Humphrey Fellows Have Day On Campus, Tour Facilities

Ten Hubert H. Humphrey fellows recently spent a day on campus visiting scientists and touring facilities. Assigned to Howard and Tulane Universities, or to the University of Michigan, each of the fellows is in this country for a 1-year work study program in public health.

Fellows are selected by a Board of Foreign Scholarships from areas such as agriculture, health and nutrition, planning and resource management, and public administration. They were part of the 1980-81 group of 82 Hubert H. Humphrey fellows spending a week in Washington visiting with Government officials and representatives of international organizations.

A highlight of their NIH visit was a tour of the National Library of Medicine where the group met with Frances Humphrey Howard, sister of the late Vice President. Mrs. Howard is presently special assistant to the associate director for extramural programs at NLM.

(See FELLOWS, Page 10)

A WELCOME HOME HOSTAGES' CELEBRATION was marked by a lunchtime rally and the singing of patriotic songs in the lobby of the Westwood Bldg. on Monday, Jan. 26. A year ago, NIH employees put up small American flags on each floor of the building and pledged that they would be displayed until the American hostages seized in Iran were returned to the U.S. At the rally, yellow ribbons were carried by employees, and an adaptation of the song “Tie a Yellow Ribbon,” was led by Donna U. Huber, organizer of the celebration and outgoing president of the Westwood Employees Committee on Problem Solving.

Survival Rates Improve for Certain Cancers; Blacks' Condition Better in 3 Areas

Survival rates improved significantly in the 1970's for people with some of the most common forms of cancer. However, although survival rates increased among both black and white adults, the survival rates for blacks were lower than for whites.

These rates were included in a report prepared by Drs. Max H. Myers and Benjamin F. Hankey of the NCI Division of Cancer Cause and Prevention. It examines 5-year survival rates for patients diagnosed and treated in 1960-63 compared with patients diagnosed and treated in 1970-73.

Some survival trends listed in the report are:

The percentage of white men living at least 5 years after their cancers were first diagnosed increased significantly for 17 of the 35 cancer sites considered. The survival rate increased 7 to 9 percent for cancer of the lung and bronchus, and 50 to 63 percent for prostate gland cancer, the two most frequently occurring cancers in men after skin cancers.

The most dramatic increases were noted for patients with Hodgkin's disease (34 to 66 percent) and the lymphocytic leukemias (4 to 27 percent, acute; 29 to 46 percent, chronic).

Survival rate increases were also seen for other cancers. Survival rates for white women increased significantly for 17 of 37 sites considered. The rate increased 63 to 68 percent for breast cancer and 44 to 50 percent for colon cancer, the two most frequently occurring forms of cancer in women after skin cancers.

As in white men, the largest increases were for Hodgkin's disease (48 to 69 percent) and the lymphocytic leukemias (3 to 29 percent, acute; 46 to 59 percent, chronic). Rates were also increased for additional cancers.

Data were obtained for fewer black patients, thus limiting the analysis to the more frequent types of cancer.

Of 10 cancers considered among black men, increases in the 5-year relative survival rates were significant for three areas: cancer of the prostate gland (35 to 55 percent), cancer of the stomach (5 to 15 percent), and cancer of the urinary bladder (24 to 38 percent).

(See SURVIVAL RATES, Page 8)

Anne Ballard Named Director Of Public Information

Anne Ballard, who began her career 13 years ago as an information trainee, has been appointed NIH Director of Public Information. She replaces Irving Goldberg, who retired recently. DPI is the principal operating unit within the Office of Communications, Office of the Director, NIH.

Ms. Ballard directed the public affairs activities of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for the past 4 years. During that time, she participated in several activities that affected information offices NIH-wide.

She helped develop NIH policy and procedures for complying with the Freedom of Information Act, and trained employees to (See BALLARD, Page 9)
Life Insurance Coverage Improves for Fed. Employees

On Oct. 10, 1980, President Carter signed Public Law 96-427 designed to improve the Federal Employees Life Insurance Program. The law substantially revises the amounts and types of coverage available to Federal employees which will go into effect in October 1981.

Two new forms of optional insurance have been provided. The law also changes cost of coverage, and there are some new allowances for retirees.

An open enrollment period will be held from Mar. 1 through Mar. 31. All eligible employees will be required to complete a written form stating their election or declination of the four types of available insurance. Those who have previously waived the FEGLI are eligible to elect it during the "open season."

Information on the FEGLI "open season," costs of coverage, and details of the new options will appear in the Feb. 17 issue of The Record.

Prevent Theft of Equipment; Use Security Devices

To eliminate theft of office and laboratory equipment, the Security Evaluation Section, DAS, suggests the use of several security measures.

- The anchor pad and CL-6-1 cable device are available to provide adequate protection for all office machines, medical and scientific equipment.
- Items which cannot be anchored—such as pocket calculators, cameras, tape recorders, slide projectors, etc.—should be protected, when not in use, by storing them in locked containers or in a room to which only authorized personnel have access.

For further information concerning anchoring devices, call the Security Evaluation Section, 496-3211.

Limited Tax Assistance Begins on Feb. 5

Tax forms, tax information, and limited assistance in computing 1980 returns will be available for NIH employees beginning on Feb. 5, in Bldg. 31, Rm. 8A-05.

Tax assistance (walk-in service) will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tax assistance (by appointment only—call 496-9388) will start Feb. 5, 8:30 to 10 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m.

Tax forms will also be available in the Westwood Bldg., Rm. 436.

Pathology Organization to Meet March 2–6 in Chicago

The International Academy of Pathology, United States-Canadian Division, will hold a week-long meeting, Mar. 2–6 in Chicago.

For further information, contact Judy gravel, Interagency Committee on Pathology Information, Inc., 4733 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 735, Bethesda, Md. 20014; telephone (301) 656-2944.

