LAN Support Thrives
NIH'ers (S)Warm to Network Communication
By Carla Garnett

First things first: To describe the use of computer local area networks (LANs) as new is to invite fierce objection by many NIH staff. All the recent national attention to the Internet, LANs and computer communications is nothing new to NIH. According to DCRT Deputy Director William Risso, DCRT engineers wired Bldg. 12 for LANs in 1982, when DCRT first installed Ethernet cable. And, Risso adds, others at NIH pioneered network communications to solve problems long before the term "information superhighway" became so familiar. By 1984, DCRT was installing the campus "backbone," connecting virtually every NIH building—and potentially every NIH'er—to each other through their LANs. Networking via computer has grown steadily since then, but in the last few years, with encouragement from the Executive Branch's technology-minded second-in-command, interest in networking—especially through access to the Internet—has burgeoned at a phenomenal rate. And those responsible for providing campus computer support services have had to keep pace.

Top to Bottom, Bottom to Top

As is common for computer-friendly folks, Charles Havekost, customer support section chief in DCRT's Network Systems Branch, has at least three PCs in his office on the third floor (See NETWORK, Page 6)

Extramural Program Director
Lockshin Named Acting Director of NIAMS

Dr. Michael Lockshin has been named acting director of NIAMS until a permanent director is appointed. He replaces Dr. Lawrence Shulman, the first and founding director of NIAMS, who retired recently. Lockshin, an active investigator who is internationally known for his work in antiphospholipid antibody, lupus pregnancy, and other areas, has been director of the NIAMS Extramural Program since 1989.

"Dr. Shulman built this institute into a live and vibrant enterprise," said Lockshin. "I intend to keep the momentum going during this transition period. The institute will continue to work towards conquering the numerous important chronic diseases within our (See LOCKSHIN, Page 8)

NIAMS' Metzger To Give R.E. Dyer Lecture, Jan. 4

Dr. Henry Metzger, director of the NIAMS Intramural Research Program and a national and international leader in the field of immunology, will give the R.E. Dyer Lecture on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1995, at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Clinical Center. Metzger, who has served as chief of the section of chemical immunology at NIAMS and its parent institutes since 1973, will speak on "Macromolecular Associations and Signal Transduction."

Metzger's contributions to molecular immunology research have been prodigious, particularly his work to elucidate the structure and function of the immunoglobulin E (IgE) receptor. In 1992, these contributions were recognized by the National (See DYER LECTURE, Page 8)

Communication Is Cornerstone
Links Needed Between Deaf, Hearing Communities
By Anne Barber

NIH held its second annual Deaf Awareness Day on Nov. 7 in Bldg. 10's Masur Auditorium. The theme was "Building a Bridge Between Deaf and Hearing Communities," with Mary Ann Leon, the Central Intelligence Agency's Deaf and People with Disabilities Program manager, as guest speaker.

Leon said she is always being asked why her title includes both deafness and disability. Isn't it redundant? "My response is yes, by law, we [the deaf] are classified as disabled, but we do not want to be called disabled. We are a distinct culture."

While there are lots of barriers between the deaf and hearing, communication is considered one of the main ones, she said. "Did you know that ASL (American Sign Language) is the third most-spoken language today in this country? English is first and Spanish is second."

"A point about language," Leon continued. "Hearing people have advantages because they are constantly exposed to the English language, while we as deaf individuals are not exposed."

Leon quoted a researcher who told her that a deaf child must be exposed to a sign 35 times before learning the concept while a hearing child need only hear a word five times to grasp it.

"Did you know that 90 percent of deaf children come from hearing families?" she asked. (See DEAF AWARENESS, Page 4)
NCI Women Scientists’ Group Organizes

The Division of Cancer Treatment established an advisory group for women in science under the direction of DCT director Dr. Bruce Chabner in early 1993; Drs. Carol Thiele and Susan Bates were elected cochairs. Thiele is head of the cell and molecular biology section and Bates is a senior staff fellow in the Medicine Branch.

The goals of the group are to gather data to assess the salary and tenure status of women within DCT; encourage women in DCT to become proactive with respect to their career goals and promotion potential; increase their visibility as active scientists, administrators, and/or nurses; and establish communication among DCT staff.

The group has had several successes in the past 2 years. It has developed a registry of DCT women scientists and, in collaboration with DCT personnel specialists, collected data for gender and experience based on salary comparisons. This has been undertaken also as part of the NIH-wide effort to assess any gender-based pay inequalities. Finally, as part of its mentoring and networking activities, the group coordinated two “Meet the Professor” sessions—one with Dr. Pat Donahoe of Harvard and the other with Dr. Lorraine Gudas of Cornell.

Chabner recently presented awards to the cochairs, and to the women who served as subgroup chairs. Also recognized were Cathleen Peters, program analyst, who served as administrative advisor to the group; Andrea Gabossy, administrative assistant, who helped gather much of the data; and Jane Cassidy, senior research specialist, who served as coordinator for the group.

The group will continue to meet quarterly and encourages all interested DCT women to contact Cassidy, 6-4251, for information.

Dr. Bruce Chabner, director of NCI’s Division of Cancer Treatment, presents an award to Dr. Carol Thiele of NCI’s Pediatric Branch in recognition of her leadership in the DCT advisory group for women in science.

The NIH records the right to make corrections, changes, or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with the policies of the paper and NIH.
NINDS Cosponsors Grant Workshop for Minorities

Facility and postdoctoral students from more than 20 universities, medical schools, and research institutions around the country recently gathered to learn the key elements of a successful grant application at a workshop sponsored in part by NINDS and the NIH Office of Research on Minority Health.

Those attending were selected NINDS-supported recipients of research supplements for underrepresented minorities and representatives from several historically Black colleges and universities including Meharry Medical College, Xavier University of Louisiana, Morehouse School of Medicine, Howard University College of Medicine, and Charles R. Drew University.

The purpose of the workshop, "The Successful Grant Application," was to advise and encourage minority faculty and postdoctoral students to apply for NINDS grant support.

During the first day of the 2-day meeting, where the resounding theme was "get to know the grant staff, they are here to help you," NINDS extramural staff provided participants with information on NINDS's current programs and priorities, introduced staff members from key offices, and took the participants step by step through the grant application process. Participants were also encouraged to take what they learned back to their home institutions and to "spread the word."

