NIH Team to Study Peer Review System, Hold Open Hearings

The NIH Grants Peer Review Study Team is holding public hearings on the peer review system this month at NIH as well as at Chicago and San Francisco.

The open hearings will be held on Feb. 12 in Chicago; on Feb. 19 in San Francisco, and on Thursday, Feb. 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall.

The hearings in Wilson Hall will be videotaped and presented locally later.

Kirschstein Chairs Team

The study team, whose establishment was announced in the Federal Register of Sept. 4, 1975, is chaired by Dr. Ruth L. Kirschstein, Director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Written comments and suggestions concerning the peer review system have been solicited from the scientific community, health agencies and professionals, and the public.

Topics on which information is being sought are: the adequacy and effectiveness of the present system, including the scientific review, Council review, and the priority rating system; the impact of the Privacy Act of 1974, the Freedom of Information Act, and the Federal Advisory Committee Act; and recommendations as to how the present system can be improved.

Researchers Stress Role of Polyamines

In Cystic Fibrosis at Meeting on Campus

National and international scientists from medical schools and institutions and investigators from several NIH Institutes participated in a meeting on how polyamines in secretory processes figure in cystic fibrosis. The conference—entitled the George and Elizabeth Frankel Conference—was held Jan. 28-30 at Stone House, Fogarty International Center.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited metabolic disorder characterized by malfunctioning mucus-secreting exocrine (outwardly secreting) glands.

Mucus Clogs Ducts

Thick mucus clogs the pancreatic ducts, interfering with the flow of digestive enzymes and also partially blocks the bronchial tubes causing progressive lung disease.

Sweat electrolyte levels are abnormally high, and blood polyamine levels, specifically spermidine and spermine, are altered. The molecular defect that causes these aberrations is unknown.

Dr. David Lundgren and Lawrence Cohen of NIAMDD and Dr. Owen Renner, University of Florida, reported on their finding of abnormal concentrations of polyamines in blood from cystic fibrosis patients and asymptomatic carriers which lead to a...
Vivian Heston Retires; With 'JNCI' 18 Years

Vivian J. Heston, managing editor of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, retired Dec. 31 after 18 years of service.

Mrs. Heston joined the Journal staff in 1958, became assistant managing editor in 1960, and managing editor in 1974. She received her B.A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan, and for several years taught English and journalism in Michigan.

Phyllis Jay has been named managing editor of JNCI.

On her last day of work, associates and friends gave Mrs. Heston a German clock and a dozen roses. She plans to remain in this area and do church work, but she will also travel and spend time with her family.

Credit Union Will Hold Annual Meeting Apr. 29

The annual meeting of the NIH Federal Credit Union has been postponed until Thursday, April 29, at noon. It will be held in the CC Auditorium.

Ballots for election of three members of the Board of Directors and two Credit Committee members have been mailed to all shareholders.

Returned ballots must be received by Feb. 16. Results will be announced later this month.

CSC Announces Cost-of-Living Increase Effective March 1

The U.S. Civil Service Commission has announced a 5.4 percent cost-of-living increase in retirement annuities which will become effective on March 1.

It will be necessary for employees to retire prior to that date in order to benefit from the Aug. 1, 1975 cost-of-living increase of 5.1 percent.

NIH'ers who are considering retirement should inform their personnel offices as soon as possible.

Parents of Preschoolers Will Extend Support of Ayrlawn School Program

This year the Parents of Preschoolers, Inc., have operated a program for 18 kindergarten children and a before and afterschool program for about 26 children in grades 1 through 6 at Ayrlawn School, a public school near NIH on Oakmont Avenue, Bethesda. The group also operates the Preschool Developmental Center in Bldg. 35, which enrolls about 60 children.

Plans Now Being Made

So that plans may be made for the possible expansion of the kindergarten and afterschool programs at Ayrlawn, parents who wish to add their children to the waiting list should call Virginia Burke, NIH child care coordinator, Ext. 61811, before the end of February.

Parents who wish to observe the Ayrlawn program may call Sandra Brooks at 530-5550.

There are three kindergarten teachers this year. Montgomery County residents who wish to take advantage of the 2 1/2 hour classes may obtain transfer forms from Ayrlawn School.

Several counselors supervise first through sixth graders in afterschool recreation, arts and crafts, and sports. Children in those grades who could arrange transport to Ayrlawn are eligible for the program.