Wellcome Stipends Being Offered To NIH Guest Workers

The FAES administers special funds known as Wellcome Stipends to supplement stipends of doctoral-level guest workers at NIH. A maximum of $2,500 a year may be granted to each approved individual to a maximum total annual stipend of $13,000.

Committee Will Select

The selection committee will consider the scientific merit of the research to be conducted as well as personal need and professional qualifications of the applicant.

Applications for 1981 must be received by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences by March 31. Awards will be announced by April 30.

Application forms are available in the FAES office, Bldg. 10, Rm. B1L-101 or by calling 496-5272.

Pre-Columbian Medicine Exhibit To Be Displayed at NLM

An exhibit on pre-Columbian medicine as preserved through ancient artifacts and manuscripts will be on display in the lobby of the National Library of Medicine from Feb. 2 through May 22. NIH employees and the public are invited to view the exhibit during the Library's normal working hours during the week, and on Saturdays—8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Graves, Intersociety Committee on Pathol-
ogy Information, Inc., 4733 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 735, Bethesda, Md. 20014; telephone (301) 656-2944.
Cannonball Trophy for Creative Research Given to Three Scientists

NINCDS scientist Robert A. Lazzarini might well have said “Praise the scientists and pass the ammunition” as he presented the Phoebe Weinstein trophy—a Revolutionary War cannonball mounted on a mahogany base—to Drs. Ching-Juh Lai, NIAID; Robert Lamb, Rockefeller University; and Stephen Inglis, Cambridge University. The trophy was awarded for creativity in the field of negative strand RNA virus research.

Following the awards ceremony at NIH in January, Dr. Lamb delivered an address entitled Overlapping Genes of Influenza Virus.

The 1980 joint recipients of this unique scientist-to-scientist award were honored for their important contributions concerning the novel mechanism used by influenza virus to express its genetic information and the potential application of this discovery to the control and treatment of diseases caused by this agent.

“The simultaneous discovery of Drs. Lai and Lamb, working together, and Dr. Inglis working independently, has dramatically changed our thinking about flu virus gene expression,” says Dr. Lazzarini, head of the NINCDS Section on Molecular Biology.

“Their demonstration of a single influenza virus genome segment coding for two proteins and of mRNA splicing among negative strand RNA viruses adds a new dimension to research in our field.”

Negative strand RNA virus research has the potential for producing important new knowledge about such common disorders as measles, mumps, and rabies, as well as influenza.

The award was established in 1976 by Dr. Lazzarini to recognize creative—even “revolutionary”—ideas in the field of negative strand RNA virus research.

In need of a trophy to express the theme of the award, Dr. Lazzarini, a Revolutionary War history buff, remembered the 1776 cannonball a colleague found and gave him years ago.

“This cannonball,” Dr. Lazzarini says, “came from an old lead mine near Amherst, Massachusetts, where ammunition was made during the American Revolution. I think it symbolizes perfectly the caliber of research the award was designed to recognize—and foment.”

Only the small group of scientists working in the area of negative strand RNA virus research are eligible to receive the Phoebe Weinstein trophy. The award will not necessarily be made each year; it is given when a committee of scientists identifies peer research that meets the special “revolutionary” criteria.

Past recipients of the award are: Dr. Amiya Banerjee, Hoffman-La Roche Institute for Molecular Biology (1977); Dr. Daniel Kolakofsky, University of Geneva (1978); and Dr. Robert Krug, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (1979).

Karaté Classes

To Begin

A 12-week beginners course in Tae Kwon Do (karate) is being organized by the NIH Judo Club. Classes will meet on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the old gymnasium at the Stone Ridge School, corner of Cedar Lane and Wisconsin Ave.

Students will learn traditional Tae Kwon Do under Dr. W. French Anderson, a first-degree black belt. The class can lead to a gold belt, and includes learning such techniques as: front and back stances, rising and side blocks, hand techniques (reverse punch, chop), front and side kicks, combinations, the first Tae Kwon Do kata (chon-ji), one-step sparring (formalized attack and counterattack moves with a partner) and various self-defense moves. Emphasis of the teaching is on body control and body awareness.

Advanced Classes Offered

For students with previous training, intermediate and advanced classes are held on Mondays; intermediates, 7 to 8 p.m. and advanced, 8 to 9 p.m. Instruction in these classes includes more advanced techniques.

The fee for the beginners course is $25; for advanced students, $15.

For those taking the combined judo-karate beginners course, the fee is $45 and $12 a month for combined judo/karate advanced.

Application forms may be obtained from the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-18, or by calling W. French Anderson, 496-5844.

Intern'l Women's Group Cookbook Includes 200 Worldwide Recipes

The NIH International Women’s Group has just published a cookbook that contains over 200 favorite recipes from around the world. Group members, who meet every third Monday evening at Congressional Elementary School, contributed their favorite culinary secrets and prepared the book for publication with the assistance of the City of Rockville’s Department of Recreation and Parks. Proceeds will go to meet the special needs of foreign researchers and their families while at NIH. Cookbooks are $2.50 at R&W Association stores.

For more information about the international cookbook call 496-4335, or for those who would like to make a tax-free donation of furniture or household goods to the group, call the FAES, 496-5273.

Asha discuss a recipe’s ingredients with Alison Wray (l Scotland), while Janet Bartch (r), an FIC facilitator assigned to assist foreign visitors, checks recipe measures with the book’s easy-to-read metric conversion guide.
Extramural Associates Complete Training; Return to Respective Academic Institutions

The recent meeting of six extramural associates with NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson marked the end of their 6-month residency at NIH. At this meeting, the group discussed the future direction of NIH and exchanged ideas about the Extramural Associates Program.

Initiated in 1978 under the Inter-governmental Personnel Act, the EA program “promotes the entry and participation of ethnic minorities and women in NIH-supported research.”

To enter the program, high-level administrators in science and biomedical research are nominated by the respective presidents, screened and recommended by the NIH Extramural Associates Review Panel, and then selected by the NIH Deputy Director to spend approximately 6 months in residence at NIH.

