Fears Slow Change

NIH'ers Urged To Meet Needs of People with Disabilities
By Rich McManus

George Covington, a writer, lawyer, journalism professor, photographer, buddy of ex-veep Dan Quayle and one-man fan club of the world's pretty women, has a vision—clear as the branch water of his native Texas—of how the world ought to treat people with disabilities:

"We're just like the rest of you," he told a packed Wilson Hall, site of "Awareness and Action," the 11th annual Disability Employment Awareness Program sponsored by the Office of Equal Opportunity. "We can lie, cheat and steal, be fools, fakes and frauds—just like the rest of you. We can be saints and sinners...I happen to be a saint."

Currently a disability advocate in the National Park Service's Office of Accessibility, Covington, who is legally blind, took the white cane he normally uses for walking to a number of "myths, stereotypes and negative images" that have combined to keep rights for people with disabilities some 20 years behind civil rights for other minority groups in America.

"People will leap into the street to avoid me when they see me with my white cane," he recounted in an East Texas twang. Quoting a recent Louis Harris poll, Covington reported that 58 percent of respondents admitted to feeling anxiety in the presence of a person with a disability. "Forty-seven percent of those polled said they felt fearful in our presence. Blindness is right up there with AIDS and cancer as the top public fears in this country."

Covington said it's not enough to feel sympathy for those with disabilities: "The road to hell is paved with good intentions. You have to make the effort to ask us what we can use, what we need and what we can afford," he said. "It's not enough to be aware. You've got to take action."

Technological advances such as telecommuting, or working out of the home via computer modem, can be both tremendously helpful and harmful, he warned. "Technology can put us right back in the closet."

An appealingly witty speaker, Covington argued that the only way for society to get over its fear of people with disabilities is simply to get to know them. "We are you—there is no difference," he maintained. "You've got to get past that point where you see us as different. Work with us, understand us, and we'll get along fine."

Historically, people with disabilities have elicited mainstream societal response falling into three categories, argued both Covington and guest speaker Dr. Katherine Seelman, an HHS disability policy specialist. First there

Exercise Keeps Arteries Younger Longer, Says NIA

Physicians recommend putting your best foot forward to save your heart by jogging, running, walking, swimming, dancing or performing some other aerobic exercise at least three times per week. According to scientists at NIA, regular exercise may greatly reduce stiffening of the arteries, a primary cause of high blood pressure that can lead to heart disease and strokes in older people.

Scientists believed that arterial stiffening was an inevitable burden of aging, but it is clear now that physical conditioning may slow this process considerably. In the October issue of Circulation, Dr. Edward Lakatta and his colleagues at NIA's Gerontology Research Center, in collaboration with the University of Maryland School of Medicine and the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, report that arterial stiffening occurs in varying degrees among older individuals, even healthy ones with no hypertension. However, among those who can exercise regularly, the occurrence of arterial stiffening is consistently far less severe. "In all our sedentary subjects, the more they are able to exercise, the less stiff their arteries," said Lakatta.

Infrastructure Modernization Program Continues at NIH

Most of us have read stories about our nation's "crumbling infrastructure" and have probably seen examples of neglected projects in our own communities. Unfortunately, NIH with its 50-year-old campus, 310-acre site, 36 principal buildings, and 7 million square feet of floor area is no different. Critical infrastructure needs must be addressed immediately to provide the capability to carry out NIH's mission and to ensure the safety of employees and patients.

Most of NIH's central utility plants and distribution networks are more than 40 years old. Obsolescence and system deteriorations due to age, overburdening from growth, and increases in program needs have produced a critical situation. Sufficient and uninterrupted services to research and patient care activities can no longer be ensured and the possibility of catastrophic failure has become real.

The NIH Infrastructure Modernization Program, overseen by the Special Projects Branch of DES, ORS, provides for the replacement and expansion of central

Remington To Give Gorgas/Jacobs Lecture

Toxoplasmosis expert Dr. Jack S. Remington, professor of medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine, will present this year's Gorgas Memorial/Leon Jacobs Lecture on Nov. 22 at 3 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. He will speak on "Toxoplasmosis, AIDS, and What Leon Jacobs Taught Me." The discussion will include an update on Remington's current research, while at the same time providing him the opportunity to reflect on his 1957-59 research experience in Jacobs' protozoa laboratory at NIAID.

In 1957, just as he had completed his medical school training and confirmed his plans for a medical residency, a telephone call from NIH suddenly altered Remington's career plans. NIH had recently instituted its Research Associate Program and was seeking 12 promising medical graduates from across the country for training as research scientists in NIH laboratories. Remington was invited to join this first cadre of NIH research fellows. The young intern put his residency plans on hold. Within a few months of his arrival at NIH, Remington's long-held aspiration of becoming a neurosurgeon was replaced by the
EXERCISE
(Continued from Page 1)

"If simple exercise can reduce arterial stiffening, then we can look to lifestyle changes to reduce illness and deaths, to better the quality of life and lower cardiovascular health care costs. The benefits would be tremendous," says Dr. Richard Hodes, NIA director.

The study consisted of two parts. In the first part, the scientists studied 146 healthy, nonsmoking, sedentary volunteers, ages 21 to 96, during a treadmill test. The treadmill increased in speed every 2 minutes until the volunteer was exhausted. Those individuals who could exercise longer had less stiffening of their arteries. This effect was over and above age effects.

In the second part of the study, the scientists compared 14 endurance athletes, age 54 years and older, to the sedentary individuals of the same age, and to younger sedentary volunteers. The exercise capacity of the older athletes was similar to young people but greatly surpassed the older sedentary group. The major finding here was that, in older athletes, there was far less arterial stiffness than in sedentary older people.

According to Lakatta, "This demonstrates that endurance training may give us at least some control over the condition of our arteries, a variable we thought controlled us. The next step is to discover whether mild exercise could have a similar effect."

The study shows that over time, changes in arterial stiffness are much more marked than changes in blood pressure. "Blood pressure measures alone may deceive us into thinking our arteries really aren't all that stiff," explains Lakatta, "when in fact, the situation can be quite serious."

Measuring arterial stiffness gives a more complete picture of arterial health than does measuring blood pressure alone. And, as heart disease and stroke are leading killers of both men and women, scientists hope that eventually arterial stiffness will become a reliable prognostic tool.