NIAID's Fauci Honored at Italian-American Gala

If it happened to Hollywood actor Nicolas Cage, it could happen to you, but only if you're of Italian descent. This year, it happened to Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of NIAID, who, along with Cage, star of the recent movie It Could Happen to You, was honored as an outstanding Italian American at an awards dinner attended by President Clinton.

The National Italian-American Foundation (NIAF) presented Fauci with a Special Achievement Award for Medicine and Science at a ceremony during the annual awards dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel recently. Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont chaired the event, part of the country's largest annual conference of Italian Americans.

Also joining Fauci as this year's NIAF honorees were fashion designer Giorgio Armani, fashion editor Grace Mirabella, New York University president Dr. L. Jay Oliva, and McDonald's President and Chief Executive Officer Edward Rensi.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Fauci takes pride in his heritage as a second-generation Italian American. His grandparents came from the small town of Sciacca on the southern coast of Sicily to the Little Italy section of New York City at the turn of the century. "Only now, in retrospect, do I truly appreciate the impact that the Italian-American ethic of family love, responsibility, hard work, discipline and a sense of community had on my personal and professional life," he said.

Since 1976, NIAF has recognized well-known Italians and Italian Americans with awards in business, entertainment, sports, government, science and other professions. Past honorees include Joe DiMaggio, Marilida Cuomo, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, Lee Iacocca and Sophia Loren.

Sen. Patrick Leahy (r) of Vermont presents NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci with the NIAF Special Achievement Award.
DEAF AWARENESS
(Continued from Page 1)

"And, when a child is born deaf, we depend upon doctors to tell us how to handle the situation."

Deciphering why communication errors tend to happen, Leon says she encourages the use of an interpreter because, "we miss out on the sounds around us. We miss the talk around the copier. Using an interpreter allows us to be able to hear everything and it makes us feel like we are part of the staff."

Writing is another communication tool for the deaf. Leon related a story about an employee who came to her and reported that her supervisor was keeping the notes that they wrote back and forth in her file. When the employee approached her boss and asked why, the response was, "documentation." Leon's reaction: "Do you have a tape recorder during your conversation with a hearing person? If not, then why should it be different with the deaf? The employee came up with a perfect solution—a magic slate, a blackboard that can be erased. Problem solved," said Leon, "and the employee can still get her message across." A laptop computer is also a viable writing option, she added.

"Use the call relay service offered by the telephone company," stressed Leon, "As a supervisor I had an employee who would call my supervisor and tell him if he wasn't coming in. I prefer he call me directly. I don't like to be the third party."

She stated there are times when a hearing employee needs or wants to speak with a deaf employee. "It is not only for us [the deaf] but for you [the hearing] as well. Use it."

Another effective communication tool is the TTY. "Using the TTY can be quite interesting when having a conversation with another deaf person," stated Leon, "but, with a hearing person, sometimes we are too direct or blunt." She explained, "That's because a hearing person can hear the inflection in the voice, but with a machine there is no inflection to hear. There's no emotion, no "

Ken Glickman, who established the Deaf New World Electronic Bulletin Board, performs a comedy skit as a professor teaching a class on "DEAFology 101."

Photos: Ernie Branson

shaded interpretation on their statement."

Leon encouraged the hearing to learn sign language. "It says you care enough to try. It means a lot to us. Take the time to learn about the deaf culture. It can improve communication."

Ken Glickman, who established the Deaf New World Electronic Bulletin Board, performed a skit as a professor teaching a class on DEAFology 101: Deaf culture as seen through the eyes of a deaf humorist. He is the author of several books including DEAFinitions, More DEAFinitions, and operates the DEAFinitely Yours Studio in Silver Spring, Md.

NIH's Disability Employment Program Manager Carlton Coleman acknowledged several individuals for their outstanding leadership and exceptional contributions in meeting the goals of the deaf community. Certificates of recognition were presented to Sally MacDougall, OD; Blaise Delahoussaye, OD; Susan Smith, NINDS; and Victoria Detweiler, NLM.

The Deaf Awareness Day program was sponsored by the deaf employees advisory forum and the Office of Equal Opportunity.

Audience participates in Deaf Awareness Day program titled, "Building a Bridge Between Deaf and Hearing Communities."
Don’t Be a Victim This Holiday Season

As the holidays approach, people often become excited, busy and sometimes a little careless. During this time, people should be extra careful, since it is prime time for criminals such as burglars, pickpockets, shoplifters and purse snatchers. Whether here on the NIH campus or in a busy shopping mall, the NIH Police Branch offers the following tips that should reduce your chances of becoming a victim this holiday season:

- Stay alert to your surroundings and to persons around you. If you notice individuals loitering, go in the opposite direction.
- When possible, avoid carrying large sums of cash or credit cards. Be sure that you have recorded all your credit card numbers and have them stored in a safe place at home.
- When carrying a purse or wallet, use extreme care to prevent a criminal from taking it from you. Carry a purse under your arm. Keep a wallet in an inside jacket pocket.
- When shopping with your children and they become separated, teach them to go to a store security guard for assistance. Do not allow your children to go into a parking lot by themselves.
- If possible, do your shopping in hours of daylight. Park only in well-lit parking areas.
- Place your packages in your vehicle’s trunk. This will ensure that they are out of sight from criminals.
- Be sure to check the interior of your vehicle prior to getting in. Open the vehicle door slightly and allow the interior light to activate. Check the front and rear passenger compartments.
- When possible, do not carry excessive packages. This allows you to become an easy target for purse snatchers. When practicable, have the store mail your packages to you.

There are also some home prevention tips that should make your holiday season a safe and happy one:

- When you leave your house, even for just a few minutes, remember to lock all doors and windows.
- Try not to display gifts where they are visible from a window or door.
- If you travel during the holiday season, make your residence appear as if persons are still there. An automatic timer will turn lights on and off while you are out. Contact a neighbor and have them take in your mail and newspaper. Have your neighbor park their vehicle in your driveway.

And Especially for Purse Carriers...

- The best way to avoid a purse snatching is, of course, not to carry one.
- Consider carrying only a small change purse with the necessities instead of a purse.
- If you must carry a purse, do not dangle it by your side in such a way that a thief can run by you and grab it.
- Try to walk with someone or stand at a bus stop with several other people.
- Stay away from isolated or poorly lit areas. Walk near the curb to avoid walking too close to places of concealment.
- Do not carry your house or car keys in your purse.
- If someone grabs your purse, do not attempt to resist or fight him/her off.
- Report all suspicious persons to the police as soon as possible. Do not wait until you get home.
- If you are a victim of any crime, call the police immediately. Provide as much information as possible: when the crime happened, where it occurred, what happened, describe the suspect and direction of travel and whether the suspect fled on foot, by car, etc.
- Wait for the police to arrive.