The before and afterschool programs provide full day care from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.—except for the hours the children attend classes on school days—and all day on school holidays which are not Federal holidays.

A few spaces may be available in the day care program for 5-year-olds who are not Montgomery County residents and would not be attending the kindergarten class at Ayrlawn.

Maurizio Pollini, Pianist, Gives FAES Concert on Feb. 22

The distinguished Italian pianist, Maurizio Pollini, will present a program of music by Haydn, Beethoven, and Schubert on Feb. 22 at the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

This is the fifth concert in the 1975-76 Chamber Music Series sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences.

Admission is by ticket only.

Presentation, 200 Years of American Medicine

The microscopes are displayed in a special area which is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Among the instruments exhibited at NLM on loan from the Billings Microscope Collection are four compound monocular microscopes. L to r: 1730 microscope from Edmund Culpeper, London; Culpeper-type, Nuremberg, Germany, 1750; Dolland, London, about 1825; folding microscope from J. Zontmayer, Philadelphia, about 1880.

32 Historic Microscopes From Billings Collection Added to NLM Exhibit

In 1874, Lt. Col. George A. Otis, curator of the Army Medical Museum, acquired several historic microscopes. However, it was Dr. John Shaw Billings, curator of the Museum from 1888 to 1893 and Director of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office from 1870 to 1886, who provided the impetus for expanding the collection.

He enlisted the aid of John Mayall, Jr., of London, a member of the Royal Microscopical Society and well-known collector of microscopes, to procure representative instruments.

By 1888 Mr. Mayall had personally selected 141 instruments for the collection. Meanwhile, Dr. Billings searched for other instruments and stimulated other collectors to contribute to the growing collection.

Of the 700 microscopes which comprise the Billings Collection, 32 are now on display at the National Library of Medicine. Representative instruments illustrate the evolution of microscopy from the 17th to the 20th centuries, beginning with a replica of Van Leeuwenhoek's 1673 simple, single lens instrument.

The Medical Museum of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology prepared this exhibit to accompany the NLM bicentennial.

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The Medical Museum of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology prepared this exhibit to accompany the NLM bicentennial.
Dr. Zifferblatt Is Named To Special NHLI Post

Dr. Steven M. Zifferblatt has been appointed as a special assistant to Dr. Robert I. Levy, Director of the National Heart and Lung Institute.

Dr. Zifferblatt will review the data of all NHLI-supported clinical trials and study compliance with prescribed clinical regimens; for example, changes in diet, cessation of smoking, and adherence to drug regimens over extended periods of time.

He will then develop a series of monographs, analyzing these behavioral activities and recommending ways to achieve long-term adherence in current and future clinical trials.

Dr. Zifferblatt will also participate in existing clinical programs that relate directly to patients.

Dr. Zifferblatt comes to the NHLI from Stanford University where he was assistant professor of education and research associate in psychiatry. He was also a member of the Subcommittee for Recruitment and Adherence, a research and consultation group for promoting medication adherence in the Coronary Primary Prevention Trial.

Previously, he was in charge of a treatment program at the Peninsula Children's Center, Palo Alto, dealing with behavior modification treatment programs for psychotic and autistic children and their families.

He was also co-founder of "Learning House," a group home for problem children; and consultant to the American Institutes of Research, "Project Outreach," and the National Institute of Education.

Dr. Zifferblatt was recently honored by the Palo Alto Junior Chamber of Commerce as its "Young Man of the Year."

FEW Will Meet on Feb. 26; Sex Discrimination Is Topic

Sex Discrimination will be the topic of the next meeting of the Suburban Maryland Chapter of Federally Employed Women, Inc.

Elisa Kaufman, a lawyer, will describe the step-by-step process of filing a sex discrimination case, and Joyce Whitley, Equal Employment Officer of the Food and Drug Administration, will discuss actual cases.

The dinner meeting will be held at the Bethesda Naval Officers' Club on Thursday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. The program will begin at 8 p.m.

For reservations, contact Barbara Laskey, Room 12-C-09, Parklawn Bldg., 443-3735, by Feb. 19. The cost is $6.50.

Scientist George Yee, an EEO Champion, Changes Career to Help Foster Concepts

Ethnic programs stressing the cultural aspects of each race do away with stereotype biases, Mr. Yee said, in explaining why this project was started on the campus.

