Humor-filled Program Highlights Power of Perception

By Carla Garnett

A lot of ground got covered recently at the 7th annual Disability Employment Awareness Program; much of the trip was traveled by the audience through the words of keynote speaker Geri Jewell, a comedienne-actress who also has cerebral palsy (CP).

“I call it CP,” she quipped, “because it’s so much easier to spell.”

“C — P,” she spelled, pausing, “now, don’t get it confused with MS or MD or VD or AT&T, or even PMS, although I probably have that one too. And don’t worry, this is not a telethon.”

Jewell’s presentation, “Living, Learning and Laughing in Today’s World: A Celebration of Abilities,” was far from a telethon and closer to a stand-up comedy routine that covered everything from show business, dating and drugs to politics, education and even religion.

“I was raised Catholic,” Jewell said, grinning. “And I’ve been guilty ever since. When I was a little girl, I read in the Bible that God made us in his own image so I naturally assumed that God must also have cerebral palsy. In fact, I know he has cerebral palsy. He told me. He also told me that I had to raise $8 million by next month . . .”

Aside from declarations reminiscent of televangelist Oral Roberts, Jewell also discussed growing up with CP.

“Having CP is kinda like having cable without paying for it,” she joked, deliberately overemphasizing the jerky movements and irregular gait characteristic of her disability.

“You know how everything’s all fuzzy and squiggly and the vertical hold never holds?” she said. “I had a great childhood,” she continued. “I remember how I used to love Halloween and dressing up. The only thing is that when you have CP, it’s kinda hard to disguise yourself—somehow everyone always knew it was me.”

“I went to college for a brief time—first as a theater arts major then I switched to psychology in an effort to understand why I ever studied theater arts in the first place. I talked it over with my guidance counselor who always encouraged me. ‘You can be anything you want to be,’ he’d say. ‘Do anything you want to.’ So I said, ‘Okay, I want to be a doctor.’ He said, ‘Fine. What kind of doctor?’ I said, ‘A brain surgeon.’”

Although her most famous role is probably that of “Cousin Geri,” a character she portrayed in a television series, her work has not been restricted to show business. She has also been involved in a number of other projects, including a telethon held in cooperation with the National Institute of Health (NIH).

“Over the last decade, it has become very clear that fat located in the abdominal area is associated with increased risks for heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes, gallbladder disease and death,” said Dr. George A. Bray, director of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Louisiana State University, and cochair of the workshop organized by NIDDK’s Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition.

“We hope the message will get to the American public that it’s not just how fat you are,” said Bray, “it’s also where your fat is located.”

While fat on the hips and thighs may be unfashionable in some cultures, it turns out that this typical female pattern of fat distribution usually is not a serious threat to health. The male pattern of upper-body obesity, however, often joked away as the “pot belly” or the “spare tire,” is in fact more dangerous. Far more men than women accumulate excess fat in the abdominal region. Some women have the male pattern of upper-body obesity, which becomes more common after menopause.

The workshop, sponsored by NIDDK, NCI, NHLBI, NIA, NICHD and NIH’s Division of Nutrition Research Coordination, was held back-to-back with the 6th annual meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity, which also met in Bethesda. Scientists from across the United States, Canada and Europe attended the meetings to discuss the causes, consequences and treatments of obesity, regional fat distribution (referring to depots where fat accumulates in the body) and various ways of assessing fat deposits such as circumference measurements of the waist, hips and thighs; caliper measurements of skinfolds in various parts of the body; ratios of various body measurements; ultrasound; CT scan; and magnetic resonance imaging.

“These differences in regional fat distribution are a good argument for aggressive treatment of moderate obesity, at least in some individuals,” said Dr. M.R.C. Greenwood, dean of graduate studies at the University of California, Davis. “This is an important public health concern. If you have a
Patient Photo Studio Opens

The recent ribbon-cutting for a new patient photography studio in the NIH Clinical Center was good news for staff of the Medical Arts and Photography Branch (MAPB), DRS, and the Clinical Center, but even more so for the patients who will be photographed there.

Unlike the former studio, located in MAPB on the B2 level of Bldg. 10, the bright and cheerful new facility is in a patient care area with nursing staff nearby and has a bathroom/dressing room, Murphy bed, privacy screen by the door, ample obstacle-free space, and a comfortable waiting area. It is located on the first floor of the clinic (formerly called the ACRF).

MAPB patient photographer Mary King says she and fellow photographer John Crawford are now running a lot between B2 and the new studio, but don’t mind a bit. In addition to the improved conditions for patients, the studio has excellent track lighting and other features to help them obtain good photographs, which are important in clinical research and treatment planning.

DRS director Dr. Robert A. Whitney cut the ribbon during a ceremony in which he was joined by Raymond Becich, Clinical Center executive officer, MAPB chief Ron Winterrowd, DRS administrative officer B.J. Collier, and staff of the MAPB photography section.

As former administrative officer of MAPB, Collier was especially glad to see the results of persevering efforts by staff of MAPB, the Clinical Center, and the Division of Space Management. Many critically important program activities necessarily compete for limited space in the Clinical Center.

NIH scientist Dr. Lance A. Liotta (above) and Dr. Isaiah J. Fidler of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center will share the Dr. Josef Steiner Prize for 1989. The Dr. Josef Steiner Cancer Foundation of Switzerland presented the $240,000 cash award on Nov. 3. Liotta, chief of NCI’s Laboratory of Pathology, received the award for leading the research team that discovered and isolated five gene products that play a role in cancer invasion and metastasis (the spread of cancer). These gene products have proven useful in cancer diagnosis and are the targets of experimental treatments for metastasis. The foundation stipulates that the winners reinvest the award money in a cancer research endeavor. Steiner, a Swiss farmer’s son who left an estate of $6.5 million for cancer research. This is the fourth year the prize has been given.

