DRG REORGANIZATION SPEEDS GRANT REVIEWS

The 33 study sections in the Research Grants Review Branch, DRG, have been organized into four research groups.

Designed to expedite the increasing volume of research grant applications and to maintain a high quality of review of the applications, the reorganization groups the study sections by program, subject matter, and discipline.

Dr. Berwin A. Cole, Chief of the Research Grants Review Branch, will continue his present responsibility as Chief Project Review Officer and branch administrator. Assistant branch chiefs of the new research groups are Dr. Clinton C. Powell, Clinical Research; Dr. Elsa O. Kelles, Biochemical and Physical Sciences Research; Dr. J. Palmer Saunders, Biological Sciences Research; and Dr. Murray Goldstein, Health Services Research.

Under the direction of Dr. Cole, who will supervise and coordinate the project review functions, the heads of the four new research groups will serve as project review officers, responsible for assigning grant applications to the appropriate study sections within their groups for consideration. In addition to over-all supervisory functions, the assistant branch

(See DRG, Page 2)

500 RESPOND TO DBS REQUEST FOR BLOOD

Additions to the Panel of Typed Donors recruited by DBS last month increased the panel by 500 NIH volunteers. The small samples of blood donated are used as standards to test blood grouping and Rh-typing serums.

Other employees interested in becoming members of the panel may call ext. 731 for information.

(See DRG, Page 2)

GERM-FREE RATS ARRIVE FROM SWEDEN

Dr. Bengt E. Gustafsson (left), visiting scientist from Sweden, and Ernest G. McDaniel, NIAMD, examine a new germ-free animal tank upon its arrival from Sweden.

OFFICE MOVES SLATED FOR UNITS, SECTIONS

Occupancy of the Robin Building in Silver Spring this month and the conversion of warehouse space to office use in Building 13 will provide additional room in the NIH buildings.

These moves are slated for spring and summer:

To T-18--Office of the Director, NIMH, from T-6; certain units of DGMS, from Stone House.

To T-19--Editorial Section and Publications and Reports Section, Scientific Reports Branch, DRS, from Building 8; also space for new NIH programs.

To Building 13--Property and Stock Control Sections, Supply Management Branch, DBO, from Building 12; Office of the Chief and Procurement Section, SMB, from Building 1.

The arrival here a few weeks ago of four germ-free animal tanks of Swedish design has increased NIH's total of germ-free tanks to 32. Obtained from the University of Lund, Sweden, the tanks contained germ-free rats for use in NIAMD and NIDR studies.

The tanks will be used by Dr. Bengt E. Gustafsson, a professor with the Swedish Medical Research Council and a visiting scientist at NIH for several months. Dr. Gustafsson will work on germ-free studies in collaboration with NIAMD and NIDR.

Shipped a record distance by surface transportation, the tanks traveled in solid wooden crates on two steamship lines and then by special truck from Boston. On one ship the tanks were given special quarters in order to assure constant temperature for their animal occupants.

(See Move, Page 3)

(See Germ-free, Page 3)
NIH Spotlight

Most people here remember Jennie Lea Knight as the talented young lady whose oil painting won first prize in the R&W-sponsored employees' art exhibit last winter. But her co-workers in Dr. H. E. Rosvold's NIMH Section on Animal Behavior go far beyond mere contest-entering.

Jennie, who has been a serious artist all her life, has been able to combine her artistic talents with her knowledge and interest in animal physiology. Her main work in the lab is to provide all the illustrations the section requires. This ranges from graphs and charts through on-the-spot surgical drawings to photographs and illustrations for journal publications.

She works in pencil, pen-and-ink, tempera, and ink washes. And she also shoots and processes her own still photographs in black-and-white and color and her own 16mm motion pictures.

In addition, Jennie trains and tests monkeys and chimpanzees on different psychological experiments, and prepares both animals and equipment for the section's surgery.

Although she has almost five years' service at NIH, Jennie cut her working hours last January in order to spend more of her time at the Studio Gallery in Alexandria, which she and her roommate and mother opened two years ago.

"We feature exhibitions by young local artists," she explains, "but most of our work is in teaching art classes. For example, I teach four adult classes and one children's class. Altogether, we have about 60 students enrolled."

Jennie is not a new hand at teaching art. Before coming to NIH, she taught at two different private schools in Virginia. She has studied at three local schools, including undergraduate and graduate work at American University, and has been exhibiting her work in local shows for several years now.

And as for working with animals, she picked up a lot of practical experience during a long period as assistant to a Virginia veterinarian.

The interest in animals and art is always there. Recently, Jennie acquired four acres in nearby Virginia which she is populating with horses and dogs. An artist living on a farm, rather than in a garret, is not a usual picture, but Jennie Lea Knight is an unusual girl.

Instrument Symposium to be held in fall

The Ninth Annual Instrumentation Symposium and Exhibit will be held at NIH this year, September 28 to October 1, instead of in May, as in the past. The later date will avoid conflict with other scientific meetings scheduled for late spring.

