Wendy Baldwin Named NIH Extramural Deputy

Dr. Wendy Baldwin is now officially NIH deputy director for extramural research, a post she had held in an acting capacity since last June. She leaves her position as deputy director of NICHD, a position she has held since 1991, to take her new job.

"I am very pleased to appoint Dr. Baldwin to this post," said NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus. "Her proven leadership qualities make her ideally suited to undertake this position of great importance to NIH and the entire biomedical research enterprise. Extramural programs account for more than 80 percent of the total NIH budget and are central to sustaining excellence in U.S. biomedical and behavioral research." Baldwin will primarily be responsible for (See BALDWIN, Page 2)

NIMH's Alan Leshner To Be NIDA Director

Dr. Alan I. Leshner has been named new director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse; he was formerly deputy director of the National Institute of Mental Health.

"I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Leshner to the directorship of NIDA," said NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus. "He brings to this important position a strong background in both neuroscience and behavioral science, as well as effective linkages with mental health and substance abuse organizations. I believe that Dr. Leshner's leadership will continue to advance NIDA's research and build even closer relationships with scientists, practitioners and policymakers devoted to the prevention and eradication of drug abuse, including that component related to AIDS."

Leshner is the first NIDA director to be appointed since 1992, when NIDA joined NIH as one of its research institutes. NIDA, established in 1974, has a 1994 budget of $425 million. The institute funds research through grants to scientists working in institutions around the country and through an intramural program (See LESHNER, Page 4)

Helping Ourselves, Others

New Heights Program Has Something for Everyone

It's like an aspirin to any manager or supervisor," says Nadine Heath about the benefits of the New Heights Recruitment Program—temporary trained help with no cost to the employer.

Heath, a supervisory purchasing agent in the Office of the Director, says, "I am always looking for a better way to do my job." So in this time of tight budgets and FTE cuts, she searched out programs that could respond to her needs—a person that could provide temporary help and not take an FTE slot.

For the past few years, she has mainly used Bridges and LEAP (Life Experiences Activities Program of Greater Washington, Inc.), whose goals are helping students with disabilities cross from school to employment. But in 1991, she heard about the New Heights Recruitment Program operated by the D.C. government. "It doesn't cost NIH a thing," she continues. "The entire tab is picked up by the D.C. government. They provide child care, transportation costs, and even an allowance for lunch."

The project is a joint effort of the D.C. public schools and the department of human services and is designed to provide recipients of New Heights intern, Norma Mosby. Several former interns are now employees at NIH; one has already received a promotion.

Women's History Month Activities Planned

March has been designated National Women's History Month. Throughout history, women have made valuable contributions to the scientific, cultural, economic, and social welfare of our nation. In recognition of the numerous accomplishments of women, the NIH advisory committee for women, through the Office of Equal Opportunity, Federal Women's Program, will sponsor an observance of Women's History Month on Thursday, Mar. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The theme for this year's observance is "In Every Generation, Action Frees Our Dreams."

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Clara Adams-Ende will be the keynote speaker. She rose from a staff nurse in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps to become its chief, with the rank of brigadier general. As the director of personnel for the surgeon general, Adams-Ende managed policy development for more than 100,000 health care professionals.

She is president of The Rock, Inc., whose purpose is to provide professional development and mentorship to young, aspiring military officers. She is a member of the board of directors of the American Red Cross, the Andrews AFB Federal Credit Union, and the advisory committee of the Women's Research and Education Institute.

The program will also feature the Greek Echoes, a musical and dance group. The group, under the direction of Harry Papapostou, has performed locally at places such as embassies, the State Department, and the Smithsonian Institution.

Also as part of Women's History Month activities, the weekly Executive Plaza North sessions on parenting continue with "Setting Effective Limits," on Mar. 15 in Conf. Rm. 6-9013. And "Sharing Responsibility, Training Children to Do Tasks" on Mar. 22 in Conf. Rm. G. Sessions run from noon to 1:30. For more information, contact Lucretia Coffer, Federal Women's Program manager, 6-9013.
guiding the NIH institutes and centers in the development of policies for their extramural research and research training programs. She will also oversee—for the NIH and the entire Public Health Service—programs aimed at protection of human subjects in research and the proper care and use of laboratory animals in scientific studies.