Ethnic and genetic differences, body weight, and dietary habits also influence how much arteries will stiffen. A study in China, for instance, showed a considerable difference in measures of arterial stiffness between people living in rural and urban areas. City-dwellers tend to be more sedentary and to salt their food generously and to have alarmingly high incidence of hypertension when compared to country folk, most of whom remain physically active as farmers.

For now, it appears that exercise may help overcome the ravages of time as far as arterial circulation is concerned. Researchers say, however, that even one's capacity to exercise may have some genetic link. Perhaps some people have more flexible vessels to begin with, enabling them to run faster and jump higher. NIA scientists hope to explore this relationship in further studies using training interventions.—JoAnn Pass

Lakatta Wins 1993 AlliedSignal Achievement Award in Aging

For heart researcher Edward Lakatta, "Young at Heart" is the theme of his career. This year AlliedSignal is playing his tune. Chief of the NIA Gerontology Research Center’s Cardiovascular Laboratory, he is the 1993 recipient of the $30,000 AlliedSignal Achievement Award in Aging for his significant contribution to this field in biomedical research.

In large measure, the foundation of current understanding of how the heart ages is based on Lakatta’s discoveries. His detailed, diverse, and innovative studies conducted over many years have dispelled the long-held concept that major declines in cardiac function are normal and inevitable parts of aging.

Lakatta, internationally recognized as both a leader in cardiovascular research and a top investigator in the field of geriatric cardiology, studies cardiac functions and how aging and cardiovascular disease modify these functions.

His work is notable for the breadth of approaches, both clinical and basic, which he brings to aging research. He has defined structural, physiological and molecular changes that occur in the aging heart in healthy humans and animal models; shown their functional significance both at rest and during stress; and shown that many of these changes may be viewed as adaptive, allowing more efficient pumping of blood.

Lakatta describes the body of his research findings as a "mosaic," the creation of which is due to the combined energies of numerous dedicated fellows and colleagues within the NIH intramural program—a program that provides the sustained commitment of resources required for research of this nature.

"Cardiovascular diseases account for more than 60 percent of all deaths in older individuals," says Dr. George R. Martin, NIA scientific director. "Dr. Lakatta’s work sets the stage for major advances in reducing the occurrence and impact of these diseases in older members of our society."

Within the past 10 years, Lakatta has published more than 120 original research papers and has written over 100 review articles. He has authored or coauthored the chapters on cardiovascular aging in virtually every major textbook on geriatric medicine or cardiovascular disease. He serves on the editorial boards of prominent journals and on several scientific committees.

The NIH Record

Published biweekly at Bethesda, Md., by the Editorial Operations Branch, Division of Public Information, for the information of employees of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, and circulated to nonemployees by subscription only through the Government Printing Office. The content is reprintable without permission. Pictures may be available on request. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget through September 30, 1994.

NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03
Phone 62125
Fax 21845

Editor
Richard McManus

Assistant Editor
Anne Barber

Associate Editor
Carla Garnett

Correspondents:
CC, Sara Byars
DCRT, Mary Hodges
DRG, Andrea Taylor
FIC, Jim Bryant
NCI, Patricia A. Newman
NCHGR, Leslie Fink
NCRR, Kathleen Canavan
NEI, Linda Huss
NHLBI, Louise Williams
NIA, Vicky Cahan
NIAAA, Ann M. Bradley
NIAID, James Hadley
NIAMS, Amy Iadarola
NICHD, Carol Florance
NIDA, Karen Rogich
NIDCD, Gail Blatt
NIDDK, Eileen Corrigan
NIDR, Mary Daum
NIEHS, Hugh J. Lee
NIDR, Karen Rogich
NIMH, Marilyn Weeks
NINDS, Shannon Barnett
NINR, Marianne Duffy
NLM, Roger L. Gilkeson

The NIH Record reserves the right to make corrections, changes, or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with the policies of the paper and NIH.
Another Role for Nitric Oxide: Virus Fighter

Nitric oxide (NO), a molecule with many functions in the body, may be used by the immune system to fight viral infections, according to researchers at NIAID and Cornell University Medical College.

The research adds to NO’s already lengthy resume: the gaseous molecule regulates blood pressure and causes penile erections by dilating blood vessels, transmits messages between nerve cells, kills certain parasites and other microorganisms, and may play a part in learning and memory. So important and versatile is the gas that *Science* magazine voted NO “Molecule of the Year” in 1992.

The new findings demonstrate that NO is a potent antiviral compound with activity against both poxviruses (ectromelia and vaccinia) and herpes simplex virus type-1 (HSV-1), which causes cold sores in humans. The data suggest that NO can be induced by cytokines, protein messengers secreted by certain immune system cells and used for cell-to-cell communication. Previously, research has shown that certain cytokines, particularly interferon-gamma (IFN-γ), help protect many cell types by causing them to make one or more proteins known to inhibit viral replication.

“Our findings with NO show yet another way that cytokines like interferon-gamma can exert an antiviral effect,” says Dr. Mark Buller, head of the poxvirus pathogenesis group in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at NIAID and an author of the paper.

Many varieties of cells make NO when stimulated by IFN-γ, which appears to turn on a gene that directs the production of an enzyme called NO synthase (NOS), needed for NO production. Scientists have known for some time that NO disables or kills certain tumors, protozoans, worms, fungi and bacteria. Recent data suggest that NO may work by inactivating enzymes needed by invading microorganisms for critical functions such as DNA replication, which also may be the way in which NO inhibits poxvirus replication.

Poxviruses and herpesviruses are known as DNA viruses, because their genetic material is in the form of DNA rather than RNA. NO may have activity against RNA viruses as well, says Buller. Studies led by his coauthor, Dr. Gunasegaran Karupiah, have shown that NO inhibits the growth of an RNA virus, vesicular stomatitis virus (related to rabies). In collaboration with Dr. Kanta Subbarao of NIAID’s Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, Karupiah has also demonstrated that NO inhibits the replication of a second RNA virus, influenza A.

“NO’s potential as a broad-spectrum antiviral is important because there are many more RNA viruses than DNA viruses that cause disease in humans,” says Buller. “NO-generating compounds, perhaps designed to release NO very quickly or very slowly, may provide a new approach to antiviral therapy. The challenge to researchers will be designing delivery systems to target therapeutic doses of the NO-generating compounds to the site of infection without undesirable side effects.”