Choppin To Address NIH Alumni

Dr. Purnell W. Choppin will be the speaker at the next meeting of the National Institutes of Health Alumni Association (NIHAA) on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Mary Woodard Lasker Center (the Cloister).

Choppin, president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, will speak on “The Howard Hughes Medical Institute: An Agenda for a Medical Research Organization.”

Refreshments will be served and the cost is $10 per person. Guests are welcome.

The NIHAA was reestablished as a result of interest expressed by alumni and staff during the NIH Centennial celebration. The local chapter has more than 400 members and the total national and international membership of NIHAA now exceeds 1,000. The association recently published the second edition of its newsletter, the NIHAA Update.

Anyone who has worked, studied or been connected with NIH in the past is eligible to join NIHAA as a full member. Present NIH employees can also join as associate members. (A desk-to-desk recruitment brochure is being distributed.) In each category the membership fee is $25 per year.

For further information about the Dec. 6 event or NIHAA, call 530-0567.
Health Benefits Open Season

The Office of Personnel Management has announced an open season for Nov. 13 through Dec. 8, under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. During that period eligible employees may change their plan, option, type of enrollment, or any combination of these. Please note that AETNA and CIGNA health plans have dropped out of the FEHBP as of Dec. 31, 1989. Those employees currently enrolled in either of these two plans will need to change their enrollment during open season. In considering their options, employees should be aware that they may not be covered as an employee under their own enrollment and as a family member under someone else’s enrollment in the FEHBP. Likewise, a member of one’s family cannot be covered under more than one enrollment in the program.

Commissioned officers, employees serving under appointments limited to 1 year or less and intermittent employees are not eligible for enrollment in the FEHBP. However, temporary employees who have completed 1 year of current continuous employment, excluding any break in service of 5 days or less, are eligible to enroll.

Employees eligible to participate in the open season will receive a booklet entitled 1990 Enrollment Information Guide and Plan Comparison Chart from their personnel office. This booklet contains open season enrollment instructions, general information about the FEHBP, the major features of all plans, and general categories of coverage such as dental and vision care, outpatient and inpatient service, calendar year deductible, hospice care, etc.

This year, the OPM has again authorized the carriers to mail the 1990 plan brochures directly to enrollees. Employees who are eligible for enrollment and are not currently enrolled or covered by a federal plan should contact their personnel office for information on the program or plan brochures.

The Division of Personnel Management will sponsor an open season Health Benefits Insurance Fair on Wednesday, Nov. 22, in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall, third floor. Various plan representatives will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to answer individual questions on the 1990 contract. The handicapped employees committee will be available to assist disabled employees. There will also be an interpreter to assist hearing impaired/deaf employees address their questions to the benefits carriers.

Employees wishing to attend should obtain the approval of their supervisor.

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Four NIAID employees recently received Equal Employment Opportunity Special Achievement Awards for their commitment to the principles of EEO during a recent meeting of the institute’s EEO advisory committee. The awards were presented by NIAID director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci (l) to (from l) Dr. Michael M. Frank, Angela M. Mease and Mark J. VanRaden. Gwendolyn B. Brooks (r), EEO officer, looks on. Recipient Elvira W. Jackson is not shown.

Four at NIAID Receive EEO Achievement Awards

Four National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases employees recently received Equal Employment Opportunity Special Achievement Awards during the meeting of the institute’s EEO advisory committee.

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, NIAID’s director, presented the awards to:

Dr. Michael M. Frank, clinical director of the Division of Intramural Research and chief of the Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, for "exceptional dedication to EEO principles by effectively encouraging and training minorities and women students to achieve their highest potential at the NIH";

Elvira W. Jackson, equal employment opportunity specialist, Office of the Director, for "exceptionally upholding EEO principles within the NIAID and the community at large";

Angela M. Mease, administrative assistant in the Management Services Branch, for "excellence in leadership and dedication to the NIAID EEO advisory committee in striving to promote EEO principles throughout the institute";

Mark J. VanRaden, statistician in the Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, for "outstanding contributions and dedication to the EEO principles within the NIAID."

Clinic Garage To Be Repaired

The clinic parking garage under Bldg. 10 has experienced surface damage due to weathering and a lack of drainage. A contract with the Small Business Administration has been negotiated to repair the P1 and P2 concrete deck levels.

Approximately 6,000 square-feet of the traffic areas will be repaired where the spalling is most severe.

A total of 60 parking spaces will be blocked (a maximum of 20 spaces per each of levels P1, P2 and P3) at any one time. These may include handicap, reserved, preferential, in/outpatient, visitor and general spaces.

To minimize the inconvenience as much as possible, the contractor will work at an accelerated schedule of 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The start date has not been established yet, but it is estimated to begin on or about Dec. 4. The construction will last 2½ months.

Please watch for posted signs at the parking garage entrances. For more information call 496-1975.
waist-to-hip ratio above 1.0 and you are a man, you should take it seriously. You should take it seriously like you should take seriously increased cholesterol levels, or difficulty breathing when running, chest pain or a variety of other conditions.

A woman is considered at risk if her waist-to-hip ratio is more than 0.8, which means that her waist is almost as large as her hips.