Baldwin has recently worked to implement the legislatively mandated revisions of the NIH policy for the inclusion of women and minorities in research. She is also leading the NIH efforts to revamp and streamline the NIH peer review system—the primary way NIH determines technical merit through the use of outside scientific experts. This is part of her larger effort to address issues within the extramural programs. This activity has been named a "reinvention laboratory" under the administration's reinventing government effort.

Baldwin has made significant scientific contributions, primarily in the areas of adolescent fertility, contraceptive practice, childbearing patterns, AIDS risk behaviors, and infant mortality. She has published widely and has served on many NIH panels and committees, including the recent panel on NIH research on antisocial, aggressive, and violence-related behaviors and their consequences, as well as the NIH advisory committee on women's health issues.

Among her many professional activities, she is a current member-at-large of the section on social, economic, and political sciences of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She has also served as a temporary advisor on the WHO task force for social science research on reproductive health, on a National Academy of Sciences panel on adolescent pregnancy and childbearing, and on a scientific advisory committee for the demographic and health sciences. She is a past member of several editorial boards.

Baldwin has received many professional awards from PHS, NIH, and outside organizations. In 1986 she received the Carl S. Shultz Award "for encouragement and support of research in demography and reproductive health."

Before becoming NICHD deputy director, she was chief of NICHD's Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, Center for Population Research, from 1979 to 1991. Prior to that, she was a health scientist administrator at NICHD, 1973-1979.

Baldwin earned her Ph.D. in demography in 1973 from the University of Kentucky. She received a bachelor of arts degree, graduating magna cum laude, from Stetson University in 1967.

Motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of death for children over the age of 6 months in the U.S. Also, more children under age 5 are killed or crippled as passengers involved in crashes than the total number of children killed or crippled by the seven most common childhood diseases: pertussis, tetanus, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella and polio.

The NIH Police urge the community to increase compliance with Maryland's occupant protection laws. It is NIH's goal to increase safety belt compliance to at least 85 percent by the end of 1994. Always buckle up! ☑

**The NIH Record**

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The Record

March 15, 1994

Hormone May Offer New Treatment for Insomnia

Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Clinical Research Center have shown that tiny oral doses of melatonin can put people to sleep—findings that suggest that melatonin may offer an alternative to hypnotic drugs such as Valium, frequently used to relieve insomnia. Scientists say their results also suggest that melatonin plays a key role in inducing sleep.

"As you age, the amount of melatonin that your body secretes each evening from the pineal gland decreases and the incidence of sleeping difficulties increases. I see melatonin as being potentially useful, particularly in those who don't secrete enough of the hormone," said Dr. Richard Wurtman, program director for the MIT Clinical Research Center and principal investigator in the current study. Results from the research, funded in part by NCRR and NIMH, appeared in the Mar. 1 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"These results will help scientists to pull back the curtains that have obscured understanding of sleep," said Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis, director of NCRR, which funds the MIT Clinical Research Center. "They also boost future hope of a natural, nonaddictive agent that could improve sleep for millions of Americans."

Despite the promising results, consumers should not use melatonin that is sold in some health food stores, because the supplements may contain impurities and offer doses of the hormone that are "much too high," Wurtman cautions. "I am hopeful that a safe, regulated supply of the hormone may be available in the future." Extensive studies of the hormone would be needed before this would be possible.

In the placebo-controlled study, scientists gave 20 volunteers either a placebo or one of several very small doses of melatonin and asked them to close their eyes while holding a switch in a darkened room. They then measured how long it took for the volunteers to release the switch, an indication of their departure into sleep. All of the various doses of melatonin significantly speeded the onset of sleep and increased time spent asleep when compared with placebo. In addition, volunteers also reported increased sleepiness and fatigue after receiving melatonin.

"All of us have wondered what makes you fall asleep and what determines when you fall asleep," said Wurtman. "These findings suggest that one answer may be melatonin."—Frances Taylor

Teen Drug Use Up Again, NIDA Survey Shows

The National Institute on Drug Abuse recently released the "Monitoring the Future" survey of drug use among adolescents, a study referred to by the President in a recent address to Congress. The survey, conducted annually, shows that illicit drug use among adolescents increased significantly between 1992 and 1993, reversing a decade-long decline.