These findings were published in the Sept. 10 issue of *Science*—Greg Folkers

Dr. Michael E. Rogers recently was named acting director of NIGMS’s Pharmacology and Biorelated Chemistry Branch. He replaces Dr. Christine Carrico, who directed the branch for the past 9 years. Rogers has served as the branch’s deputy director since 1991.

He first came to NIH in 1972 as a staff fellow in the former NIADDK. After finishing his fellowship, he joined the department of pharmaceutical chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond as an assistant professor. During this time, he served as principal investigator on an NIH grant, and also received grants from the American Cancer Society and Hoffmann LaRoche. Rogers returned to NIH in 1980 as an expert consultant for the Division of Research Grants. In 1983, he became a health scientist administrator for DRG in the bioorganic and natural products chemistry study section. He came to NIGMS in 1989 as a health scientist administrator in the Pharmacological Sciences Branch.

He is an active member of the American Chemical Society, and served as chair of the NIH STEP committee in 1991. Among his honors are the NIH Director’s Award in 1989 and the NIH Merit Award in 1991. Rogers earned an A.S. in chemistry in 1965 from Columbus Junior College in Columbus, Ga., a B.S. in chemistry in 1967 from Berry College in Mt. Berry, Ga., and a Ph.D. in medicinal chemistry in 1972 from the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Roger Y. Tsien

Internationally recognized for his work in cell communication and intracellular messengers, Dr. Roger Y. Tsien will deliver the Hans L. Falk Memorial Lecture on Nov. 17 at 3:30 p.m. in the conference center at NIEHS.

His lecture is entitled, “How Cells Compartimentalize Internal Messengers: An Imaging Perspective.” He will also deliver a research seminar, in the same location, on Nov. 18 at 10 a.m. entitled, “A Diffusible Messenger Released by Depletion of Intracellular Calcium Stores.” Prior to his pioneering work, studies of signal transduction were limited by a paucity of indicators for monitoring intracellular ions and messengers. Tsien and his collaborators have significantly advanced this research area with the development of fluorescent indicators for calcium, pH, sodium, and cyclic AMP, as well as techniques for introducing and imaging these indicators in living cells to visualize localized biochemical signals. In addition, Tsien’s laboratory has developed and synthesized several “caged” compounds that photolytically release messengers such as calcium and nitric oxide. These fluorescence and photochemical methods have illuminated the spatial and temporal complexities of intracellular signals, including cellular heterogeneity, oscillations, and spatial gradients.

Tsien received his A.B., summa cum laude, from Harvard College, where he was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He received his Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Cambridge. He is currently professor in the departments of pharmacology and chemistry at the University of California, San Diego, and investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Dr. Hans L. Falk (1918-1985), the internationally known environmental health science authority for whom the lecture is named, was one of the first scientific staff members of NIEHS, and one of its founding members and shaping forces.

Dr. Roger Y. Tsien

Openings for Child Care

The PHS Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center, located adjacent to the Parklawn Bldg. in Rockville, recently celebrated its first year of operation. The center accommodates children from 6 weeks to 5 years of age. At present, there are openings in several of the classes. For more information, call center director Beth Collins, 301-61.
challenges he found in the study of a little-understood parasite.

Remington's NIH assignment was with Dr. William Wright's NIAID Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, where Jacobs was chief of protozoal diseases—and a leading expert in studies of the parasite Toxoplasma gondii. A close mentor/student relationship developed between the two investigators. Jacobs recalls the young scientist as being particularly inquisitive, with "amazing energy and enthusiasm in the lab. Jack set up one experiment where we had to inoculate 200 mice within an extremely short time frame—yet somehow, he turned that exercise into congenial fun!"

The mentor's fascination with T. gondii was contagious, and the student discovered that Jacobs' insights into the study of the parasite offered an unprecedented opportunity to understand a disease that is known throughout the world as a cause of neurologic damage, blindness, and death.

To complete his postdoctoral training, Remington left NIH in 1959. He gained highly valued experience by working with Dr. Maxwell Finland at Harvard Medical School and the distinguished Thorndike Memorial Laboratory. The laboratory is associated with Boston City Hospital, for which Remington served on staff as infectious disease consultant.

Immediately upon finishing his Harvard studies in 1962, Remington accepted an invitation to head the department of immunology and infectious diseases at California's Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation, a position he has now held for more than 30 years. At the same time, he was also appointed to an assistant professorship at Stanford University School of Medicine. Remington feels strongly that work with patients provides the real impetus to research. For this reason, he began an alliance in 1962 with the Palo Alto Medical Clinic, where he has served as chief consultant in infectious diseases ever since.

He further solidified his academic career in 1974, when he accepted the title of professor in Stanford's department of medicine.

Today, Remington is counted among the world's most frequently cited scientists. With toxoplasmosis as his model, he has made broad-ranging contributions to our understanding of the role of cytokines in influencing intracellular infections. He is a world authority on the serologic diagnosis of congenitally acquired toxoplasmosis. Moreover, he holds several patents on immunoassays for detection of immunoglobulins and gene sequencing for T. gondii.

Most recently, he has responded to the urgency of the AIDS epidemic. T. gondii is the cause of one of the most devastating opportunistic infections in people with AIDS. Because of his expertise in T. gondii and his contributions to the use of drugs that bolster immune defenses against the parasite, Remington and his colleagues received NIAID's first National Cooperative Drug Discovery Group grant in this field.

Remington has served as president of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and is presently the society's consultant to the FDA. In 1982, he received the Society's Maxwell Finland Award. His European collaborations have won him West Germany's prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Award and an honorary professorship from France's University of Paul Sabatier, in Toulouse. He is a member of several advisory boards on infectious diseases and AIDS. In addition, he has served on editorial boards for many prestigious journals, including the Journal of Clinical Investigation. He is also coeditor of the text Diseases of the Fetus and Newborn Infant. For 18 years, he contributed to the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine as a member of the advisory scientific board.

One of the greatest satisfactions in the career of a scientist is the ability to inspire others to carry one's work forward. Throughout Remington's many years working with postgraduate fellows, he has attracted many talented young investigators whose work has since spun off into highly productive areas.