Have a safe and happy holiday season. Help fight drunk driving during the holiday season. Have a nondrinking designated driver for any holiday gatherings you attend where alcohol will be served. Remember, buckle up for safety.

NIH Campus Emergency Phone 115
NIH Campus Nonemergency Phone 6-5685
NIH Crime Prevention Branch 6-9818
Off-Campus Emergency Phone 911

Asthma Studies Need Volunteers

Researchers at NIAID are seeking volunteers for two clinical trials to explore the role of certain immune cells in asthma inflammation. Asthma, a serious, chronic disorder, is characterized by periodic inflammation that obstructs the airways and makes breathing difficult.

“Asthma, which affects about 10 to 15 million people and claims more than 5,000 lives in the United States each year, is on the rise, especially in our inner cities,” said Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID director.

The two studies should provide more information on a proposed cause of asthma. According to theory, when certain infection-fighting immune system cells called T cells are exposed to an allergy-causing substance, they leave the bloodstream, travel to the airways and release signalling molecules that cause inflammation.

“We now acknowledge that T cells play an important part in triggering asthma,” said Dr. Dean D. Metcalfe, head of the allergic diseases section of the Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, NIAID, where the trials will be conducted. “We want to know more about their role.”

In one study, investigators will examine T-cell trafficking to the lungs. They will draw blood before and after people are exposed to an asthma-causing substance and then determine the quantity of types of T cells capable of producing certain cytokines. To enroll in this study, participants must be 18 to 50 years old, with mild to moderate allergic asthma, and must not regularly use inhaled steroids, bronchodilators or nonsteroidal antiinflammatory agents such as cromolyn. Participants will be paid $350 for full participation in the study, which will include one 2- to 3-hour session, a 9- to 10-hour session and an 11- to 12-hour session, plus five additional visits for blood tests.

Researchers in the other study will collect and study tissue samples from people with asthma. They will determine how many T cells in the airways can produce cytokines and which ones are secreted. For the study, investigators seek participants ages 18 to 65 who are healthy or who have mild to moderate allergic asthma. Applicants with asthma should not have used inhaled steroids or cromolyn on a regular basis. People older than 50 also must have a normal chest X-ray and electrocardiogram. Compensation for full participation in this study is $370. The protocol requires three clinic visits for a total of 9 hours.

Study investigators seek to recruit people from the Washington, D.C., area, because selected participants will be required to visit the allergy and asthma clinic repeatedly for several hours at a time. Physicians or patients interested in either study should call Dr. Calman Prussin, 6-1306, in the clinic from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
NETWORK COMMUNICATION, SUPPORT DRAW THE MASSES
(Continued from Page 1)

of Bldg. 12A. The computer on a high perch behind him, though, immediately draws attention with its flashing lights and detailed schematics. NSB is what can be called traffic central for the campus' LAN backbone—the NIHnet. From his office, Havekost is able to identify traffic tie-ups for the more than 260 LANs in 58 locations around NIH's Bethesda campus, as well as agency outposts in Frederick, Baltimore, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Arizona.

Havekost’s computer traffic map—one of about 20 in his branch—shows LAN connections from routers (central “traffic cops” that interpret electronic addresses and put data on the right road to addressees) to servers (LAN “restaurants” where users are offered access to various software and resources) to nodes (individual computer workstations). Green-lit pathways on the backbone, as one would expect, are good news: traffic is flowing smoothly, no problems indicated. Red, yellow and violet lights all indicate varying degrees of caution and trouble. With so much network business, DCRT monitors the map round the clock.

“The use of LANs has really taken off since about 1990,” Havekost says. “Every couple of weeks, we connect a new one to the backbone. We were early adopters of the LAN. Now, since networking seems to be picking up tremendous speed from the bottom up as well as the top down, we find ourselves out in front in terms of network connectivity and support.”

Havekost estimates that NIHnet supports 9,000 PCs, 3,000 Macs, 1,000 Unix workstations, and 100 VAX computers within the NIH system.

'The Backbone's Connected to the...'

To quote the slogan from a popular commercial of years gone by, “Support CAN be beautiful.” Visiting command central for the Office of the Director LAN, or ODLAN, however, one would probably never guess the now-gargantuan network.

In the bowels of Bldg. 31, beneath the cafeteria, and amid exposed leaky pipes and mountains of computers in various stages of assembly and disrepair. It ain’t pretty in the trenches. Ahead to his left, Jones gestures toward a bank of four or five PCs—traffic control for ODLAN, he says, operates in much the same way, if on a smaller scale, as it does for DCRT’s backbone.

“We are in the middle of totally renovating the ODLAN,” he explains, as he watches a coworker—en route to the exit—gingerly hopscotch over a dormant computer processing unit, a monitor and other computer innards, “and we are also in the process of acquiring new office space in Bldg. 31.”

The ODLAN, he says, has been caught in a “very strange position for the past 2 years or so.” Originally designed as a communication tool for about 700 employees in Bldgs. 31 and 1, the network now supports nine buildings, from the Federal Bldg. in Bethesda to NIH’s new mail/print facility in Rockville.

Eleven physical networks and 17 servers reside in Bldg. 31 alone.

“Clearly it’s outgrown the plans by leaps and bounds,” Jones says. “Now, we’re reassessing ways to redesign the system and offer the best support services available to OD staff.”

In May 1994, he recalls, NIH’s senior staff decided to suspend growth of the ODLAN and formulate a committee to study its future. The ODLAN Resources Allocation Group, or ODLAN RAG, which consists of representatives from OD’s various units, will help determine the new direction for the now-gargantuan network.

Meantime, Jones and his 11-member crew keep the network online and operational—that means handling more than 100 helpdesk calls per week; monitoring the traffic map and dispatching technicians immediately, by NIH shuttle, to the more serious crises; auditioning new hardware and software for potential use and state-of-the-art troubleshooting; and adding, deleting or moving employees on the ODLAN computer-user roster, a list that has increased by about 45 percent in the last 2 1/2 years.