Greenwood discussed data indicating that fat depots in the body respond differently to different diets. In animals for instance, high fat diets seem to increase the size of some of the intra-abdominal fat depots. “This is extremely difficult to prove in humans,” said Greenwood, “and hasn’t been done as far as I know.” However, she said: “We are learning that individual fat depots are different physiologically, that whether they are large or small plays a role in the physiology and pathophysiology of human beings.” She cited studies indicating that stress may be a major factor in the accumulation of intra-abdominal fat, compared to fat in other areas of the body. “It’s an argument,” she said, “for changing lifestyle variables as well as just diet.”

Dr. Per Bjorntorp of the University of Goteborg, Sweden, discussed factors that seem to be involved in distribution of fat in the human body such as genetics, social-economic influences, smoking and alcohol consumption. Bjorntorp reported several studies suggesting that the high waist-to-hip ratio syndrome is associated with endocrine abnormalities, which he said might be due to elevated cortisol secretion and low secretion of sex hormone. “This might be due to excessive stress, alcohol and smoking as well as other unidentified conditions, which might trigger a neuroendocrine arousal syndrome and these endocrine consequences,” he said.

Dr. Claude Bouchard, cochair of the workshop and professor of exercise physiology at Laval University in Quebec, said a central question concerns variations in fat deposition patterns among individuals with different degrees of fatness. “There are people who are more prone to an abdominal pattern of fat deposition who deposit more fat around the viscera in the abdomen,” he said. “Genetic factors are interacting with several other components, probably associated with the lifestyle of the individual. It appears that visceral fat, in the abdomen and around the internal organs, is probably the most important health risk.”

“We now have methods for accurately measuring visceral and subcutaneous abdominal fat. The CT scan can do this very well as can the MRI, but the limitation is the cost and availability of these techniques,” said Bray.

Bouchard also discussed the role of exercise and other lifestyle factors. “Exercising changes the total fat, but it does not change the regional fat distribution very much,” he said. “Presumably the lifestyle factors translate into the amount of stress to which the individual is exposed. We see evidence that people who are smoking have a tendency to deposit more fat around the trunk. The same for drinkers. They deposit more fat in the abdominal area for the same amount of fatness.”

Scientists are finding obesity to be a complex problem that affects about 34 million adults in the U.S. Although Americans today eat fewer calories than they did 100 years ago, more of them are overweight. Poor health is not an inevitable consequence of overweight, but excess body fat poses health risks to many Americans. Researchers have found that risks of illness and death rise rapidly with excess weights 20 percent or more over desirable body weight.

“We would like to see the medical community more aware of the relationship of fat to health risks,” Bray commented. The medical profession needs to know that “you don’t have to be massively overweight to have a high-risk problem if your fat is in the middle-age spread spare-tire area,” he said. Bray indicated that the workshop will result in recommendations to the medical and research communities concerning means of measuring body fat, assessing regional fat distribution and defining overweight and obesity.
Workshop Yields AIDS Epidemic Nursing Agenda

Leaders in the field of nursing research, education, practice and policy met recently in Washington to evaluate the nursing profession’s response to the AIDS epidemic and to develop action plans to help nurses respond more effectively to the increasing challenges of the crisis.

Sponsored by the National Center for Nursing Research (NCNR) and the Division of Nurses at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the workshop on nursing and the HIV epidemic drew 95 nurses from academia, practice settings and government.

Also represented at the meeting were 18 nursing organizations including the American Nurses’ Association, the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care and the National Black Nurses Association. It is expected that these groups will implement action plans appropriate to their organizations.

In her welcoming address, NCNR director Dr. Ada Sue Hinshaw noted that the conference reaffirms the nursing profession’s commitment to the care of individuals, their partners and families who are affected by the HIV epidemic.

DHHS assistant secretary for health Dr. James O. Mason, in the keynote address, gave an update of the growing impact of the epidemic on the nation. He acknowledged the critical role nurses play in patient care.

Nurse researchers at the workshop urged more studies on nursing strategies to prevent transmission of HIV and on innovative approaches to symptom management for infected individuals. They cited the need to develop new methods to assist lay and professional caregivers and new approaches to psychosocial issues such as dealing with grief. More research also was recommended on ethical problems relating to nursing care of patients, families and loved ones.

In the area of nursing practice, the conference called for more resources to enable nurses to provide better-coordinated, humane and holistic care for HIV-infected individuals and to provide counseling on issues such as testing and safer sex practices. They recommended the development of new approaches to caring for HIV-infected individuals outside the mainstream, including minorities and the homeless.

The conference recommended a national task force to develop model curricula to strengthen nursing education about HIV, expanded training programs for nurse educators and measures to reduce the stigma associated with HIV infection. Conference participants also urged nurses to be involved with policy development and decisionmaking at all levels.

Dr. O. Marie Henry, assistant surgeon general and director of HRSA’s Division of Nursing, in her address to the conference, noted that development of this national agenda “will assist nurses to serve with distinction as they address health care needs related to HIV.”

The proceedings of the conference will be published.—Esther McBride □

Youngsters Needed for Study

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism seeks children ages 8-18 from families with no history of problems with alcohol and children of fathers who have had problems with alcoholism to participate in a research study on attention and problem solving. Participants will be compensated. Call the section of clinical brain research, 496-5228. □

NHLBI Sponsors Thrombolysis Symposium

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute will sponsor a Frontiers in Basic Sciences Symposium on Thrombolysis, Nov. 29-30.

The meeting will be held in Masur Auditorium at the Clinical Center from 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday and 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. on Thursday.