Now, recalling the role Jacobs played during their NIH collaborations, Remington sees himself among those who happily took up the baton of Jacobs' toxoplasmosis research. Perhaps more significantly, Remington speaks of his personal satisfaction in following Jacobs' example—this time as mentor for his own students.—Karen Leighty

MODERNIZATION OF NIH'S INFRASTRUCTURE CONTINUES

utility equipment and distribution systems. The program includes the restoration, renovation, replacement and expansion of the reservation's mechanical and electrical utility systems. Specific central utility services to be improved include chilled water, steam, electrical power, compressed air, domestic water, sewerage, and natural gas. At the heart of this program is the Master Utilities Plan, which identifies the specific repairs, upgrades and expansion of each utility through the year 2012.

Dukelow Named NCRR Primate Centers Director

Dr. W. Richard Dukelow has been appointed director of NCRR's Regional Primate Research Centers (RPRC) Program. He has enjoyed a long relationship with the primate research centers, having recently completed a book on their founding.

RPRC falls under the Comparative Medicine Program, through which NCRR supports a variety of animal research facilities and resources. These include diagnostic and laboratory services for colonies of research animals, upgrades of laboratory animal facilities at research institutions, professional training in the care of laboratory animals, development of animal models, and breeding of scarce research animals.

As director, Dukelow will oversee operation of the seven RPRCs where scientists conduct research in such areas as AIDS; cardiovascular, infectious and nervous system diseases; reproductive biology; mental retardation; and developmental behavior.

He received his Ph.D. in animal physiology from the University of Minnesota in 1962, and completed his postdoctoral fellowship in chemistry at the University of Georgia in 1965. Additionally, he has authored and coauthored numerous articles on animal reproduction. Dukelow comes to NCRR for 2 years through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, which allows for temporary staff assignments between the federal government and state or local governments, institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments and other eligible organizations. He will then return to Michigan State University, where he remains on staff as director of the Endocrine Research Center and professor of physiology and animal science.

During his appointment, Dukelow hopes to improve the centers' breeding and reproduction facilities, as well as encourage collaborative efforts between the seven centers.
Katherine Duncan Retires, Returns to Same Job as Volunteer

Dr. Katherine Duncan retired from NIH one day and returned a few weeks later to work in the same job, same office, only this time as a volunteer. That was back in June 1987. Today, at the age of 80, Duncan remains a volunteer in the Office for Protection from Research Risks.

"I came back as a volunteer doing the same job that I was originally paid to do," she confirms. "After retiring, I wanted to do volunteer work for the Red Cross. When Mr. [Bill] Dommel, my previous boss, heard that I was looking for volunteer work he called and said 'Come back here and do volunteer work. We need you and you can work out your hours.' So within weeks, I was back here as a volunteer doing my old job.

"It was interesting and challenging work, so I said why not," she explained. "I guess it was a selfish motive too, because I like what I do—dealing with academic people throughout the United States." Duncan works in OP RR's Division of Human Subject Protections.

"I like the contacts and the social part of the job," she explained. "My children were married and doing their own things, so I didn't have enough social life to keep me busy. I'm not much for card parties. I prefer to work."

Of her new situation Duncan says, "This way I don't have to worry about taking off and dealing with annual leave and such." Basically, she works every day but Friday. "I even come in then if something special is going on."

Duncan came to work for the federal government back in 1960 after her husband died. She worked at FDA for about a year and joined NIH in 1961. She started out working in DRG as executive secretary for the clinical research fellowship committee. When the fellowships were phased out, around 1966, she joined what is now OP RR, which was then under DRG.

"I have been with the OP RR office since its beginning," says Duncan. "Even as secretary of the fellowship committee, I reviewed some of the original OP RR assurances in addition to my own job. I guess this fell under 'other duties as assigned.'"

Duncan was 45 years old when her husband died in 1959 of a heart attack while stationed in Memphis. "I had two children, ages 9 and 12, and I decided not to go into private practice because of the time it would consume. We already owned a house here and I thought my chances of getting a job were better in this area, so I decided to move back."

Duncan received her M.D. from the University of Illinois in 1937. It was there that she met her husband, who was studying to become a surgeon, while she prepared for a general practice. Her husband decided to join the Navy and make it a career.

"As a Navy wife, I did volunteer work for the Red Cross as a Gray Lady, worked in their well-baby clinics, assisted doctors who were short-handed, and saw patients."

"Only for a brief time, right after my internship, did I practice clinical medicine," she said.

On days off, Duncan works on her family tree via a desktop computer at home. "My forefathers were all Scottish or English dating back to the 1600's," she relates.

"My grandfather influenced my becoming a doctor. He was a country doctor in a small town near Carbondale, Ill., called Little Egypt. Being the only doctor around for 10 miles, he was also the pharmacist and owned the drugstore, pulled teeth, and prescribed medicine for farm animals as well. I used to tend shop when he went out on house calls.

"His son, my uncle, started medical school but never finished," she continued, "and my grandfather was very disappointed. There were no other males in the family so I was the one he wanted to see become a doctor. I must say, it didn't take much to influence me."

"Between today's medicine and the medicine in my grandfather's day," she noted, "there is no comparison. Back then, there was only so much medicine and if it worked, it did, and if it didn't, there was not much more you could do."

After leaving her hometown, she continued to go back at least once a year until she and her sister were the only remaining family members. Her sister has since moved to a retirement home nearby in Kensington so they can visit each other frequently.

Duncan drives a red 1987 Chrysler LeBaron convertible with a white top. "This is my third convertible," she says, laughing.

"Kay's charm and wit help us keep in perspective the serious matters we deal with daily," says Dr. John Miller, OP RR's deputy director. She has been known to wear outlandish costumes for Halloween and unusual earrings representing every holiday.

"Her positive effects in protecting human subjects of research nationwide are enormous," he continues. "NIH and the research community are exceedingly fortunate that she has shared with them her wisdom and expertise in this area for over three decades."—Anne Barber

**NHBLI Appoints New Division Associate Director**

Dr. Stephen C. Mockrin, a 16-year NHBLI veteran, has been named associate director for the Arteriosclerosis, Hypertension, and Lipid Metabolism Program in the Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases.

He earned a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. He also was a postgraduate fellow in the department of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California, San Francisco.

Mockrin joined NHBLI in 1977 as a senior staff fellow in the Laboratory of Cell Biology. Five years later, he became a health scientist administrator in the institute's Cardiac Functions Branch, and then in 1987 deputy chief of the Hypertension and Kidney Diseases Branch (HKDB). In 1989, he took over as chief of that branch, serving until his recent appointment.

