NIH held its annual commemorative program in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan. 14, a day before King would have celebrated his 65th birthday.

The theme “Begin the Healing and Building. Stop the Destruction” was chosen in keeping with NIH’s mission to heal and build toward optimal health for all people.

Sponsored by NIH’s Office of Equal Opportunity, the event was organized in part by O.H. Laster, chairperson of the planning committee. He said the program was designed to offer a variety of messages to give NIH’ers a meaningful appreciation of the life and legacy of the slain civil rights leader.

And that is exactly what took place. After the posting of colors by Crossland High School’s Marine Corps Junior ROTC, Joy Pinkney of DRG sang the National Anthem. Next up was an offering of the National Anthem by the Coppin State College Choir from Baltimore, which entertained the audience with several medleys of original and familiar songs including spiritual hymns. One of the original songs was written by Laster on the theme of this year’s program. The lyrics were set to music by Bill Cummings, director of the choir.

Later in the program, members of the Estampa Espanola Dance Group performed. Isabel Otero performed a native dance from her country, Bolivia, and Maria Tomo played a Spanish tune on her guitar.

Opening remarks were presented by OEO Director Diane Armstrong, who described NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein as “a champion of all the things we have talked about today. I have seen many positive changes since she became deputy director this past July.

“This is the 10th anniversary since Martin Luther King Program Urges

By Anne Barber

NIH Leases Rockledge Properties Near Mall

The Space and Planning Branch of the Division of Space and Facility Management in NIH’s Office of Research Services, in conjunction with the General Services Administration, recently leased property on the southern tip of Rockville, just off Democracy Blvd. near Montgomery Mall.

GSA leased for NIH, in an area known as Rockledge, a 10-story office building and two floors of an adjacent building. The newly leased space, currently occupied by IBM, consists of 253,000 square feet and was acquired at $31 per square foot, or approximately $8 million, per year.

The 10-story building, 6701 Rockledge Dr. (called “Two Rockledge”), will be the new home for some NIH’ers currently housed in the Westwood and Federal Bldgs., including components of NHLBI and the Division of Research Grants.

The National Center for Research Resources, also currently located in Westwood, will occupy the two floors of 6705 Rockledge Dr. (“One Rockledge”).

The move to Rockledge will be conducted in three phases with the first phase—for NCRR—scheduled to begin late this year in December. When completed, the transition to Rockledge will be Dr. Warren Leonard, chief of NHLBI’s section on pulmonary and molecular immunology. He will discuss “The Theme of Shared Cytokine Receptor Subunits: Implications for X-Linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency.”

The lecture will be held at noon on Valentine’s Day in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

Varmus Launches New Lecture Series at NIH

NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus has a unique valentine for NIH scientists. On Feb. 14, he will introduce the Director’s Seminar Series, which he hopes will draw NIH scientists together and highlight intramural research.

“Our intention in designing this series of lectures is to draw attention to remarkable work being done by relatively young investigators on the NIH campus, and to pull a diverse, multidisciplinary, trans-institute audience together to learn about it,” he says. Speakers for the lectures are being selected by Varmus and Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research, in consultation with NIH’s scientific directors.

The first speaker in the monthly lecture series will be Dr. Warren Leonard, chief of NHLBI’s section on pulmonary and molecular immunology. He will discuss “The Theme of Shared Cytokine Receptor Subunits: Implications for X-Linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency.”

The lecture will be held at noon on Valentine’s Day in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

In contrast to the many densely technical seminars given on campus, lectures in the new series will convey a broader perspective. “I believe there is a need for more campus lectures...”

(The See MIND/BODY, Page 4)
that survey exciting fields in a manner that is accessible to a broad range of scientists," says Varmus. "I also hope that this series will help to develop the sense that the intramural program has a unity that transcends ICD loyalties. The series will help me to become better acquainted with some of the best science on campus, and I hope it will foster collaborative work among groups that might otherwise have been unacquainted with each other."

Varmus also hopes that the lectures by intramural scientists will complement the mostly extramural lecture series being organized by trans-institute interest groups in cell biology, structural biology, genetics and neurosciences.