Findings show that drug use is consistently up for 8th, 10th, and 12th graders for most drugs measured. Since 1975, the survey has measured the extent of drug abuse among high school seniors. Among the graduating class of 1993, 42.9 percent of students had used an illicit drug by the time they reached their senior year of high school, up from 40.7 percent in the class of 1992, but still far below the peak of 65.6 percent in 1981.

The use of marijuana increased among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in 1993; but for 12th graders, the rates are still below the high levels of 1978-79. Annual use of marijuana among seniors peaked at 50.8 percent in 1979, decreased steadily to 21.9 percent in 1992, and increased to 26.0 percent in 1993.

LSD use increased significantly among seniors between 1992 and 1993. Lifetime use of LSD increased from 8.6 percent in 1992 to 10.3 percent. Annual use of LSD increased from 5.6 percent in 1992 to 6.8 percent in 1993, nearing the level of use during the peak years of the mid-1970's. Annual use of LSD remained around 2 percent for 8th graders and around 4 percent for 10th graders in 1992 and 1993.

Lifetime and annual use of inhalants among 8th graders increased significantly between 1992 and 1993, making inhalants the most widely abused substances after alcohol and tobacco, among this group. In 1993, almost one in five 8th graders (19.4 percent) had used inhalants, which include glues, aerosols, and solvents, at least once—an increase from 17.4 percent in 1992.

Cocaine use remained level among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Data show that 2.9 percent of 8th graders, 3.6 percent of 10th graders, and 6.1 percent of 12th graders had used cocaine at least once in their lives. In addition, 0.7 percent of 8th graders, 0.9 percent of 10th graders, and 1.3 percent of 12th graders had used cocaine in the month prior to the survey.

Crack cocaine use also remained level among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. In 1993, 1.7 percent of 8th graders, 1.8 percent of 10th graders, and 2.6 percent of 12th graders used crack at least once.

Daily use of alcohol by seniors decreased from 3.4 percent in 1992 to 2.5 percent in 1993, continuing a steady decline. However, among 10th graders, daily use of alcohol increased from 1.2 percent in 1992 to 1.6 percent in 1993. Daily use of alcohol among 8th graders remained around 1 percent in 1992 and 1993.

Binge drinking (having five or more drinks in a row in the last 2 weeks) remained around 28 percent among high school seniors, but binge drinking among 10th graders increased from 21.1 percent in 1992 to 23.0 percent in 1993. Among 8th graders, the rate of binge drinking remained around 13 percent.

In 1993, significantly fewer students felt that there is great risk to people harming themselves when they use most illicit drugs.

Nutrition, Obesity Lecture Series

NIDDK's 3rd Clinical Nutrition and Obesity Lecture Series resumes Mar. 23 with Dr. Judith Stern, who will speak on, "Physical Activity, Metabolism, and Weight Control."

As professor of nutrition and internal medicine at the University of California, Davis, Stern primarily focuses on how nutrient intake and exercise regulate body weight and body composition.

On Apr. 13, Dr. Donald Kotler, associate professor of clinical medicine at Columbia University, will discuss "Nutritional Findings and Interventions in the AIDS Patient."

Kotler's work centers on developing nutritional interventions to improve the quality of life for people living with HIV infection.

"The recognition of the role of nutrition in disease control and prevention is at the forefront of the nation's efforts to curtail the rise of major diseases by the year 2000," said Dr. Van S. Hubbard, director, Nutritional Sciences Branch, NIDDK. "We are fortunate to have nationally and internationally recognized speakers from the fields of nutrition and obesity to highlight research developments that may help improve the health of the nation by the year 2000 and beyond."

Other speakers scheduled to participate in the lecture series include: Dr. Alan Chait, University of Washington, "Antioxidants and Atherosclerosis," May 25; and Dr. Steven Heymsfield, Columbia University, "Clinical Implications of Body Composition and Energy Measurements," June 15.

All lectures will be held in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10, at 7 p.m. Continuing education credits will be offered for both physicians and dietitians. For more information, contact Hubbard, 4-7573.