To date, 26 associates from colleges and universities across the country and from Puerto Rico have participated in the program.

Assignments Individually Designed

Working assignments are designed for each associate in consultation with individual senior NIH health science administrators who serve as advisors for the length of the program. These highly experienced science administrators come from all B/I/D’s at NIH, or from other PHS agencies.

Advisors guide the associates during their stay on campus and monitor assignments, including a major one germane to the interests and growth of the sponsoring institution. The advisors also accompany associates on visits to their home institutions to ensure NIH responsiveness to institutional goals.

Associates are given an opportunity to obtain information concerning Federal health-related programs and to increase their knowledge of NIH research concerns, its extramural programs, and the policies and procedures governing the awarding process.

Upon returning to their home institutions, the associates’ newly gained expertise will be used to promote the advancement of minorities and women into health-related sciences.

For example, Dr. Arthur P. Carroll, chairman of the department of sciences and mathematics at the College of Santa Fe, N.M., notes that the college is primarily a teaching school so it does not have many research programs.

Participates in MBS Program

However, the school does participate in the Minority Biomedical Support program; has applied for a grant to renovate its animal care research facilities through the National Science Foundation; and intends to build a solar greenhouse.

Dr. Carroll is also interested in programs at the Department of Energy and NASA, and hopes to act as a catalyst for information to other faculty members seeking grants.

Selection of each associate depends upon the individual institution’s demonstrated contribution and specific plans for advancing ethnic minorities and/or women. The institution must show the potential for using the associate’s newly gained experience for improving the health-related research or training capabilities of ethnic minorities and/or women at their respective schools. Finally, the qualifications, experience, and interest of each nominee are evaluated.

Dr. Isabella Finkelstein is professor of biology at Clark College in Atlanta, Ga., a black college of 2,000 students. She is the undergraudate MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) program director for the Atlanta University Center, a consortium of six black institutions. The center is made up of approximately 100 scientists, 75 percent of whom are black.

Dr. Finkelstein believes the EA program will benefit the center as a whole and, in particular, stimulate the scientific community to become more competitive in the funding process. She says her experience here will hopefully enable more outstanding students from the center to take advantage of further research training opportunities.

Each associate is expected to write a review of program activities and experiences prior to leaving. The program office distributes the summary to the nominating official of the sponsoring institution, and to other designated officials. In addition, these summaries are used to analyze assignment patterns, and to evaluate the quality of the associate’s experience.

NIH Associate Director for Extramural Research and Training Dr. William F. Raub is responsible for the direction of the EA program, and the Division of Research Grants provides logistical support.

Dr. Zora Griffo, special programs officer, OD, is chairman of the coordinating committee for NIH Minority and Women’s Research and Training, which includes representatives from each B/I/D.

Dr. Griffo’s committee has been the guiding force in the development, encouragement, and support of the EA program. “This program could not succeed without the cooperative effort of all segments of the NIH community,” said Jean Oliver, the program’s director.

The Extramural Associates Program has stimulated increased participation of all Americans, especially ethnic minorities and women scientists, in the national health research effort. According to Dr. Griffo, site visits and evaluation of participating institutions have been highly encouraging, and associates, upon returning to their institutions, have been highly enthusiastic and eager to involve their institutions in competitive Federal health research funding.

Global Projections Featured For Feb. 10 Lecture

A lecture will feature Katherine Gillman, senior staff member for international affairs for the President’s Council on Environmental Quality. The lecture—Feb. 10, noon to 1 p.m., in Masur Auditorium will present the main findings of the Global 2,000 Report to the President—Entering the 21st Century.

This noted and much discussed report contains the best projections to date of global trends in population, environmental conditions, and major resources such as land, water, and food. These trends will affect both the environment in which future research takes place, and some of the agenda for research.

Ms. Gillman will highlight key items in the report and also discuss plans for response to the findings by the council and the Department of State. The lecture will be accompanied with slides, followed by a question-and-answer period.

For more information, call Dr. John Fletcher, Clinical Center, 496-2429.
Custom-made Glasses Allow Communication For Severely Disabled or Nonverbal Patients

A team of electrical engineers from the Denver Research Institute of the University of Denver, have developed a new ocular control device to enable severely disabled or nonverbal patients to communicate and perform daily activities.

Stephen Hefner was hitchhiking one night on a dark road in North Carolina when a drunken driver accidently hit him, severing his spinal cord and leaving him completely paralyzed. Unable to move, speak, or even breathe without assistance, Stephen's only communication was through eye movement.

His father developed a primitive system for Stephen to blink his eyes for certain responses. This limited link to communication would later help Stephen to work with DRI researchers in developing a more advanced communications system.

Supported by a grant from the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, DRI researchers George Rinard and Owen Barns, built a special pair of glasses, complete with a computer hook-up, transmitter, and receiver built right into the frames.

A system was designed using the positions within a 3x3-inch grid of squares on a screen. By selecting a predetermined sequence of squares on the grid, a variety of phrases and the alphabet can be uniquely determined. Currently, 32 letters and phrases are coded into the system.

The grid is built several inches in front of the glasses frames so that Stephen can see it clearly. Also located on the frames are a small infrared light source and a sensing unit.

Stephen moves his eye to one of the nine grids where a letter is located, then back to the center grid, and then to the exact location of the letter he wants to spell. His eye movements are monitored by the infrared light which strikes his cornea and is then recorded by the sensing unit and fed into the computer. Finally the letter is decoded and printed out and the process begins again.

Rinard and Owens decided that Stephen needed more than just a printout of his spelled words, he needed a voice, or auditory feedback. So a "Speak and Spell" children's game designed by Texas Instruments was added to the program.

Stephen continues to spell out the letters with his eyes and each movement is decoded by the computer. However, the letters are now fed into the "Speak and Spell" where they are registered letter by letter, and then played back as an entire word.