"I hope we have a packed house for the first lecture," he says. If not, he is prepared to take desperate measures. "In the future I will consider the ultimate ploy that we used at the University of California in San Francisco—cookies." —Celia Hooper

Seminar Focuses on Women, HIV

"Women and HIV" will be the focus of the second seminar in the 1993-94 Women’s Health Seminar Series. The lectures will begin at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 23 in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

Dr. Jonathan Mann will open the program with a discussion on the "Natural History and Epidemiology of HIV in Women: A Global Perspective." He is director of the Francois-Xavier Bagroux Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health. "HIV Disease in Women: Clinical Aspects" will be covered by Dr. Alexandra Levine, professor of medicine at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.

The seminar will close with a lecture by Dr. Robert Fulfillove on "Challenge of HIV Prevention in Minority Communities." He is associate dean for minority affairs at Columbia University School of Public Health. A question-and-answer session will follow.

The Women’s Health Seminar Series is sponsored by the Office of Research on Women’s Health in collaboration with the advisory committee on women’s health issues. Each seminar will include current research findings by three nationally recognized experts. Other topics for the 1993-94 seminar series, which will run through May, include "Domestic Violence and Abuse in Women" and "Breast Cancer."

Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 2-1770.

Da Lomba Named Inn Manager

The Children’s Inn at NIH has named Dolores Da Lomba as its new resident manager. A former resident manager of cooperative apartment buildings for nearly a decade, she says, "I love being involved in work that makes a difference."

In her new post, Da Lomba will greet new arrivals in the afternoon and evening hours and make sure that, once checked in, all their needs are met. "It will be up to Dolores Da Lomba to promote an atmosphere of warmth and understanding and to make residents feel comfortable and at home," said Robert Gray, inn executive director. "We have every confidence that our residents will be in the best of hands."
Beitins Is New GCRC Director

Dr. Inese Z. Beitins has been appointed new director of NCRR’s General Clinical Research Centers (GCRC) Program.

NCRR supports 74 GCRCs nationwide, where thousands of NIH-supported scientists conduct clinical investigations. At these centers, researchers translate knowledge gained in the laboratory into advances in patient care.

Beitins received her M.D. from the University of Toronto Medical School in 1962, and completed two research fellowships in pediatrics and pediatric endocrinology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Beitins is extremely familiar with the GCRC program, having conducted research at five of the centers during her more than 20 years as a clinical investigator.

Most of her research has focused on puberty, and the biological function and heterogeneity of gonadotropins—hormones having a stimulating effect on the gonads. Her work has contributed to the view that most proteins and hormones are secreted in different forms and have different effects.

As GCRC director, Beitins hopes to attract greater attention to the need for clinical research, as well as improve training of young investigators.

“The aim of most scientific discovery is to improve human health. This end highlights the importance of GCRCs and highly trained clinical investigators who can translate scientific knowledge to applications on people,” she stated.

Male Twins, Elderly Sought

NIMH needs male fraternal (nonidentical) twin pairs for a study of brain function. Twins must be between the ages of 18 and 50. Also needed are older normal control subjects between the ages of 60 and 80. Participants in either study must not be taking medications or have a history of major medical or psychiatric illness. Procedure involves mapping brain structure with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and mapping brain function with positron emission tomography (PET) while subjects perform various problem-solving tests.

The PET scan involves exposure to an amount of radiation that is within both NIH and FDA guidelines. Volunteers will be compensated.

For information contact Jill Ostrem or Brenda Kirkby, 2-3682.
The MIND/BODY SYMPOSIUM REUNITES BEHAVIORAL, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT NIH

(Continued from Page 1)

ences. Similarly, immune system cells secrete powerful substances called cytokines that can affect the nervous and endocrine systems, which in turn affect mental states.

"We do not yet know," she said, "whether a major distress can predispose people to diseases such as cancer or whether behavioral interventions such as psychotherapy, support groups, or relaxation training can affect tumor growth. What we do know is that there is a growing body of scientific evidence—published in prestigious journals such as Lancet, the New England Journal of Medicine—that the parts of the body...are not in harmony," the doctor wrote in 1680, "then the mind is melancholy, but on the other hand, a quiet and healthy mind makes the whole body healthy."

But without documentation, philosophical musings—however early and manifold—were met with necessary skepticism from the scientific community. Solomon said. Nevertheless, by the 1940's, scientists had conceptualized a role for agents called "stressors," whose interaction with key immune system parts—the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenocortical axis, for one—could be demonstrated in the laboratory. By the 1960's, such observations were being reported by several other laboratories as well.