For Jones, a self-described “techie” who learned computers from the inside out, there is only the bottom line: “Getting the problem solved—getting the answer to the user—is all we care about,” he says. “If you’re not doing that on a daily basis, then you’re not providing good support.”

This LAN Is Your LAN

Jones and his staff are working—albeit indirectly—to supply answers to people like Danielle Kaczensky, automation director for OD’s Division of Contracts and Grants, and the 70 people she works with at 6100 Executive Blvd.

“I’m as active a user as you’ll find,” she admits. “One of the chief advantages is that you don’t have to wait for a conversational connection. It saves me so much time.”

Aside from the usual uses of LANs—to access software, to send and receive e-mail, to import stockpiled data—Kaczensky employs the network to communicate with herself. By sending herself “carbon-copy” mail messages, she creates a self-styled, daily to-do list and task reference. “For me it’s a godsend,” she enthuses.

Over the entrance to her office hangs a Kaczensky commandment: “Thou shalt not whine.”

She used that commandment, her enthusiasm for the network system, and a chocolate-bar reference. “For me it’s a godsend,” she enthuses.

The staff of the ODLAN Support Center, who all cheerfully (?) take their turns answering the help line, gather in a rare nonhectic moment. They are (top, from l) Li Ming Huang, Minh Chau, Rick Lyons and Anita Ghebeles; (middle, from l) Bette Pollard, Casey Misal, Michael Robinson, and Gerri Robinson; (bottom, from l) Phil Hennessee and Support Center Director Charlie Jones. Missing from the photo, but not from the action, are Richard Gaskins, Dion Reid and Jeffry VanRosen.

Carolyn McHale is chief of NIH’s Scientific Information and Data Systems Branch, which has been ushering the institute into a total Windows environment.

The Record

December 6, 1994
simple now. Group mail is fabulous. The LAN takes the place of paper and phone calls."

Maximizing Dollars and Sense

The winding path that leads to Carolyn McHale’s office in NIAMS is probably typical of someone in her position—chief of her institute’s Scientific Information and Data Systems Branch. There are plenty of fragmented computers stacked on flat surfaces here and there, but the real story here on the fourth floor of Bldg. 31C is the multitude of software packages: slick, brightly wrapped boxes touting names like WordPerfect, Lotus, SchedulePlus, and MSMail make her office look like Christmas at Egghead’s. The cause? Since March, McHale’s institute has been officially headed toward a “total [Microsoft] Windows environment.”

Make no mistake—when McHale says a total Windows conversion, she means not just having the equipment on desktops with software installed. She means each employee has gone through basic software training, an expensive investment for a small institute.

“[Allocating] resources is a big problem,” she admits. “You must consider, among other things, the training and background of your LAN administrator, the repair and maintenance of your server and the constant support of your employers.”

McHale notes that the real computing transformation of her institute began a little earlier, about 5 years ago: A digital switch network—NIAMS’s first attempt at networking—was installed in 1989. By 1990, electronic mail had made its trial run at the institute. Since March, NIAMS has moved gradually into a full-service network.

“It took the first 6 months to get everyone acquainted with it,” McHale says, smiling. “The [NIAMS] Office of the Director really got into it. Encouragement came from the senior levels on down. Now they can’t do without their e-mail. I haven’t heard any grumbling among the ranks.”

Automation Director Danielle Kaczewsky (seated) of NIH’s Division of Contracting and Grants joins DCG administrative hub facility to the more than 70 DCG individual computer nodes of cables (background, l) that lead from the ceiling of their central hub facility to the more than 70 DCG individual computer nodes in 6100. DCG is now fully network-connected and all three NIH’s swear by (but less and less frequently, at) the ODLAN.

Still, as technology becomes more advanced, McHale says she sees even more networking changes—especially in fiscal terms—ahead.

“As resources dwindle,” she says, “I see more sharing of resources. We do not have enough resources to support our intramural program. We’re looking at two possible solutions—contracting and negotiating with another institute. I’d like to see more of the core systems managed centrally. If you’re working with limited resources you can get the basics, but you can’t afford the bells and whistles.”

Caught in the World Wide Web

On NIH’s computer networking horizon right now is access to state-of-the-art “bells and whistles.” If NIH pursues its visions for networks, then researchers will have readily available access to a wide variety of scientific resources, including an option to tap into a network for a videoconference. Need to see a three-dimensional molecular model discussed at a recent New Jersey seminar? Hook your computer to the Brookhaven data base and download the molecule to your screen—in minutes.

The current creme de la creme of network online resources is Mosaic, a product available on the Internet out of Urbana, Ill. A theoretical session on Mosaic’s World Wide Web can take a user from her desk in Bethesda to HHS headquarters in downtown Washington, D.C., to a grantee’s lab at UCLA—with laudable color and picture clarity. Web connectivity is available now through DCRT’s backbone as well as through network connections offered by the National Library of Medicine and NCI.

Discussing the future of NIH networking, DCRT’s Risso stresses that many people throughout the ICDs are heavily involved and mentions the campus’ Architectural Management Group, which recently held a successful 3-day retreat to lay the foundations for a computing architecture at NIH. He calls attention to a joint development by DCRT and other ICDs of an NIH e-mail directory service, and notes that the goal is to bring networks and e-mail access to every NIH staff member.

Instead of merely listing the wonders of network use, though, Risso frequently turns back to the computers on his desk, and points and clicks on a Mosaic item called “Hotlist” that provides a quick reference to favorite offerings available on Mosaic. A mouse click brings up NIH’s “home page” on the screen. There in crisp color are the columns of Bldg. 1. From this screen, any networker in the world can find out which projects NIH is funding and for how much, or which NIH labs are looking for postdocs, or a host of other information.

Through LANs, NIH has entered the World Wide Web. At NIH, network connectivity is on the hotlist.

Demise of the SF-171

As of Jan. 1, 1995, agencies may no longer require the Standard Form (SF-171) from job applicants. The SF-171 is being eliminated due to its cumbersome nature as well as the Office of Personnel Management’s attempt to move toward a more customer-friendly hiring system as recommended by the National Performance Review. Vice President Gore recommended the form’s abolishment as part of his reinventing government report.

In the future, applicants for federal employment may submit the SF-171, the new Optional Form-612, a resume, or any other form they choose. Only in limited cases (automated systems and positions with specialized requirements) will applicants be asked to submit specific application forms. Even though the SF-171 will not be reprinted or stocked after the end of this year, applicants may continue to use their existing SF-171’s. Based on these changes, NIH is developing policies regarding application submission procedures. Call your servicing personnel office for more information.