Currently, Stephen has returned to his home in North Carolina, and continues to work with the DRI researchers in perfecting this device. According to Rinard, patients suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cerebral vascular accidents, or cerebral palsy may be candidates for similar devices.

3 New Members Appointed To NIAMDD Advisory Council

Three new members have been appointed to 4-year terms on the National Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases Advisory Council: Dr. J. Claude Bennett, Dr. Edwin L. Bierman, and Janice Smith Pigg.

Dr. Bennett, a leader in the fields of rheumatic diseases and immunology, is director of the division of clinical immunology and rheumatology and chairman of the department of microbiology at the University of Alabama in the Birmingham Medical Center.

He also directs the Birmingham Multipurpose Arthritis Center, sponsored by NIAMDD.

Dr. Bierman conducts research related to diabetes, obesity, nutrition, atherosclerosis, and aging, and is the head of the division of metabolism and endocrinology at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle.

President of the Western Association of Physicians and editor of the Journal of Arteriosclerosis, Dr. Bierman is also an active member of numerous voluntary and professional health organizations and societies.

Ms. Pigg is concerned with patient, public, and professional arthritis education. She is a nurse consultant in rheumatology for the Rhenomatic Disease Program of Columbia Hospital, Milwaukee, and chairs the Advisory Council of the Arthritis Information Clearinghouse of NIAMDD.

A former vice-chairwoman of the board of trustees of the Arthritis Foundation and past president of its Allied Health Professionals Section, she has been active in the foundation since 1973.

Marian Oakleaf Retires From 21-Year Federal Career

Marian Oakleaf, acting chief, Office of Grants Inquiries, Division of Research Grants, retired recently after 21 years of Federal service and a career spanning 50 years.

Ms. Oakleaf joined NIH in 1959 as a scientific reference analyst in the Division of Research Grants. She later served as a technical publications writer assisting in manuscript clearances and, in 1964, Ms. Oakleaf joined the staff of the DRG Information Office as a writer.

She took a year's leave of absence in 1966 to join the Peace Corps and was assigned to Korea. There she helped establish the Peace Corps Office in Seoul. She says her only claim to fame is that she was the first Peace Corps volunteer to set foot in Korea.

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Ms. Oakleaf, born in London, was educated at St. George's College, a girl's school associated with the University of London. She came to the United States in 1949 to carry out an exchange of scientific and technical information collected in Germany and Japan during World War II.

She stayed in the U.S. as raw materials liaison officer at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C. Later, she worked in the International Monetary Fund, and the National Academy of Sciences.

Ms. Oakleaf hopes to offer her writing knowledge and experience to young people in her retirement.
Twelve New Literature Searches Offered by NLM

Bibliographies on surgery and the elderly, adverse effects of IUD’s, and sexual sterilization of the mentally retarded are among the 12 new Literature Searches available from the National Library of Medicine’s Reference Section.

These searches, part of a series of printed bibliographies on subjects of current interest, are produced through NLM’s computer-based system, MEDLINE, and are available without charge to the public.

Titles Published

A complete list of available titles appears in each issue of Index Medicus and Abridged Index Medicus.

When requesting Literature Searches, include title and number. Enclose a self-addressed gummed label, and mail to: Literature Search Program, Reference Section, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Md. 20209.


Minority Research Directory Available From DRR

The 1980 revised directory of research study projects titled Minority Biomedical Support Program, A Research Resources Directory, has been published and is available free. The booklet lists 80 participating institutions and serves as a ready reference on the research activities and individuals in the Division of Research Resources supported program.

In addition to the current listings of MBS grantee institutions throughout the country and Puerto Rico, the directory identifies the names of program directors, the principal investigators, the number of student investigators, and the titles and descriptions of each project involved in the biomedical research effort.

The booklet lists special laboratory instruments and facilities that may be available on a limited basis to other MBS programs in the area or region.

A single free copy of the directory may be secured by writing to the Research Resources Information Center, 1776 East Jefferson St., Rockville, Md. 20852, or by request from the Office of Science and Health Reports, DRR, NIH, Bethesda, Md. 20205.

Dr. Dieudonne J. Mewissen of the University of Chicago recently received the Dag Hammerskjold Grand Collar of Merit in the science category in Brussels. The award is given annually in five categories for “exceptional services to peace and international solidarity” by an international committee. Dr. Mewissen, a National Cancer Institute grantee, was honored for his research on the delayed biological effects of low-dose radiation, particularly tritium. He is professor of radiology in the University’s Pritzker School of Medicine.

‘Stop Smoking’ Program Starts March 4 for 8-Week Session

A “stop smoking” program will be held on eight consecutive Wednesdays starting Mar. 4. Sponsored by the Employee Assistance Program of the Occupational Medical Service, the group will be provided a plan for stopping smoking gradually, and also support for those who wish to stop “cold turkey.”

Sessions will be held in the conference room of the health unit, Rm. B2B-35, Bldg. 31, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Morris Schapiro, 496-3164.

William M. Doak, former chief of the Extramural Services Branch of the National Eye Institute, is the newly appointed executive officer of the Fogarty International Center. He began his career at NIH as a management intern in 1966, and later worked at NHLBI and NICHD. He joined NEI following 18 months as a staff member on the President’s Biomedical Research Panel. A native of western Pennsylvania, Mr. Doak received his B.A. from Pennsylvania State University.

Booklet on Glaucoma Explains Causes And Early Detection

Glaucoma is one of the leading causes of blindness and can be controlled if it’s diagnosed and treated early.

To explain the different causes of glaucoma, and to learn how to detect it early, the Food and Drug Administration has a free reprint from its magazine, FDA Consumer, called Keeping an Eye on Glaucoma.

For a copy, write to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 581J, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.
"I believe that in 1981 we cannot allow the goals of the sixties to be the forgotten history of the eighties," warned former California Congresswoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke. Her remarks were given to an overflow audience in Masur Auditorium at a program, Onward to Victory, commemorating the birth, life, and work of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ms. Burke stressed the importance that the historical memory of the civil rights movement be preserved.