As HKDB chief, he helped to stimulate and foster cutting-edge molecular biology research by scientists nationwide that produced such advances as the discovery of the first genetic link for essential hypertension in humans, the use of antisense technology to prevent restenosis of blood vessels after balloon angioplasty and bypass surgery, and the creation of novel genetically altered animal models.

He also has been managing NHBLI's Programs of Excellence in Molecular Biology, which supports 25 research projects on normal and diseased cardiovascular, pulmonary, and blood systems.

Among Mockrin's many honors are two Outstanding Performance Awards and a 1989 NIH Award of Merit for superior contributions to fostering new opportunities for applying molecular biology approaches to heart, lung, and blood research.

He has published and lectured in the areas of cellular motility, hypertension, molecular biology, genetics, and gene therapy, as well as participating on many NIH and other national and international professional committees, working groups, workshops, and task forces.

**Correction**

The story on p. 12 of the Oct. 26 issue of the NIH Record about the Office of Research on Minority Health's support of a Minority Organ Tissue and Transplant Education Program should have said an NIH contract supports the program, not a grant.
was the “monster model,” in which those not fully able were considered “the spawn of the devil,” said Covington. That medieval view was succeeded by the medical model, whose premise was that people with disabilities could be cured, no matter what the humiliating or painful cost.

“The medical model views the person as a disease, as passive and as totally dependent on doctors,” explained Seelman. The current stage is known as the “minority/cultural pluralism model,” which views people with disabilities as a community of Americans deserving all the rights and considerations due any other ethnic, racial or religious group.

Seelman credited NIH with creating a host of medical advances that have benefited people with disabilities, but warned that the larger society still tends to treat people with disabilities as dependent and miserable. “You have a unique ability to influence attitudes,” she told the audience.

The third speaker on a panel moderated by NIA’s Dan Rogers was wheelchair athlete Dana Jackson, who suffered a gunshot wound in 1973 at age 15 that left him partially paralyzed. Ten years later, after a succession of discouraging encounters with members of both the medical profession (a nurse once told him, “Your life is over”) and several Washington-area high schools (where faculty warned he would “never fit in”), Jackson “got into track and field.” Within 5 years he was competing on the international level as a member of the U.S. wheelchair Olympic racing team; he has a slew of gold and silver medals won at meets in Edinburgh and London in the late 1980’s.

“Sports, to me, has been my motivating force,” said the personable Jackson, now an awareness trainer for a private company. “Awareness training helps people identify their fears, biases, stereotypes and myths. Check your own attitudes. Check your colleagues’ attitudes. This theme [Awareness and Action] should be your theme every day.”

—Dana Jackson

Awareness training helps people identify their fears, biases, stereotypes and myths. Check your own attitudes. Check your colleagues’ attitudes. This theme [Awareness and Action] should be your theme every day.

—Dana Jackson

NIH’s report card on this issue was read by acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein and by Dr. Ronald Geller, director of NHLBI’s Division of Extramural Affairs and chair of the NIH advisory committee for employees with disabilities (CED).

“We need to improve the number and range of opportunities for those with disabilities at NIH,” said Kirschstein, who said people with disabilities “are the most underrepresented group in government, and at NIH.”

Conceding that it has been hard to collect reliable data on the true number of people with disabilities working at NIH, she said a renewed recruitment effort is needed. “Let’s go out and find these people,” she said. “Dr. Shalala has said that HHS is to be a leader in employing people with disabilities, and I can assure you that NIH intends to be a leader as well.”

Reviewing his committee’s past year, Geller called such accommodations as new sliding glass door entrances to NIH buildings and the employment of some teens with disabilities (see sidebar) "just a few small steps. I think we have a long way to go."

Geller pointed out that the CED is not a single, narrow entity, but a broad cross-section of NIH’ers: “We represent all groups at NIH, including both genders and all ethnic and racial groups.”

He urged NIH to take a broader look at such issues as accessibility, the need for documents to take forms other than the printed page, using "person-first" language in all documents and correspondence (see sidebar), avoiding scheduling off-campus training sessions at facilities that don’t accommodate people with disabilities, and stepping away from such insensitivities as the response he claims to have received when he asked an NIH department to repaint parking spaces for those with disabilities: “You pay for it and we’ll do it.”

Lastly, Geller called for a policy of inclusion of people with disabilities into the full professional and social life of the campus. “We’ve got to keep that attitude of awareness,” he said. “You’ll be amazed at the abilities you will find.”

—Dr. Ronald Geller

"We represent all groups at NIH, including both genders and all ethnic and racial groups... You'll be amazed at the abilities you will find."

—Dr. Ronald Geller

attitudes. Check your colleagues’ attitudes. This theme [Awareness and Action] should be your theme every day. It’s something you should live by, not just in October [National Disability Employment Awareness Month]."
NIH Wins 'Pyramid Award'

NIH was one of 14 public and private employers and individuals honored Oct. 18 for outstanding leadership in hiring and promoting persons with disabilities at Montgomery County government's 7th Annual Pyramid Awards ceremony.

NIH was named public sector Employer of the Year, mainly for its participation in the Marriott Bridges Internship Program, which identifies area high schoolers with disabilities and matches them with offices and laboratories at NIH. Since the program began in 1990, 40 interns have been placed, 15 of whom were hired by NIH after their internships ended.

"This [Bridges] is just one example of what we can do, but we must do more," said NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein during remarks at NIH's Disability Employment Awareness Program.

NIH was also recognized for its Disability Employment Program, several reasonable accommodations made for individuals on campus, and an affirmative action plan for individuals with disabilities.

Attention to Language Can Demonstrate Sensitivity

The Oct. 26 issue of the NIH Record included a story containing language that, unfortunately, was a textbook example of how to offend people with disabilities. The article, about the fate of the cobblestone drive in front of Bldg. 10, contained the following sentences: "The rough and uneven surface of the granite cobblestones presents yet another obstacle to the disabled and sick who must exit their vehicles there; and for the wheelchair bound, it is nearly impossible to traverse. The area has also proven to be a hazard for the hearty."