Court Location Changes

Effective Jan. 23, 1995, the U.S. District Court will be moving from its present location at 6130 Executive Blvd. North, Suite 100, Rockville, Md. to the following location: U.S. District Court, 6525 Belcrest Rd., Rm. 400, Hyattsville, MD 20782. For more information, contact Sgt. Chauncy Brown, NIH Police, 6-5685.
Academy of Sciences, which elected him as one of its members. Election to membership in the academy is considered one of the highest honors accorded a United States scientist.

IgE is the antibody that triggers the release of histamines and other chemicals by specialized immune cells (mast cells and basophils), leading to signs and symptoms of allergic reactions such as itching, sneezing, inflammation, and difficulty in breathing. In the 1980's, Metzger and his colleagues cloned and characterized the genes for two of the three types of chains (called alpha, beta, and gamma) that make up the cellular receptor for IgE of the rat. Then, in a landmark paper published in the journal *Nature* in 1989, Metzger and colleagues reported that they had cloned and sequenced the gene for the last (gamma) chain of the IgE receptor. Without this chain, the receptor was not functional, and it was only when the final chain was cloned that Metzger and his colleagues were able to show clearly that they had isolated all the genes coding for the IgE receptor protein.

Once Metzger and his colleagues had succeeded in isolating the IgE receptor gamma-chain gene, they were able to construct a model for the receptor and to reveal its structural features. They have since achieved the critical step of expressing the IgE receptor in cells grown in culture. Using this model system, they continue to study the molecular associations that are involved in binding of human IgE molecules to their receptor, aggregation of receptor molecules in the cell membrane, and subsequent molecular associations that lead to transduction of the IgE signal into biochemical events within the cell.

Metzger’s research on IgE receptor structure, function, and signal transduction mechanisms continues to yield knowledge that is important not only for understanding basic allergic mechanisms, but also may lead to development of innovative allergy treatments that are designed to block binding of IgE to its receptor. In addition, Metzger’s research has more general implications for understanding the molecular events and structural biology of interactions among antigens, antibodies, and their receptors and provides insight into other biological signaling systems that involve analogous molecular interactions.

In his lecture, Metzger will use signal transduction by plasma membrane receptors as a case study to examine the current level of understanding of the molecular mechanisms that govern complex biological systems. He will also discuss the hurdles one faces in achieving a more complete description of these mechanisms, and the likelihood of overcoming them.

Metzger received an A.B. degree from the University of Rochester in 1953, and in 1957 received his M.D. degree from Columbia University. After completing an internship and residency at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City, he worked as a research associate at NIH from 1959 to 1961. After a 2-year Helen Hay Whitney Foundation fellowship at the University of California, San Diego, he returned to NIH. Since 1963, he has worked in the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch at NIH, where he has been branch chief from 1983 until this year in addition to serving as NIAMS scientific director since 1987.

Besides the R.E. Dyer Lecture, Metzger has been invited to give numerous honorary lectures. He served as president of the American Association of Immunologists in 1991-1992, and is now president of the International Union of Immunological Societies. His numerous other scientific honors and awards include the PHS Distinguished Service Award (1985) and the Joseph Mather Smith Prize, awarded by Columbia University in 1984. He has served the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences in various capacities since 1966, most recently as its president, from 1990 to 1992; is a member of the scientific advisory committee of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute; and recently was chosen as U.S. representative to the health research council of the German Federal Ministry for Research and Technology. Metzger also serves on the editorial boards of several scientific publications and has almost 200 publications.

**LOCKSHIN NAMED INTERIM DIRECTOR OF NIAMS** (Continued from Page 1)

Mandate such as osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, and psoriasis, to build on the significant advances being made in our understanding of bone, muscle, skin, and other connective tissues.

As head of extramural research, Lockshin has been responsible for program activities and the review, management, and payment of grants and contracts in all of the scientific fields covered by the institute, which together constitute about 85 percent of the NIAMS budget. He has fostered several minority research initiatives, promoting and expanding programs that have brought more minorities into research careers and collaborating with researchers in the Caribbean on studies of the prevalence of lupus on those islands. He and his staff also have led a variety of research initiatives in women’s health, including the BONES initiative (Basic Osteoporosis New Experimental Strategies), and in other areas, including a Program of Excellence in Biomaterials and new research registries in rare skin and rheumatic diseases. He has also been an active proponent of reinvention, streamlining, and diversity within the NIAMS Extramural Program.

Lockshin joined NIAMS after a 20-year career as a rheumatologist at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, where he was associate scientist and attending physician. He also was professor of medicine at Cornell University Medical College in New York, attending physician at New York Hospital, and chair of the rheumatology Department Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Lockshin is the author of more than 100 scientific papers and book chapters, several of which are considered seminal in the field. He defined some of the first immunochromic characteristics of the antiphospholipid antibody and pointed out its clinical significance as a key cause of unexplained miscarriage. His work in lupus pregnancy rewrote the rules: where once women with lupus were advised not to have children, he showed that through careful management they could successfully carry a baby to term.

His studies of twins showed the highly genetic nature of lupus, and his examination of high-dose steroids for neurologic lupus—one of the first long-term treatment outcome studies in this area—revealed the drugs did much more harm than good. His paper on the association of hepatitis B and polyarteritis has been listed as a citation classic by the publishers of Current Contents, a publication that catalogs scientific journals.

Lockshin has received numerous national and international honors. Among his national committee posts, he chaired the Committee on Rheumatology for the American Board of Internal Medicine and held several offices and chairmanships for the American College of Rheumatology and the Arthritis Foundation. He has served on the editorial boards of several journals.

Born in Ohio and reared in Massachusetts, he received his A.B. in history and literature from Harvard College and his M.D. from Harvard University. He did his internship and residency at Cornell and trained in rheumatology at Columbia University-Presbyterian Hospital. After his medical training, he served as an epidemic intelligence service officer at the Centers for Disease Control and as an assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Ski the Poconos in January**

The R&W is sponsoring a trip to Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains Jan. 20-22, starting at $164 per person. Resort is on a 90-acre lake, and package includes bus transportation, accommodations, free shuttle service to Shamokin Mountain and Camelback ski resorts, breakfasts and dinners, indoor pool and jacuzzi, free ski equipment rental, discounted lift tickets and more. To sign up, call 6-4600.
NIAMS' Laurence Miller Retires After 30 Years

Dr. Laurence H. Miller, the first director of an extramural skin diseases program at NIH, recently retired after 30 years of government service. At the time of his retirement, he was a special advisor for skin diseases at NIAMS.