Sir David Weatherall, Regius professor of medicine at Oxford University, delivered the second Fogarty International Lecture recently in Masur Auditorium. He spoke on "The Roles of Nature and Nurture in the Genesis of Common Diseases."
NEW HEIGHTS RECRUITMENT PROGRAM OFFERS A LITTLE BIT OF A LOT
(Continued from Page 1)

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) with educational development, clerical skills training, and workplace behavior training essential to securing and retaining employment. "Continuous counseling is provided to help these young parents, between the ages of 16 and 21, in order to assist them in making the transition into the 'real work world,'" she says.

The students receive their training at Anacostia High School in office procedures including word processing, spread sheets, conference and event planning, travel arrangements, filing, mail management, telephone etiquette, oral and written communications, business math, record keeping, facsimile machines and other office-related matters. The training program usually lasts 6 months, but a student can accept a job earlier if he or she excels in the classroom.

"In return for using their services," Heath explains, "the program asks me to provide good training, allow them to take the Civil Service clerk-typist exam and serve as a reference. Thus far, I have had three people from the New Heights program, and all have been able to find jobs after leaving here."

There are several ways to hire one of these students. One is as a "shadow," which allows trainees to observe workplace activities for a period of 3 weeks and gain hands-on experience in an environment they would like to pursue as a career. This also allows hosts to determine if they would like to retain the person for a longer term, which is called an internship; interns stay from 3 to 6 months. After the internship, the host supervisor sometimes hires the person. "For example," says Heath, "Diane Armstrong, OEO director, did just that."

Enthusiastic about the program, Heath says, "The program to me is a survival technique. It has helped keep this office going. It is good to know I have a dependable person. Most of the participants travel 1 1/2 hours to get to work and still their attitude is 'I am excited to work.' They consider it a privilege for someone to give them the opportunity to get job experience."

Heath's job as supervisory purchasing agent and contracting officer includes serving 17 OD administrative offices and laboratories, both intramural and extramural. The office also is responsible for procuring high school bands, glee clubs, interpreters, caterers, etc., for NIH special events. Having only three purchasing agents in her office, Heath says that with the help she has received from this program and others, she has been able to do her job.

"People call me 'Nadine, Medicine Woman P.A. (purchasing agent),'" she says. "I am always striving to find a way to do something better. I try not to limit it to myself but how it will help NIH as a whole. I am sure others will help others while helping ourselves at the same time."

April 1991 and now, Norma Mosby, her third intern, has been on board since last November. "Norma is an excellent worker and serves as our receptionist. She types, files, acts as messenger, and even helps out with procurement orders occasionally.

To acquire a New Heights person, you place a call to Anacostia High (202-724-5050, ask for Fatima Horne-Abdullahi) to discuss the skills you are seeking and if they have anyone who matches those skills. They will respond when they locate a good match.

You can use all three programs—Bridges, LEAP, and New Heights—at the same time, Heath explains, as long as you have space to put the workers.

Recently, Heath has given presentations to the NIH EEO officers, purchasing agents and OD personnel staff. Also, on Jan. 27, Heath and Diane Jones of NIDR, who has employed several New Heights interns, met with NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus on the program. "I am pleased to report," she said, "that Dr. Varmus supports the program 100 percent.

A presentation for the ICD directors is being scheduled. NIH has had approximately 15 shadows and interns since 1991 and 11 have found permanent jobs, some with NIH.

Presently, in addition to the New Heights intern, Heath has a special education employee who comes in for 2 to 3 hours, one day a week through Montgomery County's Special Education Program at Wootton High School.

"His coach comes with him and he is an excellent messenger and just thrilled to have a job. This program doesn't cost NIH any money either," she states.

If you would like to learn more about the New Heights program or schedule a presentation for your working group, call Heath, 2-0714. She will also answer questions about any of the other programs she has used.

A firm believer and supporter of these programs, Heath says, "We are helping others while helping ourselves at the same time."
DCRT’s Scientific Computing Center Narrows Focus

DCRT’s Scientific Computing Resource Center (SCRC), following a pilot phase that began in 1992, has announced a concentration of focus in four scientific areas: image processing, molecular biology, molecular modeling, and statistical data analysis.