As a clinical example, Solomon cited work for PNI was presented by Dr. Margaret Kemeny, associate professor at UCLA's Center for the Health Sciences, and by Dr. Fawzy Baldwin also recognized the supportive role related topics including delivery of care to the elderly and its effect on the caregiver's health, and the positive impact of a social support network on a patient with serious illness.

"The family is of special interest because most health care is delivered in the family and the positive health behaviors that we all depend upon are generally learned in the family," Baldwin said. "As we move to put greater attention on prevention, this is a process we must understand better."

Dr. George Solomon, a professor of psychiatry/behavioral sciences at UCLA who has been studying PNI for nearly 30 years, gave an overview of the history of the field.

"Throughout the ages and across cultures, the wisest physicians have linked psychic to cognitive well-being," she continued, "Throughout the ages and across cultures, the wisest physicians have linked psychic to cognitive well-being."

Fawzy, professor and deputy chair of UCLA's neuropsychiatric department.

Kemeny reported on a study examining 178 HIV-positive homosexual males and the progression of the virus—indicated by loss of helper T cells—when faced with several stressful psychological factors, including the threat of mortality and bereavement (defined for this study as the loss of an intimate partner to AIDS).

One of the questions she and her colleagues tried to answer was: Aside from the differences in virulence of various HIV strains, what other factors could cause some HIV-positive individuals to lose their helper T cells at a faster rate?

Kemeny found that, over time, individuals experiencing bereavement showed an immunologic change indicating a worsening course of AIDS.

"HIV-positive individuals with a more active immune system are more likely to develop AIDS," Kemeny explained. "In the context of HIV, immune activation contributes to the loss of helper T cells, which then contributes to the onset of AIDS."

Kemeny also differentiated grief from deep depression in her study. Grief was characterized as sadness or missing the loved one; deep depression was seen as a more prolonged period of bereavement involving mood swings, feelings of hopelessness and decreased motivation.

The study showed that HIV-positive individuals whose reactions were described as "purely grieving" showed no negative immunologic changes. Those individuals who developed deep, chronic depression showed immunologic signs of AIDS progression.

Similar differences were found in a study examining the effects of the threat of mortality on homosexual men who are HIV-positive. Men with pessimistic or fatalistic expectations about developing AIDS suffered from worse health and died more quickly than men with more optimistic perspectives. The men with optimistic attitudes were found to live about 9 months longer than those who were pessimistic or fatalistic.

"We have shown that particular psychological perspectives are related to disease progression in terms of survival time," Kemeny summarized. "This suggests that the immune system may function as a mediator between psychological states of mind and health."

"From an experimental and humanistic perspective," she continued, "well-controlled intervention studies designed to test different types of intervention and their impact on the
In Fawzy’s 5-year control study of malignant melanoma patients, he found significant differences in survival and recurrence rates between patients enrolled in a 6-week intervention/education program and patients receiving no psychotherapeutic intervention. All patients received standard melanoma treatment. The intervention program consisted of educational lectures, problem-solving and relaxation techniques and psychological counseling during a once-weekly session for 6 consecutive weeks. Fawzy found that the control group (those not receiving intervention therapy) suffered more recurrences of their cancers sooner than the experimental group (those participating in the education sessions). After 56 months, nine control patients had died and only one patient in the experimental group had even had a recurrence. In all, 13 in the control group had recurrences and 10 died; 7 in the experimental group had recurrences, 3 of them died.

The vital impact of patient education.

In a later presentation, Dr. Stephen Straus, virologist and chief of NIAID’s Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, discussed his research on chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) and reiterated the importance of patient education.

"This is a disorder that I cannot fully describe nor can I fully explain," he said. "I do not know precisely how to treat it or what causes it. But it is an excellent model of illnesses that convey problems in the mind/body interaction.

Describing the mind/body issue as a puzzle missing several pieces, Straus said the pieces scientists have been able to fit together include allergy, immunology, neuropsychology and infection. Using a slide to illustrate this connection, he explained that what is missing is the puzzle piece that completes the picture of how all these elements drive each other.

"Group support is a big part of CFS management nationwide," he added, discussing the use of networks and information clearing-houses as vital communication routes for patients. NIAID’s public inquiries office, for example, is the focal point on campus for CFS information, where the wide variety of syndrome claims can be challenged, confirmed and/or collected for mass distribution.

"Support mechanisms channel the information to patients," Straus said. "They serve very important purposes in terms of patient education.