No good, says Ron Geller, outgoing chair of the NIH committee for employees with disabilities. First of all, the sentence violates "people first" terminology. Writers should place the person before the disability, as in "person with a disability," rather than "the disabled."

The second offense is "wheelchair bound." People are not "bound" or "confined" to wheelchairs. They use them to increase their mobility and enhance their freedom. It is more accurate to say "wheelchair user" or "person who uses a wheelchair."

Keynote speaker George Covington, a former journalism professor, was refreshingly blunt on this usage during remarks at the OEO program: "If I ever see someone using the phrase 'wheelchair bound,' it better be in the context of kinky sex."

It is also offensive to imply that "heartiness" is a quality enjoyed solely by people who have no disabilities.

Another tip to remember is to avoid referring to people by the disability they have, i.e., "an epileptic," "blind people." A person is not a condition. Rather, refer to "a person with epilepsy," or "people who are blind."

Employees who have disabilities will feel more comfortable if NIH’ers consider these suggestions for effective communication.
Three New Grants Associates Join Office of Extramural Research

Drs. Louis DePaola, Sanya Springfield and Jaylan Turkkan have recently joined the Office of Extramural Research’s Grants Associates Program.

DePaola received his Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, he joined the faculty at the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, in the department of physiology. Most recently he was a member in the department of molecular endocrinology at the Whittier Institute for Diabetes and Endocrinology in La Jolla, Calif. Throughout his career, the major focus of DePaola’s research has been in reproductive endocrinology with specific interest in the regulation of follicle-stimulating hormone and the effects of aging on this regulation. All of his training and research has been supported by NIH, including a New Investigator Research Award from NICHD and a Research Career Development Award from NIA.

Springfield received her Ph.D. in physiology and biophysics from Howard University in Washington, D.C. Following this, she was supported on an NIH National Research Service Award for her postdoctoral studies in the department of pharmacology at Robert Wood Johnson School of Medicine. Springfield’s research interest has focused on understanding neuromodulatory mechanisms in the brain. Specifically, she performed both electrophysiological and pharmacological studies utilizing hippocampal slice preparations. In 1985, she joined the faculty at City College of CUNY in the department of biology, where she was the recipient of a Minority Research Initiation Award from the National Science Foundation. Along with her research and teaching responsibilities, Springfield served on a number of committees aimed at increasing underrepresented minority representation in basic science research. Before assuming the grants associate position here, she was a neuroscience program director in the division of integrative biology and neuroscience at the National Science Foundation.

Turkkan’s background and research experience is in behavioral physiology and medicine. She received her Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the City University of New York in 1977 and went on to complete her postdoctoral training in the neurosciences at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. During this time, Turkkan developed a research emphasis in biobehavioral factors in hypertension with use of animal models. She also has collaborated on a number of research projects on behavioral factors in relapse to substance abuse. Turkkan had been on the faculty at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine since 1981, and was an associate professor of behavioral biology prior to her arrival at NIH.

Two Join Children’s Inn Board

The Children’s Inn at NIH has added two new members to its board of directors. They are Florence Weatherly Prioleau, a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Patton, Boggs & Blow, and Dorothy Wade, who for more than a decade has been vice president of the National Pharmaceutical Council (NPC).

Prioleau has concentrated on legislative advocacy and corporate and commercial law. Prior to joining the law firm in 1981, she worked in the Carter White House on the domestic policy staff; in the U.S. House of Representatives as staff counsel for the committee on ways and means; and as a legislative assistant for Rep. Charles Rangel. Wade has spearheaded professional relations activities at NPC. Prior to that, she worked for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores on Capitol Hill. She is active in many other political, charitable and civic organizations.

Postmenopausal Volunteers Needed

The Cardiology Branch, NHLBI, needs postmenopausal volunteers for a study of vitamins and hormone replacement. Participants must not be currently taking estrogen. Certain other medications are okay. Volunteers will be paid. If interested, call Diane Badar, 68033, or page 104-3741-7 (digital).
Swango Retires from Dental Institute

Dr. Philip A. Swango retired from the Public Health Service on Sept. 30 after 20 years of federal service, 18 of them with NIDR. His research focused on the epidemiology and prevention of oral diseases and disorders, including dental caries, oral cancer, and the oral manifestations of HIV infection.

On joining NIDR in 1975, Swango worked in the National Caries Program as a project scientist. He assumed the position of dental epidemiologist when the program was expanded in 1983 to become the Epidemiology and Oral Disease Prevention Program (EODPP). In 1990, he became acting chief of the soft tissue, craniofacial defects and pain section in EODPP. The following year he was made chief of the field studies section in the Health Assessment Branch, the position he held upon his retirement.

While in the epidemiology program, Swango and his colleagues developed and expanded epidemiologic investigations of oral mucosal conditions, including oral manifestations of systemic diseases. Most recently, he was coinvestigator for a Walter Reed Army Medical Center-NIDR study of the natural history of oral manifestations of HIV infection. He also was instrumental in developing diagnostic criteria and data collection procedures for epidemiologic studies of oral mucosal disorders, including HIV-related conditions and periodontal diseases.

Since 1985, Swango has served as director of the NIDR residency program in dental public health. Additionally, he has trained numerous groups of dental examiners for epidemiologic surveys conducted by NIDR, the National Center for Health Statistics, the U.S. Army, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, among others.

Swango completed his pre-dentistry education at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. He earned a D.D.S. from the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry in Memphis and an M.P.H. from the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina.

A native of Abilene, Tex., Swango has served in clinical and administrative capacities in a variety of settings. Following dental school, he was a public health dentist for the Virginia state department of health and was then in private practice in Tennessee. In 1965, he joined the U.S. Army Dental Corps and served in the United States and Saigon during the Vietnam War. He returned to private practice in Tennessee and then to Virginia to serve as dental director of the Fairfax County health department. In 1975, he joined NIDR and began active duty in the PHS Commissioned Corps.

Among the honors he has received are an Army Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam; a PHS Citation, which he received for his extensive training activities in data collection for epidemiologic surveys; and a PHS Commendation Medal in recognition of his research on oral manifestations of HIV infection and AIDS. Most recently, he was awarded the PHS Outstanding Service Medal for sustained scientific and professional excellence throughout his career in dental public health research and training.