The SCRC, located in Bldg. 12A, is a shared-use computing facility for the hands-on evaluation and use of scientific software by NIH researchers. The center’s programs run on Macintoshes, PCs and Silicon Graphics (UNIX) workstations, and scientists are encouraged to use its resources with data or problems from their current research. The goal of the SCRC is to make available different types of scientific computing solutions so that researchers can make informed decisions about which resources are most needed in their lab or office.

The center’s new program concentration offers support in the following areas:

- **Image Processing**—The SCRC supports NIH Image, a public-domain Macintosh imaging software package developed by Wayne Rasband of NIMH. NIH Image is used for a variety of tasks including densitometric analysis, image acquisition, area measurement, spatial comparison, and image enhancement.

- **Molecular Biology**—The scope of sequence analysis programs in the SCRC is broad, covering basic to sophisticated analyses. These programs vary from those for a very focused analysis (e.g., PCR or peptide analysis) to those offering a wide range of analytical tools. Software for the analysis of nucleic acids, peptides, PCR primers, sequencing gels, sequence assembly, etc., are available.

- **Molecular Modeling**—The molecular modeling software in the SCRC can be used to assist with the study of a wide range of biological molecules, including proteins, peptides, nucleic acids, polysaccharides, and organic compounds for such applications as molecular structure prediction, protein-structure-function relationships and computer-assisted, structure-based drug design.

- **Statistical Data Analyses**—Many different statistical packages are available for the Macintosh and PC platforms. Supported functions include: regression, analysis of variance and covariance, categorical data analysis, general linear models, nonlinear curve fitting, and 3D modeling.

The SCRC has a staff of computer specialists experienced in the use of many of the programs in each of the four supported application areas. The staff includes Dr. Brian McLaughlin (chief), Wan-ju Chien, David Chow, Jean Daugherty, Fred Marsh, Jim Tomlin, and Fred Yamada. The staff can refer you to appropriate DCRT subject-matter experts for in-depth consultation when necessary. Arrangements can be made to use the SCRC software resources for followup work on short-term projects, when the cost or infrequency of use makes it unrealistic for a research lab to purchase the hardware or software.

Any NIH employee may use the SCRC, but you must have an appointment. The staff always likes to hear from NIH’ers regarding what additional software resources in the SCRC might be beneficial to their research. Call 4-DCRT or e-mail: scrc-help@helix.nih.gov.

**Salk To Speak at NCI-Frederick**

Dr. Jonas Salk will speak at the NCI-Frederick Cancer Research and Development Center on Wednesday, Mar. 23, at 2 p.m. His seminar, entitled, “Optimization of Immune Response Patterns for Cell-Free and Cell-Associated Pathogens,” will be given in the NCI-FCRDC Auditorium, Bldg. 549. The lecture also will be shown via teleconferencing in Conf. Rm. 6, Bldg. 31. Seating may be limited. For more information, contact Margaret Fanning, (301) 846-5865.

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**SCRC Software Packages**

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The Record

March 15, 1994

Donahoe To Speak on Fetal Inhibitors

Dr. Patricia K. Donahoe, chief of pediatric surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital and professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School, will discuss her work on Mullerian inhibiting substance (MIS) and transforming growth factor-beta when she presents the GM Visiting Professor Lectureship, "Novel Downstream Signal Pathways of Fetal Inhibitors (MIS and TGF-beta)" at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 23 in the Clinical Center's Lipsitz Amphitheater.

Both MIS and TGF-beta belong to a superfamily of fetal inducers and regressors, which signal specific patterns of cellular differentiation.

MIS is a fetal inhibitor that causes the Mullerian duct in the male fetus to regress. TGF-beta, a cytokine with three different isoforms, regulates many cellular functions, including cell proliferation, differentiation, adhesion, and migration. Donahoe, along with Craig H. Bassing of Duke University Medical Center and other colleagues, recently characterized four novel receptors that also act as serine/threonine kinases. One of these appears to be a TGF-beta receptor; another, a MIS receptor.

"Receptors for this superfamily of proteins belong to a new clan of receptors distinct from previously described tyrosine kinase receptors," said Dr. Anita B. Roberts, deputy chief, Laboratory of Chemoprevention, NCI.