A major theme emerging from the public symposium was the need for more collaborative research and similar seminars on the mind/body connection using these newly reopened lines of communication between the behavioral and biomedical disciplines. A report on the complete symposium will be available in 6 months from the task force office, Bldg. 31, Rm. B1C33."

### Management Intern Program Recruits for 1994

The NIH Training Center and the administrative training committee are accepting applications to the 1994 Management Intern (MI) Program from now until Mar. 1. The program is designed to prepare individuals demonstrating high potential for careers in administrative management at NIH.

To be eligible to apply, you must be a U.S. citizen; be willing to work full-time; be eligible for an outstanding scholar appointment or be a current federal employee eligible for a GS-5 level or above or the wage-grade equivalent and currently employed in either a career or career-conditional appointment (DHHS employees must currently be a GS-5 or above—you cannot be promoted into the program) or be eligible for reinstatement at the GS-5, GS-7, or GS-9 level.

If currently a nonstatus employee, you must be eligible for an outstanding scholar appointment or some other type of non-competitive appointment such as 30 percent disabled veteran, schedule A appointment, VRA appointment, etc.

To qualify for consideration under the outstanding scholar provisions, you must be a college graduate and have a grade-point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale, for all undergraduate course work, or have graduated in the upper 10 percent of your college or university or major university subdivision (e.g., college of business administration or school of engineering). Your GPA can be rounded in the following manner: a 3.44 is rounded down to a 3.4; a 3.45 is rounded up to 3.5. At time of application, a transcript indicating GPA must be provided.

Positions are offered at the GS-5, 7 and 9 levels. Some applicants, especially those above the GS-9 level, may be required to accept a voluntary downgrade but retain their salary.

Additional information on minimum qualifications for DHHS and non-DHHS employees is available in the application package at the NIH Training Center, Executive Plaza South, Suite 100 and selected NIH personnel offices and off-site work locations such as the Parklawn Training Center, Frederick (FCRDC) and the NIEHS personnel office in North Carolina.

Management Intern Program information sessions have been scheduled for the following dates and times:

- Feb. 1, 4-5 p.m. • Bldg. 10/Masur Auditorium
- Feb. 2, noon-1 p.m. • Parklawn/3B Conf. Rm. C
- Feb. 3, 12:30-1:30 p.m. • Westwood Rm. 428

All potential applicants are encouraged to attend these sessions. For more information, contact Cynthia Miller, 6-6371.

### EPS Store Changes Schedule

Effective Feb. 14, the Executive Plaza South self-service store will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Bldgs. 10 and 35 stores will continue to be open Monday through Friday. The Bldg. 31 store is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday and the Westwood store is open on Tuesday and Thursday. Operating hours remain the same—9 a.m. until 3:45 p.m.

### NCI's Whang-Peng Ends 33-Year Government Career

Dr. Jacqueline Jia-Kang Whang-Peng, chief of the cytogenetic oncology section in the National Cancer Institute’s Medicine Branch, retired Dec. 31 after 33 years of government service.

Whang-Peng was 28 when she joined the Medicine Branch in 1960. "Now, it is time for me to leave and to do other things. I have loved working at NIH and did not want to leave. When other job opportunities outside of the NIH were offered, I refused them. This has been my one and only job and I will miss being here," she said.

Upon retirement, she returned to Taiwan to help in clinical trials in liver and cervical cancers.

She has received many honors, including the Woman of the Year Award, given by the Republic of China in 1968; the Arthur Flemming Award in 1972; scientific awards from the Chinese American Medical and Health Association (1985) and the Organization of Chinese Americans (1989); and a PHS Commendation Award in 1989. Whang-Peng has served on the editorial board of the journal *Genes, Chromosomes and Cancer* since 1989.

She received her medical degree in 1956 from Taiwan University, Taipei. From 1955 to 1957, she was an intern and fixed intern in surgery, National Taiwan University Hospital Taipei, Taiwan. She was at New England Hospital in Boston as an intern resident and chief resident in surgery. She then served a residency at Quincy City Hospital in pathology and at George Washington University Hospital in internal medicine before joining NIH in 1960.

Her research interests center on determining cytogenetic differences between cancerous and normal cells, as well as medical genetics, genetic oncology, and gene mapping. She has published more than 200 scientific articles.