"Dr. Miller's support and stewardship of grants in the skin disease area was a significant factor in the impressive growth and development of the field of basic dermatology research," said Dr. Michael Lockshin, NIAMS acting director.

Miller joined what was known as the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases in 1966 as the Dermatology Program director and served in that capacity until 1982, when he became a special advisor to NIAMS. He said that only in retrospect can he appreciate the years spent at NIH. "We spent countless hours developing mechanisms and extensions of support, recruiting minorities for and searching for equitable representation on study sections and on the advisory council. My mission and that of my colleagues was to attract, protect, and nurture the brightest scientists in our country so they would remain in this country and here we could produce."

A native of New Jersey, Miller received a B.S. in natural science from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., and his M.D. from the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. He is chairman of the medical advisory board. Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association, and a member of the medical advisory boards of the National Psoriasis Foundation and the Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types. In addition, Miller serves on the editorial board of the scientific journal Cutis, is a technical consultant to Skin and Allergy News, and is a past vice president of the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID). He is the recipient of numerous honors, including a 1994 award from SID for "outstanding achievements in furthering dermatologic research."

Miller will continue with his active clinical practice in dermatology and his commitment to the voluntary organizations devoted to skin diseases research. He leaves this message to all his extramural colleagues at NIH: "You are silent partners of this nation's medical research endeavor, and without you we would never have been so successful. I am proud to have served with you."

— Barbara Weldon

Four Join National Advisory Dental Research Council

Four new members have been named to the National Advisory Dental Research Council: Dr. Michael C. Alfano of Block Drug Co.; Sandra C. Raymond of the National Osteoporosis Foundation; Jane M. Rubenstein of Yale University; and Dr. Jon B. Suzuki from the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Alfano is senior vice president for research and technology and a member of the board of directors of Block Drug Co. Prior to joining Block, he held a number of academic positions at Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Dentistry and founded the Oral Health Research Center at that institution. Raymond is the founding executive director of the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF), established in 1986. NOF is a national, nonprofit voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing the widespread prevalence of osteoporosis.

Rubenstein, a pediatric nurse practitioner, is manager of the department of pediatrics at the Yale University Health Service and a lecturer at Yale's Graduate School of Nursing. A member of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF) for 12 years, she served the past 6 years as chair of the review committee for JDF, International.

Suzuki is dean at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Pittsburgh. In addition, he holds appointments as professor of periodontics and microbiology in the dental school, professor of molecular genetics and biochemistry in the School of Medicine, and professor of human genetics in the Graduate School of Public Health. He is also on the faculty at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Naval Medical Command in Bethesda, Md.

Takoma Mandoleers To Perform

The Takoma Mandoleers will give a free concert on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m., sponsored by the Clinical Center rehabilitation medicine department and held in the 14th-floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. The group, founded in 1923, is the oldest mandolin orchestra in the United States. For more information, call Bob Hammond, 4-7515, or evenings at (301) 990-6718.

Dr. Laurence H. Miller

Dr. Laurence H. Miller, the first director of an extramural skin diseases program at NIH, recently retired after 30 years of government service. At the time of his retirement, he was a special advisor for skin diseases at NIAMS. At the time of his retirement, he was a special advisor for skin diseases at NIAMS. Dr. Laurence H. Miller, the first director of an extramural skin diseases program at NIH, recently retired after 30 years of government service. At the time of his retirement, he was a special advisor for skin diseases at NIAMS.

"Dr. Miller's support and stewardship of grants in the skin disease area was a significant factor in the impressive growth and development of the field of basic dermatology research," said Dr. Michael Lockshin, NIAMS acting director.

Miller joined what was known as the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases in 1966 as the Dermatology Program director and served in that capacity until 1982, when he became a special advisor to NIAMS. He said that only in retrospect can he appreciate the years spent at NIH. "We spent countless hours developing mechanisms and extensions of support, recruiting minorities for and searching for equitable representation on study sections and on the advisory council. My mission and that of my colleagues was to attract, protect, and nurture the brightest scientists in our country so they would remain in this country and here we could produce."

A native of New Jersey, Miller received a B.S. in natural science from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., and his M.D. from the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. He is chairman of the medical advisory board. Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association, and a member of the medical advisory boards of the National Psoriasis Foundation and the Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types. In addition, Miller serves on the editorial board of the scientific journal Cutis, is a technical consultant to Skin and Allergy News, and is a past vice president of the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID). He is the recipient of numerous honors, including a 1994 award from SID for "outstanding achievements in furthering dermatologic research."

Miller will continue with his active clinical practice in dermatology and his commitment to the voluntary organizations devoted to skin diseases research. He leaves this message to all his extramural colleagues at NIH: "You are silent partners of this nation's medical research endeavor, and without you we would never have been so successful. I am proud to have served with you."

— Barbara Weldon

Four Join National Advisory Dental Research Council

Four new members have been named to the National Advisory Dental Research Council: Dr. Michael C. Alfano of Block Drug Co.; Sandra C. Raymond of the National Osteoporosis Foundation; Jane M. Rubenstein of Yale University; and Dr. Jon B. Suzuki from the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Alfano is senior vice president for research and technology and a member of the board of directors of Block Drug Co. Prior to joining Block, he held a number of academic positions at Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Dentistry and founded the Oral Health Research Center at that institution. Raymond is the founding executive director of the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF), established in 1986. NOF is a national, nonprofit voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing the widespread prevalence of osteoporosis.

Rubenstein, a pediatric nurse practitioner, is manager of the department of pediatrics at the Yale University Health Service and a lecturer at Yale's Graduate School of Nursing. A member of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF) for 12 years, she served the past 6 years as chair of the review committee for JDF, International.

Suzuki is dean at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Pittsburgh. In addition, he holds appointments as professor of periodontics and microbiology in the dental school, professor of molecular genetics and biochemistry in the School of Medicine, and professor of human genetics in the Graduate School of Public Health. He is also on the faculty at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Naval Medical Command in Bethesda, Md.