Ms. Burke, who says she is one of those who benefited from the work of Dr. King, is an attorney who has a list of firsts.

She was the first woman to be elected to Congress from California in 20 years and the first black woman ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from that state.

She was the first woman and the first black to sit on the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

She also co-chaired the 1972 Democratic Convention in Miami Beach and spent 6 years in the California State Assembly.

Ms. Burke, who was the keynote speaker for the program, was introduced by Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director. In his remarks, Dr. Fredrickson cited Dr. King’s life as a landmark for all to follow. This observance, he said, “is an annual event we all look forward to.”

Earlier in the program, Ted Blakeney, acting director of the Division of Equal Opportunity, spoke on how Dr. King’s “vision and the depth of his dream of freedom and justice affected immeasurably the course of history” and how the civil rights movement led many special interest groups in the seventies to begin to push for their share of the dream.

“One of the major challenges of my tenure as acting director, DEO,” said Mr. Blakeney, “will be the melding of these diffuse efforts into an effective program which addresses the mutual problems of the protected classes in a coordinated fashion.

Feb 3, 1981

‘Legacy of Hope’ Message of Dr. King Observance
Dr. William Caveness Dies; Authority on Head Injuries

From 1965 to 1969 he was associate director for Collaborative and Field Research of the then National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness. He became laboratory chief in 1969.

Dr. Caveness, a native of North Carolina, received his M.D. degree from McGill University in Montreal, and trained in neurophysiology at Harvard Graduate School, where he later became a research associate.

Before coming to NIH, he was associate professor of clinical neurology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

Dr. Caveness was also a retired naval reserve captain. While on active duty he served as chief of the neurological service of the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan, and aboard hospital ships during the Korean conflict. He also served as a consultant to the U.S. Naval Medical Center in Bethesda.

He wrote more than 70 publications in his field, was a member of many professional societies, and in 1961, served as president of the American Epilepsy Society.

His wife, Angela, of Bethesda, and his mother, Corinna J. Caveness of Raleigh, survive. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital in Nantucket, Mass. □

Self ID Will Be Used To Collect Ethnic Data

During the next several months Federal employees will have an opportunity to voluntarily identify themselves by ethnic group.

This information is safeguarded by Federal agencies under strict procedures issued by the Office of Personnel Management. Agencies will collect and maintain the information for the Central Personnel Data File which provides the statistical basis for generating congressionally mandated reports on the status of minorities in the Federal civilian work force.

These data are also needed to evaluate the effectiveness of equal employment opportunity programs.

The one-time effort complies with a Department of Commerce directive issued in May 1978, requiring all Federal agencies to collect and maintain ethnic data using a set of a race and national origin definitions.

In addition, the new system provides permanent procedures for collecting such data on new employees.

Following the directive, all agencies are converting from the old minority categories to the new, which are: Black, not of Hispanic Origin; Hispanic; American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; White, not of Hispanic Origin; and Not Hispanic in Puerto Rico.

For the first time, under the new coding system, employees who have origins in the Indian subcontinent will be coded as "Asian or Pacific Islander." □

SURVIVAL RATES

(Continued from Page 1)

For black women, significant increases were noted in the 5-year relative survival rates for 4 of 13 cancers considered, including cancer of the breast (46 to 61 percent) and cancer of the cervix (47 to 61 percent), two of the most common cancers in this group. Increases were also reported for cancer of the body of the uterus and cancer of the rectum.

Five-year survival rates for white children under age 15 increased significantly for 7 of the 14 tumor types considered. (Data on black children were not collected because of a lack of subjects.)

Relative survival rates for blacks and whites were then compared. To include adequate numbers of black patients, data were combined for patients diagnosed during all 10 years, 1963-73. This allowed a number of additional cancer sites to be compared.

Black men had significantly lower relative survival rates than white men for 8 of the 14 cancers considered. These included all stages of cancers of the lung and bronchus, rectum, colon, larynx, prostate, kidney, bladder, and Hodgkin's disease.

For the 17 sites considered for women, the survival rates were significantly lower in black women for 9 sites, including cancers of the breast, lung and bronchus, colon, rectum, cervix, body of the uterus, bladder, esophagus, and Hodgkin's disease. Data for the report were contributed by four cancer registries. □

Vivian Thierry Ends Research And Lab Career at NIEHS

Vivian Thierry retired recently as a biological laboratory technician at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. By doing so, she has left the excitement of a career in clinical laboratories and research, which had been enhanced by the lure of travel and faraway places.

In addition to her years in the laboratory, one assignment took her to Ghana, West Africa, for the National Cancer Institute, where for 2 years, she performed a survey of blood parasites.

Hoped To Learn Language

Ms. Thierry remarked that while in Ghana she had hoped to learn the predominant language, but found instead that the citizens spoke one or more of the five different major tribal languages. She found people extremely friendly and that hitchhiking, both for the driver and for the hitchhiker, was an entirely acceptable and safe mode of travel.

Ms. Thierry, who retired recently from NIEHS, is congratulated at her retirement coffee by Dr. Thigpen (i), and Dr. Alfred G. Edward, chief of the Comparative Medicine Branch.

She and some of the other 22 NIH researchers in Ghana worked with the Ghana Academy of Sciences in Accra on the Gulf of Guinea. They were assigned at various times to go into the more remote areas to collect blood samples necessary for research. Samples were collected from human populations and animals—horses, cows, and snakes, etc.—both of which are affected by a variety of parasitic diseases.

For her work in West Africa, Ms. Thierry was given an NIH Superior Work Performance Award in 1964.

At NIEHS, Ms. Thierry worked in the Environmental Biology and Chemistry Branch and later in the Comparative Medicine Branch. She received an award in 1980 for sustained high quality work performance while in the CMB, and was recognized as one of the pioneer employees at NIEHS at an all-employee recognition ceremony in 1979.