Leading researchers and experts in the field will present their views on the state of the science, the problems facing current understanding, and anticipated future developments of thrombolysis. Topics of discussion include plasminogen activators, control of plasminogen activator activity, adjuncts to thrombolysis, and clinical applications of thrombolytic therapy.

The Perfect Holiday Presents

Do you know someone for whom it is difficult to shop? The R&W has discounted tickets for the holiday season. Save yourself a lot of trouble and treat the one you love to one of the plays that R&W has to offer.

A Christmas Carol will be performed at Ford’s Theater on Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Discounted tickets cost $25.50 (plus $1 service charge); regular price is $28.

Come to the Kennedy Center to see Annie II. R&W has discounted tickets for the Saturday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m. matinee. Regular price is $35; R&W price is $31.50 (plus $1 service charge).

The Washington Ballet will perform The Nutcracker at Lisner Auditorium (21st and H Sts. N.W.). R&W has tickets for these selected performances: Sunday, Dec. 17 at 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 30 at 7 p.m. R&W prices the tickets at $19, $2 less than the regular price. Holiday shows are popular. R&W offers the easiest and best way to get your tickets early.

For more information, call or visit the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 51, 496-4600. □

Patient Activities Open House

The patient activities department is holding an open house on Thursday, Nov. 16, in the first floor assembly hall of the Clinical Center (Bldg. 10) to celebrate the opening of the new patient activities department. Guest speaker Dr. David M. Compton, dean of the College of Health at the University of Utah, will speak on “Challenges Facing Allied Health Services in Clinical Settings.” at 1:30 p.m. A reception is planned from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. All NIH staff members are invited to attend. □
DISABILITY

(Continued from Page 1)

trayed on the now-syndicated situation comedy
The Facts of Life. Jewell has made appearances
on a variety of TV shows and programs
including 21 Jump Street, Sesame Street and Good
Sex with Dr. Ruth.

Comedy was a big part of Jewell’s presenta-
tion but it was not the best part. Ironically,
some of the brightest moments came near the
end of her performance when it seemed that
she was not actually performing at all.

"Cerebral palsy is not a disease, it’s a condi-
tion," she said seriously, defining the disorder
as a head injury (sustained at any age—before,
during or after birth) that causes brain damage
affecting the central nervous system. "CP has
been my greatest teacher, my most valuable
lesson, a blessing in disguise. And I wouldn’t
trade it with anyone."

Jewell then offered to lead the audience on
a journey of perceptions.

"I can take you down six streets—all dif-
ferent," she said, describing the various ways
people view her disability.

According to Jewell, some people see her
and, because of her posture or the way she
walks, think she is mentally retarded or
developmentally disabled. Others assume she
is mentally ill or drunk or on drugs.

She humorously related this story: "I was at
my ready teller machine one day when a guy
came by, shook his head and said to me,
'Next time, just say no.' Another one came
by, handed me some drugs and said, 'Here,
this'll take the edge off.'"

Other people think Jewell’s life with cere-
bral palsy is marked by continuous suffering
and pain or, conversely, some think that
because she is an author, actress, speaker and
comedienne with a disability, she must also be
some kind of superhuman overachiever. Jewell
sets them all straight.

"Do any of these people really see me? No,
not really. They’re all wrong and they’re all
right. We’re fortunate. We live in a country
where we can believe whatever we want. I do
not challenge anyone’s belief system. I cannot
change them. What I can change, though, is
my own attitude and how I respond to them."

Sponsored by the handicapped employees
committee of NIH’s Division of Equal Oppor-
tunity, the 1989 disability employment
awareness program coined Jewell’s take-home
message in its theme: “Change Barriers to
Opportunities.”

“Cerebral palsy has taught me how many
different ways we all see the same thing,”
noted Jewell. "It has taught me to slow down
a race to judgment because once you get there
all other doors are closed.

"Challenge yourselves to walk instead of
run. Don’t run (to judgment) just because it’s
safe. Where there is no uncertainty, there is
no pain. Only through discomfort and pain
can we understand the joy and happiness that
make us grow, that make us human."

To illustrate differences in perception, Jew­
ell told a story about a problem any NIH’er
can understand—parking.

One day, Jewell had driven into a parking
lot and maneuvered her car into a handicapped
space whereupon a passerby promptly
informed her that she was “not handicapped
eough” to warrant the privilege. The next
time she drove into a lot, she decided to park
in a regular space and was admonished, “Why
don’t you people use your own spots? That’s
what they’re there for.”

"When we talk about disability and
employment," she continued, "we’re talking
about all of us, with all of our differences.
We’re all in the same boat. All of us have
handicaps and disabilities—some just show
more than others."

Dance performances by students from the
Maryland School for the Deaf and an awards
ceremony that included a special citation for
NIH acting director Dr. William Raub con-
cluded the program, which recognized
National Disability Employment Awareness
month—October.

Students from the Maryland School for the Deaf,
who learn to feel the vibrations of music, performed
the song “Help Each Other” using a combination of
dance and sign language.

1990 Guide to Insurance Plans

Federal employees can save hundreds or
more in health costs next year by selecting the
right health insurance plan during “open sea­
on” (Nov. 13–Dec. 8), the period when
employees are free to switch plans. How
employees can make these savings and still be
protected against catastrophic health care costs
is revealed in this book released by the pub­
lishers of Washington Consumers’ Checkbook
magazine. The book (the 10th annual edition)
is entitled Checkbook’s Guide to 1990 Health
Insurance Plans for Federal Employees. It will
be available at the R&W stores in Bldg. 10,
Bldg. 38 and Westwood, and at the R&W
Activities Desk in Bldg. 31. Discounted price
is $5.50 (regular price is $5.95). Pick yours
up today and choose the best plan for your
needs.
Lois Cohen Is NIDR’s New Extramural Program Director

By Mary Daum

Dr. Lois K. Cohen has been named extramural program director at the National Institute of Dental Research. For the past 6 years she has served as NIDR’s assistant director for international health, and chief of the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Communications. Cohen succeeds Dr. Marie U. Nylen, who retired earlier this year.