Swango and his family now reside in Albuquerque, N.M., where he plans to open an oral epidemiology consulting practice. An avid amateur naturalist, photographer and ethnomusicologist, he selected New Mexico for its cultural variety and spectacular natural environment. —Mary Daum

Fire Safety Raffle Winners Announced by Division of Safety

A special feature of the recent NIH Fire Prevention Week was the raffle held by the Emergency Management Branch (EMB), Division of Safety. Raffle prizes were items related to fire safety such as smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. Visitors to the fire prevention display not only learned more about fire safety and fire prevention, but also had an opportunity to enter the raffle. This year, Sparky the Fire Dog picked the lucky winners: Mukesh Khari, CC; Ron Jordan, ORS; Ramona Fiorani, CC; Nina Jones, CC; James Punghorst, ORS; Connie Williams, ORS; Elnora Jackson, NINDS; and Janie Kuhn, NCI.

If you were unable to visit the display during Fire Prevention Week and/or have fire safety or fire prevention questions, call EMB, 61985.

Sparky the Fire Dog draws the raffle winners assisted by (from l) Daniel Walter and Sam Barnett.
Howard Davis

Davis Retires After 31 Years in Engineering Services

After working for more than 31 years in the Division of Engineering Services, Howard Davis retired recently. He served as a project officer on team #4 for the Design and Construction Branch. Some of his most recent projects included adding to present facilities at Poolesville plus renovating laboratories in Bldg. 30.

"Basically," Davis says, "team 4 takes care of all AAALAC [American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care] work."

He joined DES in 1962, working for the north maintenance unit. "I worked in that unit as a shift worker for 10 years, and then continued for 10 more years as a building engineer for Bldgs. 5, 7 and 15K." Davis notes, "Maintenance around here is a 24-hour operation."

Continuing with DES, he joined the Construction Engineering Branch in 1982, performing construction inspection. In 1986, he became a project officer for the newly named Design and Construction Branch. Davis recalls one of his most challenging projects—an addition to Bldg. 21, NIH's facility for chemical and radioactive waste. "I was in charge of that project and, though it started in 1982 with the design, it was not completed until 1987. It took 3 years for construction. It was particularly hard to pull everything together," he stated. "While we were only adding to the original facility, everything had to be brought up to present NRC [Nuclear Regulatory Commission] and Maryland state regulations."

Although Davis enjoyed his work at NIH, he now looks forward to retirement. In his woodworking shop at home, he plans to do the kind of work he enjoys most—"working with my hands."

He recently finished building a Victorian-style dollhouse for his wife. "It took 4 years to build. It has nine rooms, electric lights, and windows and doors that can be opened and closed," he says proudly. "I also made some of the furniture in it."

"I would like to do some fishing since I haven't had time to do much of that lately. During the time my two sons were growing up, I did a lot of work in scouting. I'm very proud to say they both became Eagle scouts."

Born and raised on a farm in Grindstone, Pa., Davis is one of 10 children. His father, now 91, continues to live in Pennsylvania. Davis came to Maryland after 4 years in the Navy and 2 years in Michigan, where he worked as an automobile mechanic. He and his wife, Wilma, have a home in Beltsville, Md., which Davis completely renovated. Wilma, also an employee at NIH, works for NIMH in Bldg. 10. "But she has about 8 more years to go before retirement," says Davis. "So I'll have to be real nice to her."

Last Christmas his family gave him a cup that says: "Retirement: When you stop living at work and start working at living." Now Davis can start doing just that.—Anne Barber

DRG's Anita Suran Mourned

Dr. Anita Suran, scientific review administrator of the visual sciences A study section, Division of Research Grants, died Sept. 6 after a brief illness. She came in 1978 to NIH, where she served as program director of NEI's glaucoma program prior to coming to DRG.

She is survived by her sister and mother, who both live in California. Expressions of sympathy should take the form of contributions to the Foundation for Glaucoma Research through Dr. Carole Jelsema or Margot Faxton, Westwood Bldg., Rm. 319B, 47311.

Male Subjects Needed

Earn up to $260 for participating in a USUHS study of commonly prescribed drugs. Requires 10 to 15 minutes in the morning between 8:30 and 10 over a 3-week period. Must be male, between 21 and 40 years old, in good health, and not active-duty military. Call (301) 295-3672 for more information.

The NIH Life Sciences Education Connection

The National Institute on Drug Abuse, in collaboration with eighth graders at Eastern Intermediate School in Silver Spring, recently produced a video on drugs and the brain titled If You Change Your Mind. The video earned a 1992 CINE award (given to documentaries) in the amateur category.

The video was written and filmed entirely by eighth graders using the experiences of four recovering addicts as a framework for educating children about the biological consequences of drug abuse and for demonstrating that biomedical research can be both exciting and fun. The documentary seeks to generate discussion among students and teachers about biomedical research, how the brain works, the social issues related to drug abuse, and the biological consequences of drug use.

Accompanying the video is a colorful student magazine and a teacher's guide that were produced as part of NIDA's Science Education Program. The video and curriculum materials are available through the National Clearinghouse of Alcohol and Drug Information, 1-800-729-6686.

Clearinghouse Effort Needs Help

NIEHS needs help establishing an environmental health clearinghouse available as an information resource by a 1-800 telephone line and/or by mail to the general public, patients, physicians, and industrial hygienists. It is currently developing a directory of information systems presently available to the general public.

If you know of a resource accessible by telephone (e.g., clearinghouse operations, hotline and health information service desk operations, and on-line systems accessed via modems), NIEHS would like to know about it. Contact Barbara Jaffe, (301) 983-5418, fax (301) 983-5426.

Computer Training Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISPF Dialog Workshop</td>
<td>11/17-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QMF: DB2's Query Mgmt Facility</td>
<td>11/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BITNET</td>
<td>11/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sybase Client/Server Access to DB2</td>
<td>11/18, 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Base Training</td>
<td>11/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOS Batch Files</td>
<td>11/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing D/E Application w/ SAS/FSP</td>
<td>11/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAP</td>
<td>11/22-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image Processing on the Macintosh</td>
<td>11/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Data and the Privacy Act</td>
<td>11/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced DOS topics</td>
<td>11/29, 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RACF</td>
<td>11/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Analysis Setup</td>
<td>11/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structured Software Sys Analysis &amp; Design</td>
<td>11/30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classes are offered by the DCRT Training Program without charge. Call 62339 for more information.
DRG’s Nathan Watzman Ends 25 Years in Government

Dr. Nathan Watzman, chief of the clinical sciences review section, Referral and Review Branch, DRG, recently retired from the federal government with a distinguished career spanning 25 years, the last 12 years at NIH.