He expressed the wish that more NIH'ers would turn out for the programs which "were becoming so good, so professional."

Tacked on the wall of George S. Yee's office is a colorful display of four programs celebrating ethnic weeks at NIH. They are American Indian Week, La Semana de los Latinos, The Black Contribution, and Asian-American Cultural Week.

Mr. Yee is the man behind the committee that brought each program to a successful fruition—he heads the NIH Minority Cultural Committee.

But that's only one of his titles—officially, he is program manager for the Division of EEO.

Mr. Yee is also a scientist—a microbiologist. He came to NIH in 1962 as operations officer of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Virus Reagents Program. He has a B.S. from Northeastern University, an M.S. from the U. of Massachusetts, and he did graduate work at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Serves in Chemical Corps

He also served as a captain in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps on duty in the Biological Laboratories at Fort Detrick, Md.

In 1969, at NIAID, he became Leprosy and Tuberculosis Program officer in the Geographic Medicine Branch.

"Did you do any travelling?" he was asked, and he rattled off "Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Philippines."

In 1970, he was asked to head NIAID's EEO Advisory Committee—the first in the Institute.

"This was my first eye-opening experience to EEO and what it meant at NIH."

Theoretically, at that moment, NIH lost a scientist, but gained a Civil Rights champion. Mr. Yee is a second generation American—his parents were born on the West Coast—he and his sisters were adopted when they were very young by a white American family who lived in Boston.

His foster father was a pharmacist, and his foster mother was a professional dancing teacher.

"And I'm a damn Yankee," Mr. Yee solemnly explained.

Kipling was not entirely wrong for East is East and West is West—but neither was he entirely right. In this case, the twain almost met —with just a gap here and there.

But it was that gap that bothered Mr. Yee. He found it difficult to close, especially when he was working as a chemist in a pharmaceutical firm in the midwest.

Mr. Yee also talked about his scientific career at NIH in the early days of EEO.

"Being Asian-American, I felt that we were being discriminated against. That was one strike; he mentioned another. "I also felt that because I did not have my Ph.D. degree, my future in a scientific program here was limited."

Those were reasons enough for him to become entirely involved with EEO and assisting in the unseating of the status quo for all minority groups at NIH.

"Discriminations and biases still go on. When you're discriminated against, you're discriminated against—for no matter what reason.

(See MR. YEE, Page 6)
high spermidine/spermine ratio. It is the first biochemical abnormality to be detected in carriers of the abnormal gene in cystic fibrosis, and it may provide a clue to the cause of the disease. Polybrosis, and it may provide a clue of the abnormal gene in cystic fibrosis to be detected in carriers.

On ornithine decarboxylase, the polyamine measurement may prove a useful tool in identifying asymptomatic carriers.

In a session devoted to fundamental research on polyamine biology, Dr. Diane Russell, University of Arizona, described her work on ornithine decarboxylase, the regulatory enzyme in the polyamine biosynthetic pathway. She has found that induction of CDC in a number of systems is preceded by the activation of cAMP-dependent protein kinase. Dr. Nicholas Seller, Max-Planck Institute, Hamburg, Germany, describes his work in mammalian systems.

Dr. Seller also presented his research which examined the possible functional role of polyamines. His data supported the interaction of spermidine and spermine on the membrane-located enzymes, cholinesterase and Ca-ATPase.

On the subject of exocrine secretory processes, Nobel laureate Dr. George E. Palade, Yale University Medical School, discussed the secretory activity of pancreatic cells.

Techniques Described
Through the use of autoradiographic techniques, he has followed the secretory proteins from production through segregation, intracellular transport to the Golgi complex, concentration, and storage in granules, to final discharge from the cell.

Two investigators, Dr. James Jamieson, Yale University School of Medicine, and Dr. John Mangos, University of Florida, described their work on secretory activity using tissue culture.

Until recently, CF research has suffered from the lack of a good in vitro system, but the development of a tissue culture method has given scientists a tool with which to probe the nature of cell surface membrane receptors which might be abnormal in cystic fibrosis.

Dr. Jamieson worked with separated pancreatic exocrine cells to study their structure and function. He examined cell surface properties by using sugar-specific lectins tagged with both ferritin and 125I, enabling morphologic and biochemical identification of binding sites.

