The sixth edition of The Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository lists a collection of cell cultures stored in liquid nitrogen, including human fibroblast, lymphoblast, and amniotic fluid cell cultures from patients with biochemical genetic disorders and chromosome aberrations.

Lists Cells Relevant to Aging

Also included in the catalog is a listing of cells relevant to aging, which are supported by the National Institute on Aging.

Copies of the catalog may be obtained from the NIGMS Office of Research Reports, Westwood Bldg., Rm. 9A10, 496-7301, or the Institute for Medical Research, Copewood and Davis Streets, Camden, N.J. 08103.

Recombinant DNA Office Is Transferred to NIAID

The Office of Recombinant DNA Activities was transferred from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases on Sept. 26. It is anticipated that the transfer will facilitate the administration of recombinant DNA activities supported and monitored by NIH.

NIAID will assume authority for the office in addition to supporting an ongoing program on risk assessment research to evaluate conjectural hazards associated with recombinant DNA research.

Under NIAID, the office will continue to be responsible for a wide variety of efforts, including the review of all applications submitted to NIH involving recombinant DNA technology and the implementation of NIH policies and procedures for conducting recombinant DNA research.

Formed in 1976, the Office of Recombinant DNA Activities includes a staff of seven, headed by Dr. William Gartland.
Conference Proceedings Issued On Decline in Coronary Heart Disease Mortality

Proceedings of the Conference on the Decline in Coronary Heart Disease Mortality, October 24-25, 1978 has been issued by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Although heart attacks are still the major cause of death and disability in the United States, the Nation has had a major decrease in coronary heart disease mortality during the past 15 years.

Changes Recorded

The presentations and discussions recorded in these proceedings address coronary heart disease: changes in occurrence, changes in care, changes in risk factors, and strategies for quantifying and studying coronary heart disease.

The 399-page publication includes a 42-page appendix of statistics, figures, and tables prepared by the National Center for Health Statistics.

Single copies are available free of charge from the NHLBI Public Inquiries and Reports Branch, Bldg. 31, Rm. 4A-21. Ask for DHEW Pub. No. (NIH) 79-1610.

Nursing Department Presents Awards At Meeting

Ms. Ferguson

Ms. Rugg

During the Clinical Center Nursing Department's Sixth Annual Program Meeting, departmental awards were presented for the first time on Oct. 9 in the Masur Auditorium.

Vernice Ferguson, chief, Nursing Department, was honored as the first member of the newly created CC Assembly of Distinguished Nurses. She was selected for her contributions outside the Clinical Center.

'Nurse of the Year'

Juliana Rugg, clinical nurse with the Mental Health Nursing Service, CC, was selected as the Nurse of the Year for the department. She was recognized “for her demonstration of exemplary practice and her contributions to patient care within a research environment.”

Also at the meeting, guest speakers Dr. Madeline Leininger, dean and professor of nursing at the University of Utah, and Dr. Arthur Levine, Chief, Pediatric Oncology Branch, NCI. They spoke on the changes that are influencing health care and the nursing profession. Their remarks will be published in a nursing monograph late next year.

Chinese Experts on Diseases of Elderly Start U.S. Tour at Gerontology Research Center

On its first U.S. stop, the Study Group on Diseases of the Elderly from the People's Republic of China pauses outside the NIA Gerontology Research Center. Members of the group and their hosts, front left to right are: Dr. Jiaxin Gao, Prof. Kewei Huang, Dr. Nathan W. Shock, Dr. Jiadong Deng, Dr. Luo Yi, Prof. Xiaoda Zhou, Dr. Cunhong Gao, and Dr. Mingyun Tan. Rear left to right are GRC staff: Dr. Bruce Baum, Dr. Edward G. Lakatta, and Dr. Greulich. Dr. Yanbing Wang, deputy head of the group and deputy director, Peking Hospital, was unavailable when this photo was taken.

A delegation of eight prominent People's Republic of China scientists from Peking and Shanghai began a 3-week tour of the U.S. on Oct. 10 with a stop at the National Institute on Aging Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore.

Led by Dr. Jiadong Deng, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and a professor of blood disease, the Study Group on Diseases of the Elderly is seeking information on degenerative, cerebrovascular, cardiovascular, and oral diseases in the older population. The group includes members with expertise in neurology, stomatology, blood disease, and internal medicine.

At the GRC, Dr. Richard C. Greulich, NIA scientific director, outlined research programs under way at the center, described its historical development, explained the respective roles of NIH intramural and extramural programs, and emphasized the postdoctoral training opportunities available at GRC.

The Institute's clinical director, Dr. Reubin Andres, discussed the purpose and scope of the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging, and other laboratory chiefs described their studies.