He received his B.S. in psychology and his Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Pittsburgh, and later taught pharmacology as an associate professor there.

Watzman came to NIH in 1968 as a participant in the Grants Associates Program, where he learned the aspects of federal science administration. Then, for the next 13 years he worked at the Health Resources Services Administration (then known as the Health Services Administration). Starting as a program officer, he became, through consecutive promotions, the chief of the Special Programs Staff, Bureau of Health Manpower.

In 1981, he returned to NIH as executive secretary of the respiratory and applied physiology study section, and in 1984 was appointed chief of the clinical sciences review section.

He has received many accolades during his career from NIH, PHS, and the biomedical research community. Among his awards and honors, several stand out: an honorary doctor of science, New York College of Podiatric Medicine, the Distinguished Alumnus Award, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, the NIH Merit Award, the NIH Director’s Award, and the PHS Special Service Award.

He is a member of Rho Chi honorary pharmaceutical fraternity, Alpha Zeta Omega pharmaceutical fraternity, and the American Pharmaceutical Association. Over the course of his career, Watzman wrote more than 35 scientific and nonscientific articles and abstracts.

The greatest change he has seen during his government service is with work requirements. For all employees, the work has become more complex with the onset of computers, the rapid advance of science, and the added paperwork required from increased accountability, he said.

When asked about his retirement plans, Watzman replied, “The first thing I’m going to do is take off my watch.” At a reception held in his honor, he explained. “I feel it’s the right time to go, and I’ve seen too many people put [retirement] off, saying ‘next year, next year’, until it’s too late. I think it’s time to get off the merry-go-round, because it gets faster every year, and I want to stop before I get too dizzy.”

He plans to do some part-time consulting in retirement, and to travel and do volunteer charity work.

NIA Bids Farewell to Phyllis Eveleth

“I feel extremely fortunate to have been a part of the National Institute on Aging during a time of rapid program growth and expanded support for research training,” reflects Dr. Phyllis B. Eveleth, who retired as deputy associate director and training officer, Office of Extramural Affairs, recently.

She retired from government service after 6 years with NIA, and a total of 15 years with NIH, beginning as a grants associate and continuing in positions at NHLBI, FIC, DRG, respectively, and, finally, NIA.

Eveleth’s work in the Office of Extramural Affairs included developing and implementing management and review policies, and designing and coordinating training activities. “The NIA is supporting 750 to 800 trainees or fellows each year, which is particularly positive for aging considering its demography and the fact that it is a relatively new field,” she says. “A training for minorities supplement program and dissertation research have been in place since 1989 and 1991,” she continues. “These are initiatives unique to NIA.”

Nationally and internationally recognized for her work in the area of child growth, Eveleth has written numerous books and articles. Perhaps her best-known work is Worldwide Variation in Human Growth, editions 1 and 2, coauthored with J.M. Tanner. Eveleth has both an interesting and varied background. She earned a B.S. in biology from Tufts University, a Ph.D. in physical anthropology from Columbia University, and was a Fulbright scholar in French literature at the Universite de Grenoble, France. She has command of five foreign languages and has spent 50 percent of her career abroad, primarily in London, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

Eveleth will continue her career as a consultant in child growth and nutrition, specializing in third-world countries. A consultant for the World Health Organization, she will not only act as a consultant in child health, but also will head a special project assessing physical status in aging. And somewhere amid all these career goals, she will continue to enjoy her horse farm in southern Maryland, horseback riding, sailing, downhill skiing, swimming, and, last but not least, painting.
Schwan Wins Federal Technology Transfer Award

NIAID’s Dr. Tom G. Schwan recently became the second scientist from NIH to receive the Federal Laboratory Consortium Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. The award recognizes employees who have accomplished outstanding work shifting technology developed in the laboratory into useful, marketable products for improved public health. Last year Dr. Brian Murphy—also of NIAID—became NIH’s first scientist to receive the award.

Schwan is head of the arthropod-borne diseases section of the Laboratory of Vectors and Pathogens at NIAID’s Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, Mont.

“We are proud of the recognition this award bestows on Dr. Schwan and NIAID,” says Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, NIAID director. “Dr. Schwan is a leader in Lyme disease research. He and his colleagues currently have one patent and four pending patent applications for Lyme disease technology. These activities not only have made these inventions available to the public through licensing and publications, but also have generated royalty income through licensing activity to support NIAID in carrying out the institute’s technology transfer mission.”

Dr. John I. Gallin, director of NIAID’s Division of Intramural Research, adds, “The number of inventions submitted by Dr. Schwan resulting in licensing activity has an important impact on the transfer of technology from government to industry. This partnership is vital to the research arena.”

In his research, Schwan develops new and innovative concepts for vaccine and diagnostic developments in the field of Lyme borreliosis, relapsing fever and plague. He and coinventor Dr. Warren J. Simpson identified the p39 antigen, a protein of the Lyme bacterium. Their invention has been licensed to Abbott, SmithKline Beecham, and General Biometrics developed the recombinant p39 antigen diagnostic kit.

The Food and Drug Administration approved three p39-based test kits based on Schwan’s technology and manufactured by General Biometrics. All of the kits, including a simple dipstick test kit that can be used in the doctor’s office to provide rapid results, are available to physicians, clinics and hospitals in the United States and Europe. These tests are cost-effective and are a marked improvement over other commercial tests that can produce false-positive reactions.

For his contributions to medical entomology and the study of arthropod-borne diseases, Schwan also was recently honored as the R.R. Parker Memorial Speaker at the 48th annual meeting of the International Northwestern Conference of Diseases in Nature Communicable to Man, held in Fort Collins, Colo.

Schwan earned his doctorate in medical entomology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1983. He completed his postdoctoral training at Yale University.

Dr. Joycelyn Elders (l), U.S. surgeon general, and Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIH acting director, spoke at the recent 2-day 1993 Extramural Associates Program update conference held at the Bethesda Hyatt.

‘Use or Lose’ Reminder

Don’t forget to schedule your “use or lose” annual leave in writing no later than Saturday, Nov. 27. Questions concerning “use or lose” leave should be directed to one’s ICD personnel office.