Takoma Mandoleers To Perform

The Takoma Mandoleers will give a free concert on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m., sponsored by the Clinical Center rehabilitation medicine department and held in the 14th-floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. The group, founded in 1923, is the oldest mandolin orchestra in the United States. For more information, call Bob Hammond, 4-7515, or evenings at (301) 990-6718.

New members of the National Advisory Dental Research Council pose with NIDR acting director Dr. Dushanka Kleinman (second from l). They are (from l) Sandra Raymond, Dr. Jon Suzuki, Jane Rubenstein, and Dr. Michael Alfano.
The Public Health Service's science education exhibit recently completed its fall '94 tour. On Oct. 24 and 25, Office of Science Education Policy staff took the exhibit to the state minority health representatives meeting in Bethesda. About 150 minority health consultants and representatives attended this meeting designed to revitalize minority health networks.

The exhibit tour continued Nov. 3 through 5 when the exhibit was displayed at the National Science Teachers Association midwestern convention in Minneapolis. More than 3,000 teachers, students, and school administrators attended this meeting.

From Nov. 17 through 19, the exhibit was presented at the National Association of Biology Teachers national convention in St. Louis. Over 2,000 people attended this convention.

The exhibit and the free health and science-related publications that are displayed with it receive much appreciation from science teachers and other conference attendees. Teachers comment that their students are interested in a wide variety of health-related issues from AIDS to animal research. However, according to the teachers, the most popular subject among students is genetics. Publications about genetics and about specific genetic diseases run out quickly.

The PHS life sciences education and science literacy board is trying to expand its coverage to include more conferences where the exhibit and publications are displayed. It is seeking opportunities to present the exhibit at conferences related to minority health issues and at other forums where the materials would be useful and informative.

If you know of any opportunities where the PHS science education exhibit might prove valuable or if you know of any publications or other science education materials you think could be distributed at these conferences, call Ellen Orjala at the Office of Science Education Policy, 2-2469.

NIH Chamber Singers Present Holiday Concert, Dec. 15

The NIH Chamber Singers will present a free concert of holiday music in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, on Thursday, Dec. 15, from noon to 1 p.m. They will be singing some old favorites as well as more recent holiday pieces, followed by a sing-along of Christmas carols. All NIH employees and staff and their families are welcome.

NIH Scientific Director Martin Retires

Dr. George R. Martin, scientific director of the National Institute on Aging, left government service this past October to pursue new scientific horizons as the first employee of a new company in Palo Alto, Calif., conducting research on fibrotic diseases and wound healing. This change brings him full circle to the research interests that first brought him to NIH in 1958.

That year, Martin came from the University of Rochester's division of pharmacology, where he received his Ph.D., to the Heart Institute at NIH. He did groundbreaking research with Dr. John Burns on ascorbic acid well before Linus Pauling's much-publicized discoveries in the field. With Burns, he helped unravel many of the mysteries about how vitamin C was metabolized in the body.

Given the opportunity to advance within NIH, Martin joined the National Institute of Dental Research in 1959, at a time when its programs were greatly expanding, especially in his areas of interest—connective tissue and the interplay of teeth and bones. He collaborated on collagen research with Dr. Karl Piez, who helped define the collagen molecule as central to skin and bone formation. He also worked with Drs. Mike Pope and Victor McKusick on the biosynthesis of collagen and its various possible genetic defects.

In 1974, Martin was made chief of a new lab of developmental biology at NIDR, studying development of cancers (including oral cancers), wound healing, and diabetes as they related to dental health. During his 30-year tenure at the Bethesda campus, Martin found NIH "to be a delightful place to work with people who were always very approachable and friendly."

In November 1988, Martin was offered the position of scientific director of NIA and head of the intramural program. This was an opportunity for him to pursue yet again new goals. His fellow dental researchers, Drs. Hynda Kleinman and Yoshi Yamada, stayed on at NIDR to continue the research that Martin helped establish. He said he felt that it was "a good time to come to the NIA as the labs were developing a number of new programs that were showing increasing worth and productivity."

Martin said he believes "there has been a convergence of many research fields with a focus on aging, which should allow for great opportunities in the future." He said, "At the GRC I had a first-rate staff, and a devoted and productive support organization that achieved great success in many basic research areas."

Dr. Richard Hodes, NIA director, noted, "George Martin has been outstanding in the leadership that he has provided to the intramural research program of NIA. His commitment to excellence in research has focused on identifying scientific opportunities and creating the resources to develop these new areas. George is a warm and generous friend and colleague and will be missed. The NIA and all of NIH owe him a great debt."

Martin will continue to live in the Bethesda area while commuting to Palo Alto, and should become quite intimate with views of the Rockies from 30,000 feet during his many transcontinental flights. He intends to take up new pursuits such as mountain climbing, and will try and adapt to the laid-back California lifestyle, which may be a bit tricky given the intensity of his new endeavor.—Michael Miller

NCI's Hjortland Honored

Dr. Marthana Hjortland was recently awarded a 1994 Statistics Section Award from the American Public Health Association at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. This honor was bestowed in recognition of outstanding contributions to biostatistics and public health through fostering biostatistical research at NIH and for continuing service to the biostatistics community.

Hjortland earned a Ph.D. in biometry in 1972 from the University of Minnesota while working as a statistician with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

In 1980, she became program director for biometry in the extramural programs branch of NCI's Division of Cancer Etiology.
Schlüderberg Retires from NIAID After 15 Years at NIH

Dr. Ann Schlüderberg, chief of the Virology Branch in NIAID’s Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID), has retired after 15 years of federal service. She served as branch chief since 1990.

"Ann has been a very important member of our team at DMID," said Dr. John R. La Montagne, director of DMID. "She did a superb job as chief of the Virology Branch. Her outstanding efforts, particularly in the area of chronic fatigue syndrome research, represent an enormous contribution."

From 1987 to 1990, Schlüderberg served as DMID’s virology program officer. In addition to the basic virology research program, she coordinated the chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) research portfolio.

During her tenure, she chaired the interagency HHS committee on CFS. She also coordinated two conferences on emerging microbes that helped chart the institute’s future research agenda in that area.

For 8 years before joining NIAID, Schlüderberg was executive secretary of the epidemiology and disease control study section in the Division of Research Grants. She also served on a number of committees, including the Fogarty scholars advisory panel and the grants associates board.

She received her bachelor’s degree in biomedical sciences from Ohio State University and both her master’s and doctorate degrees in virology from Johns Hopkins University. For 2 years after graduation, Schlüderberg conducted research on measles vaccine efficacy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She completed her postdoctoral training in 1962 at Yale University, where she remained on the research faculty for 15 years.