As extramural program director, Cohen will oversee the development, review and funding of grants and contracts for NIDR. She will be responsible for NIDR’s almost 1,000 active grants that support a full range of research from basic science to clinical and field trials. Additionally, she will manage the program’s large research training area, which includes a number of grants specifically aimed at helping dentists become involved in research.

Continuing in her international health role, she will be seeking to strengthen United States research capacity through international collaboration in dental science.

Cohen is noted for her work in establishing the behavioral and social sciences as an important part of dental research in this country and abroad. She codirected the World Health Organization’s international collaborative study of dental manpower systems in relation to oral health status, which analyzed and compared data gathered in 10 industrialized nations. She also has been instrumental in developing a follow-up study involving some of the same industrialized countries, some new ones, including the U.S.S.R., and some middle-income developing nations.

Author and coauthor of four books and more than 80 research publications, she has received numerous honors for her work in the area of social sciences and dentistry. This past summer, she received an honorary doctor of letters from her alma mater, Purdue University. Last year, she was honored with the Percy T. Phillips visiting professorship from Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery. Also in 1988, the American Dental Association made her an honorary member and the American College of Dentists conferred an honorary fellowship upon her. In November, the International College of Dentists similarly will confer an honorary fellowship upon her.

She also has been awarded the Distinguished Senior Scientist Award of the International Association for Dental Research in the behavioral sciences—the first time the award was given for behavioral research.

Cohen joined NIDR in 1976 as special assistant to the director and became planning officer in 1978. Prior to 1976, she served in the Division of Dental Health, which for a number of years was part of NIH under the Bureau of Health Professions Education. Subsequently, that division became the Division of Dentistry and was located in the Health Resources Administration.

A native of Philadelphia, Cohen received her undergraduate degree with honors in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. at Purdue University in sociology and has held visiting academic appointments at Howard and Harvard universities.

NIH Fall Computer Expo

NIH’s Fall Computer Expo will be held Thursday, Nov. 16, in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. The 1-day showing of advanced office automation and graphics will begin at 9:30 a.m. and run until 2:30 p.m.

Vendors from all over the region will be demonstrating the latest in desktop publishing, databases, scientific computing, presentation/reporting graphics, printers, LAN, software applications, and communications.

More than 25 vendors will be on hand including Input Solutions, Syntecx, ComputerLand, Terminal Data, Innova Communications, Bell & Howell, Zenith Data Systems and others.

All NIH personnel are invited to attend. There is no registration or cost and refreshments will be served.

Calendar of Meetings Available

The 1989-1990 Calendar of Biomedical Meetings, which includes meetings sponsored by NIH as well as those of major medical societies and biomedical research associations, is available from the Division of Public Information, OD. To obtain a copy, call Bea D’Agua, 496-8855.

NIGMS grants Dr. Joseph Gall of the Carnegie Institution of Washington is the 1989 recipient of the V.D. Mattia Award from Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. The award recognizes Gall’s outstanding contributions to the understanding of chromosome structure and function.
Robert Tolman Retires After 20 Years at NIDDK

Dr. Robert Tolman is retiring after 20 years as endocrinology research program director in NIDDK.

His unique relationship with the endocrine research community is illustrated by a citation that was recently presented to him by the Endocrine Society for “dedicated and tireless service to endocrinology by fostering research careers of investigators, by lending generous advice and encouragement to new as well as established researchers, by facilitating and developing the National Hormone and Pituitary Program and by promoting the advancement of the field as an advocate of science.”

In a note to Tolman, Nobel laureate Dr. Roger Guillemin said, “None of us in the laboratory had a better, more qualified, and more devoted advocate and collaborator than you in your NIH position.”

Tolman received his Ph.D. in zoology/endocrinology from Indiana University. Before coming to NIH, he was head of the department of physiology at the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, a postdoctoral fellow in cardiovascular physiology at the Medical College of Georgia, and assistant professor of physiology and biophysics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

Tolman came to NIH in 1967 as a grants associate in the Division of Research Grants. He became endocrinology program director with NIDDK after a year in the Myocardial Infarction Branch of NHLBI. Tolman was for many years project officer of the National Hormone and Pituitary Program (NHPP). The NHPP collects and distributes pituitary hormones for research to scientists across the country and is regarded by the endocrine community as an irreplaceable resource for studies of hormone structure and function. As NHPP project officer, Tolman coedited the book Human Growth Hormone with Dr. Salvatore Raiti, NHPP director.

In part because of his efforts on behalf of the NHPP, Tolman recently received the NIH Merit Award from NIDDK director Dr. Philip Gorden. Commenting on Tolman’s retirement, Gorden noted that “Dr. Tolman is widely recognized by scientists throughout the world for his many contributions to the advancement of research in endocrinology. He will therefore be missed, not only by his many friends and colleagues here at NIH, but also by many other endocrine researchers in this country and abroad.”