After touring GRC, the Chinese scientists visited several Baltimore area hospitals before continuing their schedule. This included a visit to NIH in Bethesda, where they met with NIA Director Dr. Robert N. Butler and intramural scientists of the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Postdoctoral Scientists Offered Congressional Fellowships In Child Development

Congressional Science Fellowships in Child Development, sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Society for Research in Child Development, are being offered to postdoctoral scientists or professionals in the social, behavioral, and health-related sciences for 1 year on a Congressional staff.

Midcareer applicants are especially urged to apply. Fellows should be exceptionally competent in their field and strongly committed to applying scientific knowledge to the solution of social problems. The stipend is $18,000 for 1 year starting Sept. 1, 1980, with $1,500 available for relocation.


Impact of HEW Planning on NIH Subject of Next STEP Forum

HEW Health Research Planning: Impact on NIH Programs will be the subject of a discussion to be held Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 2 to 4 p.m., in the Westwood Bldg., Conf. Rm. D.

Perpich Leads Discussion

The discussion, which will be led by Dr. Joseph Perpich, NIH Associate Director for Program Planning and Evaluation, is part of the Staff Training for Extramural Programs forum series.

Joseph Brackett, Division of Research Grants, will present background information on models of stability being developed to help with decision making about allocations of NIH resources.

For further information, call Brian Kimes, 496-7028, or Joan Porter, 496-7954.
Hilda Wexler Receives ACS Award for Community Service

Hilda Wexler, a biologist in the Surgery Branch of the National Cancer Institute’s Clinical Oncology Program, recently received the John F. Fenney Memorial Service Award for her outstanding work in community health programs and for her personal involvement with cancer patients and their families.

The award, sponsored by the D.C. Division of the American Cancer Society, is presented annually to a volunteer worker who has made exceptional contributions to the success of the Division’s health education programs.

“Hilda has been an incredible volunteer for almost 30 years and has shown great dedication in taking our public health education programs right to the most needy people,” said Sanford Milwit, executive director of the ACS’s local division.

Miss Wexler, who holds several American Cancer Society positions including division vice president, accepted the award at a special dinner ceremony at the Fort McNair Officer’s Club on Nov. 20.

Miss Wexler has a master’s degree in biology from George Washington University and has coauthored almost 30 scientific articles.

Listed in the “Who’s Who of American Women,” Miss Wexler has been with NCI for 20 years and has received three Superior Performance Awards.

Medicine for the Layman Series Schedules Last Two Lectures—Nov. 27, Dec. 4

On Tuesday, Nov. 27, Dr. Arthur Nienhuis, NHLBI, will discuss Sickle Cell Anemia and Thalassemia, as part of the Clinical Center’s Medicine for the Layman series. His lecture will cover these two genetic disorders that affect red blood cells, and current research and new therapies.

The last lecture of the year will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m., in the Masur Auditorium. Dr. Robert Chanock, chief, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, NIAID, will present a layman’s lecture on Viruses and their impact on the world population. He will also talk about respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases, and viral hepatitis.

A series of pamphlets are now available on the brain, lungs, heart attacks, and high blood pressure. A brochure on obesity will be out in a few weeks and next month a pamphlet on cancer treatment will be available.

The information in these brochures is based on the Medicine for the Layman lectures held last year. For your free copy, stop by the CC Office of Clinical Reports and Inquiries, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1A-05, or call 496-2563.

Public Meeting To Discuss Preliminary Evaluation Of Carcinogenicity Tests

A public meeting to discuss the preliminary assessment of the results of a meeting of the International Program for the Evaluation of Short-Term Tests for Carcinogenicity will be held on Monday, Dec. 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Masur Auditorium.

The meeting is sponsored by the National Toxicology Program. Members of the Program’s coordinating committee will discuss conclusions reached at a meeting held Oct. 17-22 to evaluate test data obtained over the past 3 years, as well as conclusions during subsequent evaluation and summarization.

Attendance Limited

Attendance by the public will be limited to space available. Anyone wishing to attend is requested to write to Ceci Ellington, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, P. O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709. Further information about the meeting can be obtained by calling Ms. Ellington, (919) 541-3492 (FTS 629-3492).

Dr. Rail Will Discuss Toxicology Program Goals During Toxics Conference

The National Toxicology Program, its development and goals, will be discussed by Dr. David P. Rail at a luncheon on Dec. 10 during the Toxics Control Conference, presented by Government Institutes Dec. 10-11 at the Shoreham Americana Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Rail is Director of both the National Toxicology Program, which coordinates toxicology research and testing within HEW, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Chemicals are being tested for their potential to cause cancer, mutations, teratology (birth defects), immunologic or target organ toxicities, and reproductive and developmental anomalies.

The first NTP annual plan, outlining the Program’s goals, was recently presented to the scientific community and the public. It is available from: NTP Deputy Director, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709.

For more information on the Toxics Control Conference, call Marquerite Leichman, Government Institutes, (301) 656-1090.