Roberts also said that elucidation of the signalling pathways of these receptors should provide new insight into mechanisms of integration of the multiplicity of signals impinging on a cell. Donahoe's latest work on novel downstream signal pathways will contribute to this field.

This work is still in progress. "Identification of a MIS receptor in a human tumor cell line is an important accomplishment, and may lead to the development of novel therapies for gonadal and other tumors," said Dr. Susan Sieber, deputy director of NCI's Division of Cancer Etiology.

Donahoe received the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons Distinguished Lecturer and the Burroughs Wellcome Distinguished Lecturer awards in 1985, among many other honors and awards.

BIG Continues Community Work

The NIH chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) recently held an interest meeting for its new Tutorial Program. "Helping Others Help Themselves—An Empowerment Strategy" is the slogan that signals BIG's commitment to tutor NIH employees in scholastic, career and self-development areas. The key to the program is finding individuals who wish to volunteer to serve as tutors, and match their specialties to those who need tutors. Further inquiries can be directed to the program's first-quarter advisor, David Strong, 6-1171.

Recently, BIG sponsored a Coat Drive in several buildings to help needy persons. Six groups benefited from the drive, which collected more than 100 coats and other warm apparel. The groups were SOME (So Others Might Eat), Father McKenna Center, Whitman-Walker Clinic, Walker Jones NHC, Martha's Table, and Bread for the City, all Washington organizations. BIG thanks all employees for their generous donations.

In addition, BIG adopted a southeast Washington family that consists of seven children. Friends of BIG and its chapter members donated money, clothing and toys for Christmas. Led by BIG's president, Vincent A. Thomas, Jr., the executive committee of the organization surprised the family with the gifts Christmas Eve morning. The name of the family was provided by Whitman-Walker Clinic, and BIG has made a commitment to provide the family support, mentoring and outings for the remainder of the year.

Symposium on Opiates, Opioids

On Tuesday, Mar. 29, the DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Museum of Medical Research and NIDDK will jointly sponsor a symposium entitled "Synthetic Opiates and Opioids: Drugs as Medicines, Drugs as Research Tools." The symposium will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in Lipsitz Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. A reception will follow.

The symposium will focus on the history and current work of the Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry (LMC) in the NIDDK, and will mark the opening of a Stetten Museum exhibit of the same title.

Dr. Caroline Jean Acker, the DeWitt Stetten, Jr., memorial fellow in the history of 20th century biomedical sciences and technology, will talk about the history of opiate analgesic research in the LMC. Dr. Kenner Rice, chief of the LMC, will discuss the laboratory's present activities and future prospects in exploring brain function through study of opiates and opioids. Dr. Louis S. Harris of the department of pharmacology, Medical College of Virginia, will comment on the two papers.

AIDS Mini-Symposium Planned

A mini-symposium on "AIDS: Current Challenges and Future Directions," will be held at Hood College in Frederick, Md., on Thursday, Apr. 21. Speakers will include NIH Drs. William Blattner, Anthony Fauci and Robert Gallo. Also giving talks will be Drs. Emilio Emini, George Shaw and Mario Stevenson.

Deadline for registration is Apr. 4; cost is $35. For more information, contact Patti Hall at the Foundation for Advanced Cancer Studies, Inc., P.O. Box 705, Rising Sun, MD 21911; phone (410) 658-2882 or fax (410) 658-3799.

DCRT Training Classes

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Murray Eden Retires as BEIP Director

By Kathleen Canavan

Dr. Murray Eden recently retired as director of NCRR’s Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Program (BEIP), ending half a century of federal service, but closing only one chapter of a career that has helped give us the atom bomb, bar codes, and machines that mimic man.

For the past 18 years, Eden has overseen operation of NIH’s intramural hub for engineering and related sciences. BEIP staff collaborate and consult with NIH biomedical investigators on applications of engineering, mathematics, physics, and the physical sciences—including measurement, automation, imaging, mathematical modeling, and design of specialized instrumentation.

After receiving a B.S. in chemistry from the City College of New York, Eden began his federal career in 1941 working the night shift as a junior clerk-typist with the Civil Service Commission while he attended graduate school. In 1944, he earned his M.S. in physical chemistry from the University of Maryland.