Tolman acknowledges the support of the endocrine community as a factor contributing to his job satisfaction at NIH. An amateur naturalist and wildlife enthusiast, he plans to combine this and other hobbies—such as participation in the Montgomery County Barbershop Chorus—travel, and do volunteer work after retirement.—Charlotte Armstrong

Hogan Dies, DES Secretary In Director’s Office

Edith Darby Crusoe Hogan, secretary to the acting director of the Division of Engineering Services, died Oct. 26 following a brief illness.

Hogan transferred to NIH in March 1986, from Walter Reed Army Medical Center and began working in the Design and Construction Branch, Team 1, until her transfer to Office of the Director, DES, in December 1988. She had worked for the federal government for almost 8 years.

Hogan was presented an award for special recognition in April 1989. The award cited her contribution to the management study of DES, which is critical to the operation of the division and its service to the BIDs on the NIH campus.

Hogan was born in Washington, D.C., on Apr. 12, 1947. She was educated in the District of Columbia public school system and was a graduate of Martha Washington Vocational High School.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel; two daughters, Michelle and Donna Crusoe; two grandsons, James and Justin Stewart; five sisters, two godchildren, and a host of other family members.

Hogan will be remembered by many of her coworkers because of her sense of humor, efficiency, cooperation, friendliness, and a beautiful smile.—F. Anthony Clifford

Paid Volunteers Needed

Healthy, nonsmoking men ages 30-59 are needed for a controlled diet study being conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to examine biological effects of diets in which the vitamin C is obtained from different food sources. The study begins in January and lasts for 17 weeks. During this time, volunteers will receive all of their food and be paid $1,500 upon completion of the study. Subjects must go to the study facility in Beltsville on weekdays for their morning and evening meals, and will be provided with lunch and weekend meals. No other food or drink will be permitted. The study facility is located about 5 minutes outside the Beltway, off Edmonston Rd. (Kenilworth Ave. extended). If interested, please call 344-3683.

Bullets, Caps Tickets

R&W has tickets to several upcoming Washington Bullets basketball and Washington Capitals hockey games at the Capital Centre, many at discount prices. Call or stop by the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31, 496-4600.
Scientists Study Protein That May Block Cancer Spread

By Elaine Blume

Scientists at the National Cancer Institute have purified a human protein inhibitor that might one day be used to block the spread of cancer.

Drs. William G. Stetler-Stevenson, Henry C. Krutzch and Lance A. Liotta, all of whom work in Liotta's Laboratory of Pathology, have also studied how the protein works and determined its complete amino acid sequence. The scientists reported their work in the Oct. 15 issue of the Journal of Biological Chemistry.

The newly purified protein, called TIMP-2, inhibits collagenase IV, an enzyme secreted by many cancer cells that degrades connective tissue. Breakdown of connective tissue barriers is essential to the spread of cancer and to blood vessel formation (angiogenesis), which also plays a role in cancer growth.

Connective tissue breakdown and angiogenesis are essential for such normal processes as embryo development and wound-healing. Scientists believe that is why human cells contain genes for enzymes that degrade connective tissue, even though the enzymes are not active in most normal cells.

Researchers have recognized a loosely related "superfamily" of these enzymes. Collagenase IV is the member of the group most closely associated with tumor invasion and metastasis.

Like other members of the family, collagenase IV is a metalloproteinase—a protein-degrading enzyme that is active only in the presence of certain metals, such as calcium and zinc. A previously described protein that inhibits metalloproteinases is known as a "tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase" (TIMP). The original TIMP was described in 1979, and the corresponding gene was cloned several years later. TIMP binds to and inhibits the activated form of collagenase I, but not the latent form of collagenase IV.

In an effort to identify a new inhibitor of collagenase IV, Stetler-Stevenson and his colleagues looked for proteins that could bind to type IV collagenase and form a complex. The enzyme-inhibitor complex was isolated on a column containing the enzyme substrate to which the complex would bind. Using this method, the investigators discovered a protein that formed a specific inhibitory complex with collagenase IV.

Stetler-Stevenson and his colleagues purified and sequenced this inhibitor. They found that, while 41 percent of the inhibitor's amino acid sequence is identical to that of TIMP, a significant portion is unique. The inhibitor is thus a new member of the TIMP family—hence the name TIMP-2—and is not merely a modified form of TIMP. TIMP-2 is encoded by a separate gene different from the gene that encodes TIMP.

When the researchers added TIMP-2 to collagenase IV, the two proteins formed one-to-one complex, and the enzyme's ability to degrade connective tissue was abolished.

"These new findings may have important therapeutic uses," noted Stetler-Stevenson.

"We already know that there is a family of substrates and a corresponding family of metalloproteinases involved in connective tissue breakdown and tumor metastasis, as well as angiogenesis. Now we know that there is also a family of inhibitors of these enzymes, and we are learning about the different specificities of the inhibitors. We hope that we can learn to use different inhibitors to carry out specific tasks, especially ones that will interfere with metastasis."

The NCI scientists now are planning experiments in animals to see if TIMP-2 will block metastasis formation.

Poinsettia Sale at R&W

Beautiful poinsettias from Behnke Nursery are available through R&W for the holiday season. Order them in advance at any R&W Gift Shop. The plants are $11.75 each and will be delivered to the R&W on Monday, Dec. 18.

At a recent ceremony at NIH, Dr. George Galasso (I), NIH associate director for extramural affairs, was honored by the Italian government for his accomplishments in the international scientific area and, in particular, his contribution to the Italian scientific community. The president of Italy conferred the honor of Cavaliere della Repubblica to Galasso. Dr. Emanuele Mannarino, science attaché of the Embassy of Italy, presented the citation.