Prior to coming to NIH, Schlüderberg was an associate professor of epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University, where her research emphasis areas continued to be the measles virus and rubella vaccine.

Throughout her scientific career, she lived a triple life. She is an amateur artist and musician as well as a mother of five.

A resident of Columbia, Md., she is a founding member of the Columbia Orchestra and plays violin with the 70-member orchestra in about five concerts a year. For her own pleasure, she plays the piano and enjoys painting landscapes.

During retirement, she will pursue all of her artistic endeavors, sail and travel with her husband, Richard, who recently retired. She also plans to spend more time with her four sons, daughter and her three grandchildren, who range in age from 9 to 11 years old.

After stimulating careers at the office and at home, Schlüderberg looks forward to a new career of leisure and the arts.

“We are sad to see her retire,” said La Montagne. “We miss her very, very much and wish her the best in her retirement years.” — James Hadley □

Taekwondo, Aikido Classes

The NIH Taekwondo Club is offering a beginner’s class for adults, women and men, starting Jan. 9, 1995. The class will meet in the Malone Center (Bldg. 31, B4 level, next to the NIH Fitness Center) for 1 hour on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:45-6:45 p.m., and continue for 1 or 2 months until participants can be integrated into the regular club training. Fees, $80: $40 dues (3 months), $20 club liability insurance (an annual fee), $20 uniform.

The NIH Aikido Club also is accepting new members. The club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45-8 p.m. at the Visitor Information Center, Bldg. 10, and Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Malone Center. Fees, $80: $40 dues (3 months), $20 club liability insurance (an annual fee), $20 uniform.

Interested persons are welcome to watch regular training sessions of either club. For information call Lawrence Prograis, Jr., 6-1886, or Don Murphy, 530-4280. □

Training Classes

Getting Started with Windows 12/12
ENTER BBS - the Bulletin Board System on the Mainframe 12/12
Sequence Analysis on the Internet 12/12
SAS Fundamentals II for Programmers 12/13
QMF Access to Human Resource Data for Personnel Staff 12/13-14
Analysis of Ligand Binding Data Using the LIGAND Program 12/15
PC Mainframe Communications with PreComm Plus 12/15
Disaster Recovery 12/15
Database Technology Seminar 12/16
QMF Access to Human Resource Data for EEO Staff 12/19-20

Performance Study Recruits

The USUHS department of medical and clinical psychology needs healthy, nonsmoking volunteers, ages 21-45, for a 2-1/2-hour study of the effects of noise on performance. Payment is $30. Call Laura, (301) 295-3263. □
NIH'ers Attend Hispanic Educators Conference


The conference addressed strategies to help Hispanic students to succeed. Medina participated as a speaker on a panel titled "Federal Fellowship and Scholarship Opportunities for Science and Engineering Majors."

Some 600 leaders from the education, corporate, and government sectors participated in the conference, which was held in Anaheim. The conference featured a multicultural town meeting, an employment and graduate school fair, plenary sessions, workshop panel presentations, concurrent roundtable discussions on a variety of subjects, and approximately 70 corporate, academic, and government exhibitors.

Laudelina Martinez, HACU president, issued a call to action for colleges and corporate leaders around the United States to join forces reversing the decades-old academic decline in millions of Hispanic students. She stated, "We are initiating a major effort through HACU institution presidents to make a priority of recruiting and graduating Hispanic students in record numbers. There has to be a turnaround in the bleak numbers if our nation is to compete globally in tomorrow's work force and economy. We need to develop Hispanic leaders."

She asked the delegates to map out a broad-based plan that will mark the beginning of the end of constantly sliding academic scores and graduation rates of Hispanics.

HACU was founded in 1986 and represents 125 colleges and universities called Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs). An HSI is defined as an institution where Hispanic student enrollment is 25 percent or more at either the graduate or the undergraduate level, according to the 1992 Higher Education Act. The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved $12 million in federal set-asides for HSIs in the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill for FY 1995.

The short-term benefit to NIH is that this conference produced a current listing of more than 100 contacts throughout the Southwest and Puerto Rico that will immediately be provided to the ICD personnel officers to recruit Hispanic candidates. NIH needs to continue improving the representation of Hispanics in its work force, and to establish a long-term working relationship with the HACU member institutions.

ORS Offers Top 10 Reasons To Prepare for the Coming Winter

10. Drivers in the D.C. area panic when it RAINS.
9. Attempting to use NIH's underground tunnel system to avoid weather could lead to widespread reports of missing persons.
8. Contrary to the opinion of many local residents, Maryland is NOT a Southern state.
7. Crosscountry ski trails across campus are only in the planning stage.
6. East Coast rock salt supplies are still depleted from last year's "blizzard of the century."
5. Crutches as a fashion trend went out of style two seasons ago.
4. Subsidizing your mechanic's trip to Hawaii is expensive.
3. You never know when you might be designated an "essential employee."
2. The Fred Flintstone method of braking is not effective on ice.
1. Three words: Frostbite, Frostbite, Frostbite.

But seriously folks, winter is on the way, and the grounds maintenance and landscape section, DES, offers these common-sense ideas to be prepared for winter:

* Prepare yourself. Wear warm clothing in layers, and most importantly, wear appropriate shoes (preferably boots). High heels and Gucci loafers were not designed to help you down a slippery slope.
* Prepare your car. Check the battery and tires, top off fluids such as windshield washer and antifreeze, and stock the trunk with an ice scraper, jumper cables, flares, and a bag of kitty litter (for traction).
* Allow some extra time. It will take you a little longer to get here, and to get to your building.
* Consider public transportation, and sign up for the $42-per-month Transhare subsidy. Leave the white-knuckled driving to the professionals.

Travel Awards Available

The NIH fellows committee announces the establishment of the NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence. These awards of up to $1,000 for domestic travel expenses to a scientific meeting will be made upon submission and review of an abstract. All postdoctoral and clinical fellows are eligible. For more information, pick up an application form at the Office of Education, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1C129, or call Kathy Partin, 6-9347.

Craigie Gives NIH Seminar

The next lecture in the NIH Director's Seminar Series will be "Retroviral DNA Integration: Biological Role and Molecular Mechanism," by Dr. Robert Craigie. The talk will be given on Thursday, Dec. 15 at noon in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.