"I don't know a more dedicated, dependable, honest, competent person to work with," said Dr. Julius Thigpen, head of CMB's Microbiology Section. Among other plans, Ms. Thierry will do some traveling, spend more time cooking using a new food processor she received as one of her retirement gifts, and catch up on work around the house. □
Endometriosis Study Shows Hormonal Therapy May Not Be Most Effective Treatment

By Susan Johnson

Although birth control pills and other compounds that mimic the action of progesterone are the most commonly prescribed treatments for endometriosis, other therapies may be more effective, a study by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development suggests.

Endometriosis is a disorder in which uterine lining, or endometrium, is found growing outside the uterus. Like normally located endometrium, the extrauterine tissue proliferates during the menstrual cycle and breaks apart at the end of the cycle if conception does not take place.

Unlike normally located endometrium, however, it is not discharged during menstruation. Extrauterine endometrial tissue bleeds into the abdomen, causing inflammation and scarring.

Endometriosis accounts for 10 to 20 percent of all female infertility. Although the disease has been studied for decades, the hormonal requirements for its initiation and maintenance are not fully understood.

It is known that hormones secreted by the ovaries are necessary for the establishment and/or continued presence of endometriosis. The disorder occurs only after the onset of puberty and disappears after menopause. It is also known, from previous research, that estrogen supports the growth of endometrial tissue outside the uterus.

In studies with monkeys whose ovaries had been removed, NICHD Pregnancy Research Branch investigators have discovered that while ovarian hormones are necessary for the persistence of endometriosis, they may not be required for its initiation.

They have also found that the ovarian hormones estrogen and progesterone, alone or in combination, can support the growth of extrauterine endometrial tissue.

The scientists implanted endometrial tissue in the abdomens of the monkeys, then divided the animals into four groups. A control group received no supplemental hormones, a second group received estrogen, a third received progesterone, and a fourth received both estrogen and progesterone.

After 4 weeks, endometriosis was detected in all groups. By 12 weeks, the endometrial tissue in the control monkeys was no longer growing. The tissue in the other three groups remained viable throughout the 16-week study.

These findings suggest that birth control pills, which contain estrogen and progestin, and other progestin-like agents may actually support endometriosis.

The therapeutic value of birth control pills probably lies more in their ability to prevent retrograde menstruation than in suppression of ongoing disease, the scientists noted. Retrograde menstruation, the backward flow of menstrual blood through the fallopian tubes into the abdomen, is believed to account for most cases of the disease.

The best treatment for endometriosis would be one that simultaneously suppresses the secretion of ovarian hormones, thereby shrinking existing endometrial tissue, and inhibits retrograde menstruation, concluded the investigators. Reported successes with danazol, a drug which shuts down production of ovarian hormones and stops menstruation, are consistent with their interpretation.

This study was reported by Dr. Gere Di Zerega, Donald Barber, and Dr. Gary Hodgson in a recent issue of Fertility and Sterility.

Dr. Ramot was recently honored by the president of Israel after being selected by the national women's organizations as the woman who has made the most significant contribution to their country in the field of medicine.

Dr. Bracha Ramot recently returned to Israel after spending 9 months here as a Fogarty Scholar-in-Residence. In Israel, Dr. Ramot is head of the institute of hematology at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center and professor of medicine at the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University.

Dr. Ramot pioneered the investigation of inborn errors of red cell metabolism relating to carbohydrate metabolism, and was one of the first investigators to study globin chain synthesis.

Dr. Ramot Returns to Israel; Ends Fogarty Scholarship

BALLARD

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handle FOI requests. She also participated on committees dealing with the content and technical quality of NIH publications. Of special interest to Ms. Ballard has been her work with the NIH Information Training Committee, which recently, after a hiatus of about 7 years, reinstituted the public information intern program.

Directed Information Program

Before becoming information officer of NICHD, Ms. Ballard directed the public information program of the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research. The commission was a congressional-mandated advisory committee to HEW which made recommendations on research involving the human fetus, mentally retarded persons, and prisoners.

Prior to that, Ms. Ballard worked as a science writer in the information offices of NICHD, the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, and the National Heart and Lung Institute.

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Mildred Waters Retires, Receives Suggestion Award

December was a bonus month for Mildred Waters, a supervisory grants technical assistant in the Division of Research Grants, who received an Employee Suggestion Cash Award and also retired from the Federal Government.

On Dec. 8, Dr. Carl Douglass, Director of DRG, presented Mrs. Waters with a cash award for her suggestion to computerize the face pages of training, fellowship, and research career continuation applications. Her suggestion will reduce the number of man hours that employees will spend each month mailing out continuation applications.

Also in December, Mildred retired with 12 years of Federal service, 9 of which were spent in the Project Control Section of the Referral Branch.

She describes those years as “good years,” saying that in addition to enjoying her work, she has never found a friendlier place to work.

Mildred’s other 3 years were spent with the Women’s Army Corps from 1942 to 1945 attached to a medical company at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

After retirement, Mildred plans to relax and enjoy her family.

FELLOWS

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The fellows were greeted at Stone House by Dr. Marcus Hairstone, FIC international research fellowships officer. There they were presented an overview of the tropical diseases research program of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases by Dr. Gordon McCollum, assistant director for NIAID’s intramural research.

The Hubert Humphrey North-South Fellowship Program was initiated in 1978 in memory of the late Vice President, long a champion of international cooperation and public service. Funded by the U.S. International Communications Agency, the program is included in the Fulbright Program Exchange activities and administered by the Institute of International Education in New York.

It is designed for midcareer professionals from developing nations who, upon completion of their 1-year program of graduate level work in the U.S., can return to their respective countries to make significant contributions in their particular fields of study.