Whang-Peng was born in Soo-Chow, King-Su, China, and became a U.S. citizen in June 1970. She is married and has four children.
The Record

KING PROGRAM
(Continued from Page 1)

Luther King, Jr.’s birthday became a holiday,” Armstrong continued. “It summons us to unite against one of the most insidious diseases—violence. We should reach out to our coworkers, neighbors, and community. Caring will certainly make a difference.”

Kirschstein, in introducing keynote speaker Dr. Samuel Proctor, stated he was no stranger to NIH as he had served for years on NIH’s recombinant DNA advisory committee. “I would also like to respond to Mr. Cummings’ prior remark, ‘Not many people know about Coppin State.’ I want to tell Mr. Cummings that we at NIH do know the school because we have been supporting biomedical students there, and also at North Carolina A&T, Howard and Virginia Union University for a long time.”

Pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City since 1972, Proctor was present at Martin Luther King, Jr.’s march on Washington in 1963, when King gave his most famous oration, “I Have a Dream.”

“Today as we reflect upon that dream over the past 25 years, something has happened to the dream,” said Proctor. “It is rare to find anyone anymore with his optimism. We seem to have ‘money for money’s sake’ as our theme. We can now see what happens when we abandon the dream. Is the dream lost?” he asked. “Can it be reclaimed?”

He went on, “America is terrorized by young people who kill without remorse. We have replaced giving and caring with another symbol—violence. We need to return love for hate, nonviolence for violence, and goodwill instead of selfishness. Are you ready to give up [the dream]? I’m not ready.

“We are not robots, nor spectators,” he emphasized. “We are participants. We should continue to persist in fighting for equality and justice in this society.”

As to the increasing number of young people involved with violence, Proctor asked: “Are we going to let these awful statistics kill the dream? I know what the dream is. I live it every day as every one of us should be living it—in my heart and mind.”

Proctor suggested ways to keep the dream alive in America—provide dignity and a decent quality of life to every human being. “And instead of thinking everybody has what they deserve, we need to help other people who do not have the things we have.” In closing, he reiterated, “I am not going to let the dream die and don’t you [let it die] either.”

The program, held in Masur Auditorium, was also shown on closed-circuit television in Bldgs. 10 and 31 and off campus at the Frederick Cancer Research and Development Center, EPS, the Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, Mt., and at Baltimore’s Gerontology Research Center.

“I am not going to let the dream die and don’t you [let it die] either.” —Dr. Samuel Proctor

Bill Cummings (above) directs the Coppin State College Choir (below), which provided the music for NIH’s annual King observance.

Isabel Otero, a cashier in Bldg. 31’s cafeteria, performs a dance from her native country, Bolivia.

Maria Tomo of the Estampa Espanola Dance Group plays a Spanish tune on her guitar.

Coppin State soloist Charisse Caldwell gave moving renditions of several traditional spirituals.

Photos: Ernie Branson
The NIH Life Sciences Education Connection

Science Alliance, an NIGMS pilot program that establishes partnerships between scientists and elementary school teachers, will be working with the Carnegie Institute of Washington to provide even more science education enhancement programs to local schools. In late December, the Carnegie Institute received funding from the National Science Foundation to provide teacher training in elementary school science; Science Alliance will participate in the development of these teacher-training programs and provide followup experiences to five District of Columbia schools.

Science Alliance will need more scientist volunteers to work with teachers in additional D.C. schools that the Carnegie Institute has identified. This summer, teachers will attend classes at Carnegie to enhance their science teaching skills. The NIH scientists who volunteer to assist in this program will work with the teachers during the new school year as followup to the training the teachers received during the summer. A workshop that will introduce NIH scientists to elementary school instruction will be held June 1. NIH scientists interested in volunteering for this program should contact Dr. Irene Eckstrand or Dr. James Anderson (4-7762).

Course on Health Survey Data

A course on the analysis of health survey data will be offered Mar. 1 through June 7 by the DCRT Training Program. The class will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. The instructors will be Drs. Edward L. Korn from NCI/DCT Biometric Research Branch and Barry J. Graubard, from NCI/DCPC Biometry Branch. The course will concentrate on the use of statistical methods to conduct epidemiologic analyses from large national health surveys such as the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys I and II and the National Health Interview Surveys. It will cover the uses of the computer program SUDAAN (on the PC) to analyze a variety of real survey data sets. Statisticians, epidemiologists, and other members of the research community who need to analyze health survey data are encouraged to consider taking this course. A working knowledge of multiple linear regression and logistic regression is assumed. For more information, contact the DCRT Training Program, 4-DCRT.