Healthy Volunteers Needed

The Child Psychiatry Branch of NIMH seeks men, ages 18-40, and women, ages 30-40, with a high school diploma, or no more than 1 year of college to participate in neuropsychological studies. Participation involves completing paper and pencil tests and/or MRI scans of brain anatomy or PET scans of brain activity. Must be native English speaker. Volunteers will be compensated. Call Tracy or Derek, 496-9070, or 496-3175.

Fishman Named Data Management Chief at NIDR

Sheldon A. Fishman has been appointed chief of the research data and management information systems section in NIDR's Office of Planning, Evaluation and Communications. He succeeds Dr. Kenneth Lynn, who recently retired. As head of NIDR's data management operations, Fishman will be responsible for maintaining and enhancing the dental research data information systems, preparing technical reports describing NIDR programs, and preparing the institute's annual report.

Before joining NIDR, Fishman served as an operations research analyst for the Office of Science Policy and Legislation in NIH's Office of the Director.

In an earlier position with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Fishman conducted policy research on health care financing and delivery. He then moved to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, where he served as chief of the Planning and Program Development Branch.

Fishman holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in mechanical engineering from Tufts University and an M.S. in biostatistics from Harvard University.
Gary Combs, Chief of Training Branch, Dies

Dr. Gary W. Combs, 45, chief of the Development and Training Operations Branch of the NIH Training Center, DPM, died of cancer, Oct. 11, at Sibley Hospital.

Since 1982, Combs worked in progressively more responsible positions in the NIH Training Center as a manager of training. He managed diverse programs such as management and executive training, and organizational development. He was instrumental in shaping the current NIH employee career development program.

While at NIH, he implemented a technique for defining managerial competencies that lead to superior job performance within government organizations. This work was based on research conducted at Harvard University and at that time was unique within the federal government. Combs' work in this area enabled NIH to move from a training curriculum based on general management theory to one anchored in specific, performance-based competencies.

He wrote articles on organizational development and was active in several professional organizations.

Combs earned a Ph.D. in public administration from the University of Southern California with a specialty in management and organizational development. He received his undergraduate degree from Baylor University, where he earned numerous academic honors and scholarships. As a faculty member in the public administration program at Sangamon State University in Springfield, Ill., Combs worked extensively with both government and nonprofit organizations' executives.

Combs was interested in every aspect of life, was an avid reader and enjoyed people. He had a special interest in the Children's Inn at NIH. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Friends of the Children's Inn through the R&W Association.

Survivors include his wife Carol Combs and their two young sons, Randy and Michael of Bethesda. —Doris Dorin

Bernard Sass, Veterinary Pathologist, Is Mourned

Dr. Bernard Sass, 54, a veterinary pathologist with the National Cancer Institute, died of cancer Oct. 13 at his home in Frederick.

A native of Konigsberg, West Germany, Sass came to the United States as a child and began his career in veterinary medicine in 1963 as a clinical veterinarian at American Cyanamid, a chemical pharmaceutical firm in Clarksville, N.J.

From 1966 to 1974, he worked as a pathologist with the Maryland Department of Agriculture in College Park and in 1974 became a pathologist at Microbiological Associates in Walkersville, Md. He remained in that position until 1976, when he became a project director. He left the next year.

Since 1977, Sass was employed as a veterinary pathologist at NCI in Bethesda. Most recently, he was on special assignment at the institute's facility in Frederick.

Sass, who coauthored approximately 60 scientific publications on veterinary medicine and cancer research, served as a captain in the Army Veterinary Corps from 1961 to 1963, stationed in Kansas City, Mo.

NIMH Needs Volunteers

Healthy normal volunteers over 18 years of age without a history of psychiatric illness are needed for a brain metabolism study at NIMH using the PET scan technique.

Two appointments are required for this procedure. A 1- to 2-hour appointment involves screening to evaluate suitability. The second appointment, for the experimental procedure itself, requires 4 to 5 hours. This procedure involves an injection of radioactive 18-fluorodeoxyglucose, periodic blood sampling, an auditory attention task, and the PET scan. Volunteers will be paid for the two sessions. For further information, please phone 496-4022.

Vols Needed for Vaccine Test

The Clinical Center department of transfusion medicine is conducting a study to evaluate a new recombinant hepatitis B vaccine. People who have previously received a hepatitis B vaccine (Heptavax-HB and/or Recombivax B) and have not responded by developing antibodies to the virus or have responded poorly are eligible to participate. Participants will receive a series of three injections at 0, 1 and 6 months and will be followed for a period of 12 months. Interested volunteers 20 years and older may call Beverly Elder, 496-8842, for more information.
**The Record**

November 14, 1989

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### TRAINEE TIPS

The NIH Training Center of the Division of Personnel Management offers the following:

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**Office Operations Training 496-6211**

| Seminar on Federal Supply Schedules               | 11/28 |
| Introduction to Working at NIH for New Support Staff | 12/18 |
| Foreign Travel                                    | 12/12 |
| Basic Time & Attendance                           | 12/7  |
| Accelerated Reading                               | 12/18 |

**Training and Development Services 496-6211**

Personal computer training is available through User Resources Center (URC) self study courses. There is no cost to NIH employees for these hands-on sessions. The URC hours are:

- Monday: 8:30 a.m. — 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30 a.m. — 7 p.m.
- Friday: 8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

NOW AVAILABLE ON SHARE TRAINING FY 90 Training Center courses. Access Wyburt and type ENTER TRAINING

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### NIDDK Scientist Wins Markey Scholarship

Dr. Marc Reitman, a postdoctoral researcher in NIDDK's Laboratory of Molecular Biology, recently received a Lucille P. Markey scholar award in biomedical science. The Markey scholar award provides substantial support over several years to young postdoctoral investigators to encourage them to continue their careers in basic medical research.