Ten Hubert Humphrey fellows recently visited NLM as part of their NIH tour, where they met with the sister of the late Vice President. L to r are: Dr. Javier Freile of Ecuador; Said Omar Moussa, Djibouti, Africa; Dr. Hani Khouzam, Egypt; Sylvetta G. Scott, Sierra Leone, Africa; Mrs. Howard; Colette Delhot, the Congo; Abdel K. Suad Bedri, the Sudan; Aicha Idleh Moussa, Djibouti; Helen K. Fox, Jamaica; Dorbrene O’Marde, Antigua; and Dr. Mohamed Badawi, Egypt.

NIH Library Assistant Chief Retires After 21 Years

Anna E. Dougherty, assistant chief, Library Branch, Division of Research Services, retired in December after more than 29 years of Government service, 21 of which were spent with the NIH Library.

She served as assistant chief during the tenures of four NIH chief librarians, and in 1979 she became staff assistant for collection development.

Miss Dougherty entered the Government in 1951 and held various positions at the National Library of Medicine.

Previously, she held positions at the Delaware Academy of Medicine, the Patent Library of the DuPont Company’s Jackson Laboratory, Bucknell University, Bryn Mawr College, University of Michigan Law School, and Brooklyn College.

Miss Dougherty received an A.B. degree from the University of Delaware and bachelor’s and master’s degrees in library science from Drexel University and Columbia University.

At NIH, she was closely involved in the planning for the present NIH Library building, and in April 1968, she directed the move of the Library from the fifth floor of the Clinical Center to its present location.

During her career Miss Dougherty was associate editor of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association and served on several other publications.

An ardent traveler, she plans to visit exotic places, enjoy her home and hobbies, and be involved in civic and church activities during retirement.

Personnel Officer Named to National Eye Institute

Karen M. Wright, deputy personnel officer of the National Eye Institute since 1977, was appointed in December as the Institute’s first personnel officer.

Until Ms. Wright’s appointment, NEI shared a personnel officer with the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. The establishment of an independent personnel office means that NEI will have the benefit of a full-time senior official to deal with personnel issues.

“This change will allow us to be more responsive to the needs of employees,” said Edward McManus, NEI executive officer. “Ms. Wright will be able to represent NEI interests directly to NIH personnel officials, and will also get current information faster.”

Besides personnel matters, Ms. Wright will help formulate policies and procedures for recruitment staffing, classification, wage administration, employee-management relations, equal employment opportunity programs, and employee training.

She started at NIH in 1967, and worked in the Division of Research Resources before joining NEI in 1972 as an administrative technician. Two years later, she became a personnel management specialist.
New hope for the treatment of an incurable, debilitating inherited skin disease that causes scarring, deformities, and malnutrition, and in some cases can even shorten a person’s life span, was reported recently by scientists at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo. Dr. Eugene Bauer and his colleagues reported that phenytoin (diphenylhydantoin), an anticonvulsant drug, significantly reduces the blistering of skin and mucous membranes that characterizes recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (RDEB).

With Drs. T. W. Cooper, N.B. Esterly and D. R. Tucker, Dr. Bauer gave phenytoin orally to 17 patients at Washington University School of Medicine and Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. Twelve of the 17 patients showed a decrease in blistering of 45 percent or more. The 12 included 9 patients who were severely afflicted with this disease. There was a good correlation between therapeutic response and blood levels of the anticonvulsant drug.

In addition, side effects were minimal. Two patients experienced lethargy and dizziness at high doses, however, these side effects subsided with no loss of effectiveness when the doses were reduced.

On the basis of laboratory studies conducted along with the clinical trial, Dr. Bauer and his colleagues found evidence that phenytoin acts by inhibiting the synthesis and/or secretion of collagenase, an enzyme that breaks down the protein framework of skin.

This finding reinforces recent data that suggest that the disorder results from the excessive synthesis and accumulation of the enzyme (collagenase), which is found in abnormally high levels in RDEB blisters.

The research was supported by grants from NIAMDD, DRR, and the National Foundation of the March of Dimes. The complete report of this research was published in the Oct. 2 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Eye Lens Research Leads to Chemical Society Award

A research paper on the lens of the eye led recently to an award from the American Chemical Society to Deborah A. Carper, National Eye Institute biologist. Her presentation, The Development and Application of a Radioimmunoassay to Lens Crystallins, won first place in a chemical technicians symposium at the ACS Middle Atlantic Regional meeting in Washington, D.C. She received a cash award and an invitation to present her paper in August at the 182nd ACS national meeting.

Ms. Carper developed a radioimmunoassay to study changes in the levels of two major lens proteins, which occur when cataracts form in the eye of the Nakano mouse. Results indicated that during cataract formation, the permeability of the eye’s lens capsule changes, allowing proteins with lower molecular weights to leak out of the lens into the aqueous humor of the eye. Such leakage is believed to initiate certain eye diseases, such as phacogenic uveitis and phacolytic glaucoma.

Results of the research have been published in Experimental Eye Research.

Since 1976, she has worked as a biochemical technician in the NEI Laboratory of Vision Research. Previously, she worked with Dr. Marshall Nirenberg of NHLBI on studies of opiate receptors in neuroblastoma cells, and before that she studied the development of bone marrow stem cells in leukemia patients at Litton Bionetics.

Fulbright Program Seeks Scientists and Lecturers

Fulbright program applications for qualified candidates in the medical sciences—for those who can speak any of USSR languages and are interested in a lectureship in any field—are now being accepted for university teaching and advanced research abroad.

In recent years, hundreds of these U.S. Government awards have been given to American scholars in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. This program also provides a similar number of awards to scholars from abroad to come to the U.S. Over 100 countries are involved with the Fulbright program. Recently there has been more of an emphasis on research awards.

Registration announcement forms for medical science for grant year 1982–83 are available from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Suite 300, 11 Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036. After the submission, those scientists finding positions of interest will be sent additional materials by the council.

The council also has available lists of the 1980–81 grantees. Currently, nominations for 1981–82 awards are being made to Fulbright agencies abroad; most scholars receiving awards will be notified in February or March.