The symposium planning committee is headed by Dr. John M. Leonard, Assistant Chief of the Organic and Biological Chemistry Branch, Naval Research Laboratory, James B. Davis, Chief, Supply Management Branch, DBS, is executive secretary.

Committee members are representatives of professional societies and national manufacturing companies sponsoring the symposium. Other members from NIH are: Dr. Robert W. Bowman (chairman in 1958) and Frank Noble, of NHI; Dr. Urner Liddel, NIAMD; Dr. Caspar W. Hiatt, DBS; Henry C. Dickerson, CC; and Dr. Wilton R. Earle, NCI.

The latest developments in medical research equipment will be displayed at the instrumentation exhibit.

Publication Preview

The following manuscripts were received by the SRB Editorial Section between December 16 and December 30.

DBS

Melnick, M. B., and Melnick, J. L. Neutralizing antibody-combining (NAC) test for measuring antigenic potency of poliomyelitis vaccine.

NCI

Roll, D. P., and Zubrod, C. G. Distribution of quinine in the dogfish (S. acanthias).


Williams, G. Z. Time lapse ultraviolet television microscopy instrumentation and biological applications.

Love, R., and Liles, R. H. Differentiation of nucleoproteins by variable deamination and staining with toluidine blue and ammonium molybdate.

Lipsett, M. B.; Schwartz, I. L.; and Thorn, N. A. Endocrine influences on salt and water metabolism.

Potter, M., and Hoas, V. H. Relationships between lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus, amphetamines and amphetamine-resistant lymphocytic neoplasms in mice.


NII

Jondorf, W. R.; Moickel, R. P.; and Brodie, B. B. Inability of newborn mice and guinea pigs to metabolize drugs.

Gouldt, L. E., and Brodie, B. B. Relationship between the lipid solubility of drugs and their oxidation by liver microsomes.


Shock, N. W. Retrospect and prospect in the biological aspects of aging.

Udenfriend, S.; Creveling, C. R.; Posner, H.; Redfield, B. G.; Doly, J.; and Witkop, B. On the inability of tyramine to serve as a precursor of serotonin.


Pronkop, D. J.; Share, P. A.; and Brodie, B. B. Anticonvulsant properties of monoamine oxidase inhibitors.

Davis, J. O. Evidence for an aldosterone stimulating hormone.

NIAMD

Salzman, N. P., and Lockart, R. Z., Jr. Alteration in ribonucleic acid metabolism resulting from poliomyelitis virus infection of HeLa cells.

Salzman, N. P., and Sebring, E. D. Utilization of precursors for nucleic acid synthesis by human cell cultures.

Bamienstein, H. Lactic dehydrogenase in Trichonomas vaginalis.

Parrott, R. H.; Vargas, A.; Luckey, A.; Kim, H. W.; Cumming, C.; and Chanock, R. M. Clinical features of infection with hemadsorption viruses.

Ribi, E.; Perrine, T.; List, R.; Brown, W.; and Goode, G. The use of a pressure cell to prepare cell walls from mycobacteria.

SPRING BRINGS OUT MORE THAN FLOWERS

One sure sign of spring is the appearance of young ladies on the grass at noon time. During the recent balmy weather, these pretty Building 8 secretaries took their lunches outdoors to enjoy the sun. Sharing hard-boiled eggs are (from left) Patricia Bott, Babette Pickler, and Mary Ann Welsh.

NIH RECORD

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DR. BEAL DIES

Dr. Grace A. Beal, 44, bacteriologist with the Laboratory of Bacterial Diseases, NIAID, died March 24 in Midland, Tex., after a long illness.

Family and friends of Dr. Beal are establishing a memorial in the form of a loan fund for bacteriology students at the University of Texas. Persons wishing to contribute to the fund may send cash or checks to Mrs. Virginia H. Simpson, Building 7.

SALES HELD AT NIH

BENEFIT THE BLIND

The Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is holding exhibits and sales here of products handmade by blind persons. Items may be purchased April 13-15 near the Bg. 10 cafeteria; April 16-17 in the Bg. I cafeteria; and April 21-22 on the first floor of Bg. T-6.

MOVE Contd.

To Building 12--Payroll Unit, Financial Management Branch, DBO, from Building 1.

In Building 8--expansion of NINDB.

In T-6--expansion of DRG and of the extramural programs of NCI, NHI, NIAMD, and NINDB.

TWO INSTITUTES SET UP
NEW RESEARCH SECTIONS

New laboratory sections have been established in NIAMD and NIDR to carry on research in radiation and germ-free animals.

The Section on Bionucleonics, with Dr. Urner Liddel as chief, was established March 16 as part of the Laboratory of Physical Biology, NIAMD. The section will plan and conduct research in nuclear and high-frequency radiation on microorganisms and tissue cells in order to increase understanding of energy transfer in the components of various biological media.

In NIDR, the establishment of the Gnotobiotics Section of the Laboratory of Microbiology was approved March 23. Dr. Robert G. Fitzgerald has been appointed chief. The new section will conduct studies with germ-free animals and will continue to investigate the relation of specific microorganisms to oral disease.