With degree in hand, Eden went to work at the Palmer Physical Laboratory as part of the Princeton University group of the Manhattan Project, which led to the design of the atom bomb.

Shortly after, he returned to government as a physicist for the National Bureau of Standards in 1945. Six years later he transferred to NCI as a biophysicist and completed his Ph.D. in physical chemistry and physics at Maryland. From 1953 to 1955, he did postdoctoral work at Princeton as a Public Health Service fellow in mathematics, and returned to NIH as part of the Laboratory of Technical Development, National Heart Institute.

In 1958, Eden left NIH to join the faculty of the electrical engineering department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While there, he became head of the cognitive information processing group of the laboratory of electronics. He returned to NIH for the third and final time in 1976 as director of the then-named Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch.

Eden has found time over the years to serve as lecturer, visiting professor or adjunct professor at institutions such as Harvard University, American University, Boston University Law School, Johns Hopkins University, and the Swiss Federal Polytechnic Institute at Lausanne.

“One of the remarkable things about Murray is that he has had so many careers,” says Dr. Hank Eden (no relation), deputy director of BEIP. “He seems to have known everyone. In fact, framed on Murray’s wall is a piece of paper with equations scribbled on it from Albert Einstein’s wastebasket. Murray pulled it out when he was a postdoc at Princeton.”

Murray Eden also has had numerous consultancies, including one as principal technical consultant for the symbol standard subcommittee of the Uniform Grocery Products Code Council from 1971 to 1974. “That was the group that established the bar codes you see on all of the products you buy at the supermarket,” Eden said. "It was my idea to put the numbers underneath the code, and I also picked the typeface of the numbers." With a grin, he adds, “That’s my 15 minutes of fame, and nobody knows about it.”

“Another notable aspect of Murray’s personality is that despite all the things he’s done and all the people he’s known, he’s really down to Earth. He also has a great sense of humor,” says Dr. Hank Eden.

For the past 30 years, Murray Eden’s primary research emphasis has been pattern recognition and quantification of biomedical images and their efficient storage.

“Basically, I’ve been working on trying to model physiological and psychological processes. I’m interested in how to make machines do what humans can do because, by studying how to mimic human performance, we will better understand how the human machine operates,” he says.

In recognition of his contributions to the advancement of biomedical engineering and instrumentation, Eden received the NIH Director’s Award in 1993.

“Dr. Eden has been an irreplaceable asset to NCRR. His contribution to the physical sciences has been tremendous,” says Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis, director of NCRR. “NCRR and NIH have been incredibly fortunate to have a person of his caliber on their team.”

“After 50 years, NIH is still a great place to work,” Eden says, looking back on his time here. “I have been one of those fortunate people who have been able to do what they want.”

Androgens’ Health Role Explored

Androgenic disorders are grossly underdiagnosed in the U.S., despite the important impact that androgens exert on women’s health. To remedy this situation, NICHD is sponsoring the continuing education conference “Androgens and Women’s Health,” Mar. 29-30, at the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza in Rockville. In addition to a session on the clinical recognition and laboratory diagnosis of androgenic disorders, the conference will also feature presentations on such topics as hyperandrogenic anovulation, the impact of androgens on menstrual function, the endometrium, and infertility as well as androgens and menopause. For more information call 6-1101.

The Record
The Institute for Scientific Information reports that a paper by researchers in NIAID’s Laboratory of Immunoregulation was the second most-cited scientific paper of 1993. Shown are authors of the paper, "HIV Infection is Active and Progressive in Lymphoid Tissue during the Clinically Latent Stage of Disease," (from left) Drs. Anthony S. Fauci, Giuseppe Pantaleo, Cecilia Grazioni and Luca Butini, and biologist Jim Demarest. The paper, which appeared in the Mar. 25, 1993, Nature, demonstrated that "significant viral activity occurs within lymphoid tissue even during the symptomless stage of HIV infection when patients feel well and damage to the immune system is not yet severe," says Fauci. "This information has important implications for the design of therapeutic strategies, suggesting a role for drugs that might be used early in the course of infection." Other authors not pictured are Drs. Cecil H. Fox, Jan M. Orenstein and Donald P. Koster.