Late lectureship applications for 1981–82 are still being accepted by the council, as well as applications in the medical sciences: Algeria, short-term, any specialty; Ecuador (Spanish required), clinical biochemistry; Egypt, bacteriology, molecular biology or oncology; Jordan, psychiatric or community nursing; Kenya, dentistry; Nigeria, anatomy, physiology or dentistry; Turkey, any specialty; Uganda, several specialties; and Uruguay, hematologic or digestive physiology.

Academic institutions in the USSR wish to sponsor American lecturers, in any field, who can teach in a language of their constituent republics. Nominations for 1981–82 have already been made, but scholars who wish to teach in the Soviet Union in 1982–83 and are proficient in one of the following languages can apply—Armenian, Azerbaijani, Estonian, Georgian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Russian, or any of the Central Asian languages.

For further information, contact W. A. James at the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, or call 333-4990.

Federated Blue Collar Workers Get 2 Pay Increases in FY 1981

Federal blue collar workers can expect to receive two pay increases in fiscal year 1981. As of Oct. 1, a “catchup” pay raise became effective for wage employees covered by appropriated and nonappropriated fund wage schedules.

Under Public Law 96–369 the increase is limited to 75 percent of the difference between last year’s 7 percent pay ceiling and the rates payable had there been no ceiling.

In addition, wage earners will also get a regular annual pay increase based on approximately 140 local wage surveys conducted by primary blue collar employers in various geographic areas in the U.S.

Toaled, the two pay increases cannot exceed 9.1 percent, though some increases will be less than the maximum.

Blue collar workers will get the regular pay raise at their normally scheduled times during FY 1981.
NIH and the Clinical Center lost a most respected administrator when Howard Kettl retired in January. Executive officer of the Clinical Center since 1976, Mr. Kettl retired after 40 years of Government service.

During his tenure at NIH, he made important contributions both to Clinical Center operations and to the development and implementation of a number of NIH-wide programs.

Mr. Kettl played a primary role in planning a modernization program for the 28-year-old research hospital and in guiding construction of the Ambulatory Care Research Facility.

He is credited with having effected managerial changes at the CC, which provided a sound funding base, greatly improved material management, and streamlined CC department operations.

Last year, Mr. Kettl was honored with a Senior Executive Service bonus award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the administration and management of NIH. He received a DHEW Superior Service Award in 1966 for “outstanding contributions to the administrative operations of the National Institutes of Health.”

Prior to being appointed CC executive officer, Mr. Kettl was NIH deputy associate director of administration for 6 years. He helped establish the NIH Office of International Health and the Office of Grants and Contracts.

Additionally, he served as the NIH Director’s designee in working with a wide variety of groups and individuals with special interests or dissatisfactions. In this capacity he successfully mediated conflicts between NIH management and minority groups. In 1975 he won an Equal Employment Opportunity Achievement award for “extraordinary leadership toward establishing the equal employment opportunity program as an integral part of the National Institutes of Health management systems.”

Mr. Kettl began his NIH career at the Clinical Center in 1952 as a financial analyst. He remained with the CC until a year after the building was completed. He then left to become an NIH systems accountant in the Office of Financial Management, OD.

In 1955, he joined the Office of Executive Affairs; was a staff assistant to the assistant executive officer, NIH, from 1958 to 1960; and 1 year later became the assistant executive officer of NIH. In 1969 he was named deputy associate director of administration.

Mr. Kettl looks forward to an active retirement. When asked about his feelings on leaving he said, “It has been wonderful to work at NIH for such a long period of time and to have had the privilege of being in the Clinical Center in recent years. The hospital is a caring place and simply one of the best there is.”

On his way to work at the Securities and Exchange Commission, Mr. Kettl drove onto the campus to “look the place over.” He went into Bldg. 1 to get some information, and walked out with a job.

Women’s Committee Seeks Ideas For May Career Week

The NIH Women’s Advisory Committee is planning a Career Development Week in May 1981. To make this event effective in meeting the needs of the 6,812 women at NIH, the committee requests your input regarding a variety of subjects that will be addressed. This event is chaired by Linda Bremerman, NCI.

If you have suggestions or comments, or would like to participate in the development of the NIH Career Development Week, contact Barbara Iba, acting Federal Women’s Program manager or her staff, 496-2112.

The following topics are being considered:

- Career Avenues and Training: health patient care at NIH (nursing, physical therapy, etc.); scientific research (biologist, chemist, laboratory technician); administration (clerical, budget, program analyst, administrative assistant); continuing education within NIH; continuing education at local universities; general personnel guidance (how to prepare a SF 171, merit pay, flextime, retirement planning, health benefits, etc.).

Other Topics Noted

- Also to be considered are: career life goal setting for working women, and hints on career mobility from successful government or corporate women.
- Career Development Week, contact Barbara Iba, acting Federal Women’s Program manager or her staff, 496-2112.
- Special Concerns: working women’s role conflicts; concerns of working women (child care, family relationship, time management, financial planning, single parenthood, etc.); concerns of minority women; and concerns of disabled women.
- Psychological and Physical Health: assertiveness for women; your public image; stress; burnout syndrome; and loneliness.
- Physical health areas to be considered are: physical fitness and health exercise; breast self-examination awareness; smoking and health; drug and alcohol abuse; nutrition; and blood pressure testing.

‘Economics of Health’ Subject of STEP Forum

The Staff Training in Extramural Programs (STEP) Committee will sponsor a forum on the Economics of Health, Tuesday, Feb. 10 from 2:15 to 4:15 p.m. in Conf. Rm. D in the Westwood Bldg.

Dr. Louise Russell, Brookings Institution senior fellow, will speak on When the Baby Boom Grows Old: Medicare and Social Security, and Dr. Steven Landefeld, Bureau of Economic Analysis economist, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, will discuss the Costs of Illness: Evaluating the Return to Biomedical Research.

The forum is open to NIH employees. For more information call Carol Campbell (496-7906), Sue Badman (496-7294), or Lawrence Fitzgerald, Jr. (496-9203).