GERM-FREE Contd.

Automatic feeding systems installed inside the tanks supplied the rat colony with food and water for the whole journey. Fresh air was pumped through each tank continuously. While at sea, the pump was activated by the roll of the ship, which swung a pendulum against a bellows.
NINE IN BLOOD BANK RECEIVE CASH AWARDS

DRS personnel are shown after recent cash award ceremonies. In front row, from left, are award winners Robert C. Scheno, Joan H. Bristow, Mary H. McGinniss, Elizabeth H. Murphy, Webster C. Leyshon, Elsie W. Yanchulis, Robert J. Eisel, Rosemary Thorwarth, and Mary C. Strott. In back row, from left, are Dr. John S. Fordtran, supervisor, CC Blood Bank; Dr. Harold Morris, NCI, Awards Board Representative; Dr. John D. Tripp, chief, Laboratory of Blood and Blood Products; Dr. Thomas H. Tomlinson, Jr., Assistant DRS Director; Dr. Paul J. Schmidt, chief, DRS Blood Bank Section; and Wanda Chappell, chief nurse, CC Blood Bank.

DBS WORKERS CITED IN CEREMONIES HERE

Nine staff members of the Clinical Center Blood Bank, DBS, shared a $450 group superior performance award presented at a ceremony in Top Cottage March 23.

The award, for "continuously outstanding and almost unparalleled service," was presented by DBS Assistant Director Dr. Thomas H. Tomlinson, Jr., to Joan Bristow, Robert Eisel, Webster Leyshon, Mary McGinniss, Betty Murphy, Robert Scheno, Mary Strott, Rosemary Thorwarth, and Elsie Yanchulis.

Dr. Tomlinson cited these biologists, nurses, and technicians for their contribution to the establishment of standards applicable to all licensed blood banks, which included recording and reporting all errors.

The group was also commended by Dr. John S. Fordtran, supervisor of the CC Blood Bank, who praised them for carrying out urgent, high-priority work, "almost always under emergency conditions, with resultant strain and pressure...with the realization that even a minor error might easily mean the death of a patient." He noted that "in the history of the Clinical Center there have been no transfusion accidents resulting from errors on the part of our technical staff."

Each member of the group is on call 24 hours a day to perform critical blood grouping, typing, and cross-matching for emergency transfusions.

NIH Prepares Facts For USIA Moscow Exhibition

Institute and Division information officers have prepared a list of questions and answers pertaining to medical research for use by the United States Information Agency in the American exhibit planned for this summer's Moscow trade fair. The exhibit is scheduled to open July 4, and is designed to show the Russian people how Americans work, live, and play.

A part of the exhibit will be RAMAC, an IBM device programmed to code, record, and play back about 10,000 short answers to questions about life in the United States. Categories of questions cover almost every field from agriculture to transportation. Under the medical research category, NIH has submitted 206 questions and answers dealing with medical science and health and has served as the coordination point for similar questions prepared by other Federal agencies.

Mr. Morrison Retires

Gilbert Morrison, medical biology technician in the Radiation Branch, NCI, retired March 31 after 22 years with PHS.

Mr. Morrison transferred to NIH in 1941 from the Industrial Hygiene and Sanitation Laboratory, now the Occupational Health Branch, Division of Special Services, PHS.

A native of Georgia, Mr. Morrison operated his own farm at Elberton, Ga., before joining the Government.

LIBRARY WEEK PROGRAMS PLANNED FOR PATIENTS

National Library Week, starting April 12, will be observed at NIH with displays of reading aids, book readings and discussions, and an open house in the Patients' Library.

With the theme "Wake Up and Read," the week's activities are aimed at acquainting CC patients and NIH personnel with the pleasures and benefits of reading and with the resources of the Patients' Library.

On Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m., some members of the Hamsters and other NIH employees will meet with groups of patients in each sunroom to read and discuss books. Special arrangements have been made for bedridden patients to hear the readings and discussions over the intercom system in their rooms.

During the week the library's book carts will carry large picture scrapbooks showing the reading aids available to patients who have difficulty with vision or with holding a book or turning pages.

At its open house on Thursday and Friday, the Patients' Library will display talking books, ceiling projectors, electric page turners, and other reading aids, as well as the wide variety of books available to patients. The library is in Bg. 10, Rm. 5N-262.

National Library Week, which was observed throughout the country for the first time last year, is sponsored by the National Book Committee in cooperation with the American Library Association. The program here has been arranged by Margaret C. Hannigan, patients' librarian.

'Aging' Review Reprinted

"Aging—a Review of Research and Training Grants," published last month by the Center for Aging Research, DGMS, is now in its second printing. The review is a 50-page narrative summary of research in aging currently sponsored by NIH.

It includes a chapter describing major gerontology research centers, and a chapter devoted to research supported by each of the institutes and by DGMS.

At present the publication is being distributed to NIH grantees doing research in aging and to other persons active in gerontology.