Reitman is studying the organization of the beta-globin locus in chickens. He plans to characterize the regions of DNA that are important for the regulation of the beta-globin genes as a group. Reitman has been working with Dr. Gary Felsenfeld since joining NIDDK in 1986 as a medical staff fellow in the Interinstitute Endocrinology Training Program.

After receiving his B.S. in chemistry and biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, he earned his M.D. and Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1983. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City and then came to NIH.

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### Dorothy Curtis Retires from NIDR Administration

Dorothy Curtis, the administrative officer supporting two major programs at the National Institute of Dental Research—the Extramural Program and the Epidemiology and Oral Disease Prevention Program—retired recently. She was with NIH for 28 years, over 20 of those years with NIDR in a variety of administrative positions.

"I have always enjoyed working with people," she said. "The administrative position gave me the opportunity to work with almost everyone at some point. It's been a challenge, a real problem-solving type of career."

Curtis joined the federal government in 1948 as a stenographer for the U.S. Department of Labor. After a brief break from service, she returned to the government in 1961 to work for the Clinical Center's nutrition department. She stayed there until 1968 when she joined NIDR as a secretary in the Office of the Extramural Program director.

"I took the job with NIDR because it was an opportunity to begin training in the administrative field," she said.

Later that year she was promoted to administrative clerk and in 1969 to special assistant. In 1971 she became an administrative technician in the same office and 2 years later was promoted to administrative officer. During 1979 she also served as the institute's committee management assistant.

"I think the most exciting time at NIDR was when we set up laboratories in the Park building. We started from scratch and worked hard to get that place organized," she said.

Her retirement plans are an extension of her organizing and problem-solving abilities.

"I want to become more involved in my community, Leisure World, and hope to be able to serve on their board of directors. I am already on several committees. I really enjoy that type of activity," she said.

Curtis also plans to travel and spend time with her grandchildren.

In 1983 she received an NIH Merit Award for her performance, dedication, and loyalty to NIDR. —Mary Daum

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### A Stroll on Broadway

The NIH R&W Theatre Group is taking "A Stroll On Broadway" and inviting the public to go along. This musical will visit "Kismet," "Guys and Dolls," "The King and I," "Lil' Abner," "Damn Yankees" and "Gypsy."

Performances will be Nov. 17, 18 at 8 p.m. and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 at Masur Auditorium in the Clinical Center, Bldg. 10. Tickets can be purchased at the door or call Kathryn Coughlan (703) 848-0764.

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### R&W Events Hotline

To help keep NIH'ers informed of all that it does, R&W offers a 24-hour hotline. Dial 496-6598 to hear an updated listing of all the fun things R&W has planned for you!

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### Wyngaarden To Take New Post

Dr. James B. Wyngaarden, who resigned as NIH director effective July 31, has been designated associate director for life science in the Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House. A Senate confirmation hearing was held Oct. 27.
Parking on Campus: NIH Giveth and NIH Taketh Away

It will come as no surprise to many members of the NIH community to learn that parking on the Bethesda campus has become extremely difficult, if not impossible, at certain times of the day. Recent construction projects such as the new Child Health and Neurosciences Building (49) and the renovation of Bldg. 5 have swallowed up entire parking lots. However, it may be a surprise for everyone to learn that something already has been done to alleviate the shortages created by recent construction.

As a result of a concerted effort by the Office of Research Services (ORS) to replace lost spaces, each NIH parking lot has been examined. Parking spaces have been added where possible by restriping, which creates slightly narrower parking spaces, and utilizing previously unused corners. Several lots have disappeared due to construction during the past 6 months but additional spaces have been added to more than compensate for those lost. While these projects have required employees, visitors and others to adjust where they park, NIH has been able to maintain the number of available parking places. More spaces will be added in the future as construction projects are completed.

NIH will also be focusing considerable attention during the coming months on ways to reduce the traffic flow of cars to and from NIH each day (and thus the parking crunch). ORS has organized a transportation management plan task force to look at these problems and come up with recommendations. The task force plans to conduct a survey of NIH employees to gather information about such topics as home locations, working hours, how we travel to work, parking and our opportunities for carpooling or mass transit. The survey is expected to be sent out in November.

Paid Male Volunteers Needed

NIAID researchers are comparing two formulations of a drug used for fungal infections. Normal, healthy men between ages 18 and 40 are being recruited. Participants are screened in clinic with examination, blood and urine tests, then if qualified, are admitted to a clinical research unit for 5 or 7 days. Three or four doses of the drug will be given with frequent monitoring and blood/urine sampling. Payment for participation will be $550 for screening/5-day hospitalization and $750 for screening/7-day hospitalization. Call 496-3461 for further information.

Seminar on Procurement Offered

Are you confused by procurement? Do you want to find the easiest ways to get your laboratory its supplies? The Division of Procurement is sponsoring a monthly seminar for scientists and technicians.

The seminar will cover what the scientist's role is in the procurement process, how to buy from mandatory sources, and how to justify purchases. A reference guide to purchasing will be distributed to all attendees.

The seminars have been conveniently scheduled from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. The first three seminars will be held on Nov. 28, Dec. 19, and Jan. 29. All scientists and technicians wishing to attend should call Liz Pulliam, 496-5214, to reserve a place.