NIAID director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci (l) recently received the Cartwright Medal in recognition of his research contributions in combating the AIDS epidemic from Dr. Herbert Pardes, vice president for health sciences and dean of the faculty of medicine at Columbia University in New York City. Fauci joined the ranks of a distinguished list of scientists, researchers, and academicians when he gave the 39th Cartwright Lecture on "Immunopathogenesis of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection" at Columbia’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. The Cartwright Lectureship was established in the late 1870's through a bequest by Benjamin A. Cartwright of Newark, N.J., who envisioned the lectures as significant summaries of existing knowledge or reports of investigations in medicine or surgery. Among the past lecturers from NIH were Drs. DeWitt Stetten, Jr. (1979), Dr. D. Carleton Gajdusek (1982) and Dr. W. French Anderson (1991). Other lecturers have included Sir William Osler as well as Nobel Prize winners Sir Peter Medawar and Drs. Joshua Lederberg, George Palade, Michael Bishop, David Baltimore and Joseph Goldstein.

After 2 years of providing advice to the NIH director on communications and policy issues, Johanna Schneider, senior advisor for media relations, has left NIH. She will join the Business Roundtable as director of communications at its Washington, D.C., headquarters. The Business Roundtable is a trade association comprised of chief executive officers from the top Fortune 500 companies.
U.S., Japan Hold Parley on Laboratory Animals

NCRR's Veterinary Resources Program (VRP) recently hosted the 14th annual meeting of the laboratory animal science group, which gathers under the U.S.-Japan Non Energy Agreement.

The agreement, created in 1980, promotes exchange of scientific and technological information between the two countries, and works to develop uniform international standards for laboratory animal research.

This year, Japanese and American scientists discussed the standardization of biological reagents (antibodies and antigens) for microbiological assays, the revision and publication of the Manual of Microbiologic Monitoring of Laboratory Animals, and progress on the development of cryopreservation procedures for laboratory animal research.

Dr. Tatsuji Nomura and Hideki Katoch of Japan's Central Institute of Experimental Animals (CIEA) updated the group on efforts to exchange frozen mouse embryos between the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Me., and CIEA.

The group agreed that a similar project should be initiated between the NIH Genetic Resource, managed by NCRR, and CIEA to verify the validity of embryo cryopreservation procedures for rats. Additionally, they made plans to bank frozen rat embryos at NIH and CIEA.

“We're testing the efficacy of exchanging the embryos and then reconstituting them in another laboratory, as well as deciding if they should be frozen at the two-cell or eight-cell stage of development,” said Dr. Roger Estep, acting director of VRP.

The group also discussed revising a manual for the genetic monitoring of laboratory animals.

NIH Police Training Program Lauded by Council of Governments

The NIH Police Branch has received an award from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for Best Police Training Program for 1993.

The NIH Police Inservice Training Program, in place for the past 6 years, provides training to 18 federal agencies. Benefiting from the expertise of instructors from such agencies as the FBI, Secret Service, Drug Enforcement Agency, and Montgomery, Prince George's and Fairfax county police, the program is considered one of the best in the area. Presented four times a year, it exceeds the in-service training requirements set forth by both the Maryland State and Virginia State police training commissions.

Since it started, the NIH program has provided training to approximately 832 federal and military law enforcement officers throughout the region for a total of 33,280 training hours.

Continually under evaluation, the program has included classes on topics such as sensitivity training, handling cases involving infectious diseases, and sexual harassment. Also, specialized training in such areas as ethics, stress reduction, narcotic identification and community relations supplement the core curriculum.

Mentoring Program Participants To Meet

Implementation of the NIH Mentoring Program slid off schedule because of recent icy weather; a special session for those who volunteered to be mentors was canceled and will be rescheduled soon.

Other sessions for potential mentors and proteges will be scheduled in March or April.

On Feb. 7, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, a meeting will be held for those already involved in the NIH Mentoring Program. At this orientation session, mentors and proteges will meet. Potential mentors and proteges, supervisors of proteges, officials of NIH special emphasis programs, and ICD EEO officers are invited to attend.

For more information, contact O.H. Laster or Chris Coffer, 6-6301.