It appears that during differentiation, alterations occur in the cell surface carbohydrate patterns which may reflect functional differentiation, such as specific hormone responsiveness.

Dr. Mangos described his method for isolating intact secretory cells from the parotid gland, a technique with which he can characterize cholinergic and adrenergic receptors of the parotid cells.

Other NIH scientists who explained their research were Drs. Herbert and Celia Tabor and Dr. Takima Oka, all of NIAMDD.

Drs. Tabor described the metabolism of polyamines in bacterial systems. Dr. Oka discussed his studies which indicated that spermidine may be an important regulatory substance in lactogenesis in the developing mammary gland.

The day-long birthday commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr., held on Jan. 15 in the Parklawn Bldg., was observed by HEW employees and their families. Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, introduced the principal speaker—Fannie Lou Hamer—civil rights leader. During the morning session, PHS administrators were among those taking part in a panel discussion on Dr. King and his ideals.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants
1/5—Dr. Pi-yeong Chi, China, Environmental Biometry Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Michael D. Hogan, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
1/6—Dr. Jacques Michel Pommer, France, Clinical Endocrinology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Jacob Robbins, NIAMDD, Bldg. 10, Rm. 8N315.
1/12—Dr. Mann-Jy Chen, Taiwan, Virus and Disease Modification Section. Sponsor: Dr. Takis Papas, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 1D19.
1/18—Dr. Luigi Cervetto, Italy, Laboratory of Neurophysiology. Sponsor: Dr. M. G. F. Fuortes, NINCDS, Bldg. 36, Rm. 2C02.

Visitor From Great Britain
1/21—Dr. Stephen Gilbert Hillier, Great Britain, Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Griff T. Ross, NICHD, Bldg. 10, Rm. 12N204.
1/26—Dr. Cristobal L. Miranda, Philippines, Pharmacology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. James R. Fouts, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
1/26—Dr. Nydia M. Morales, Costa Rica, Pharmacology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. H. B. Matthews, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
1/26—Dr. Kim-Ching Sandy Pang, Canada, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. James R. Gillette, NHI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 8N117.
1/28—Dr. Motohiro Kato, Japan, Laboratory of Experimental Neurology. Sponsor: Dr. William Caveness, NINCDS, Bldg. 36, Rm. 4A27.

Prevention of Deep Vein And Lung Clots Is Topic Of Workshop Publication
The proceedings of a workshop, entitled Prophylactic Therapy of Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism (DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 76-866), were recently published by the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources of the National Heart and Lung Institute.

The volume contains discussions of the scope of the problem, current status of diagnosis, therapeutic measures, and prevention, as well as committee reports on pathologic criteria for fatal acute pulmonary embolism, methods for obtaining more accurate clinical data, and guidelines for a uniform approach to diagnosis.

About 50,000 patients die each year from deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism—frequently encountered complications of medical disorders, surgical procedures, and trauma.

Preventive approaches to these disorders are clearly desirable since a significant percentage of these fatalities occur among patients who—without these complications—would probably have survived their illnesses or surgical procedures.

Increasingly effective preventive approaches are resulting from many investigators’ contributions to:

• increased understanding of the mechanism of blood coagulation and the interaction of heparin with this mechanism;
• a greater insight into platelet physiology and the therapeutic potential of platelet-inhibiting drugs;
• more sensitive diagnostic tools to permit meaningful clinical studies;
• techniques for conducting controlled clinical trials utilizing this basic information.

This publication, stock number 017-204-00487-1, is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. GPO, at $3.30 per copy.
SUNY Research Team Traces Association Between Apnea, Other Factors in SIDS

By Doreen Mead

According to scientists at the State University of New York, Upstate Medical Center, infants who die of sudden infant death syndrome may have been prone to frequent and breathing (apnea) during sleep.

A research team led by Dr. Alfred Steinschneider has traced a strong association between apnea and other factors linked to the sudden infant death syndrome.

Recognized SIDS factors include sleep, postnatal age, low birthweight, and nasopharyngitis.

In addition, the scientists found that certain physiological functions may be severely altered during prolonged episodes of sleep apnea.

This suggests that apnea, in combination with other physiological events, may be a precipitating factor in SIDS, or crib death. The SUNY group, supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, is studying this possibility.

Between 7,500 and 10,000 infants each year become victims of SIDS. Typically, an apparently healthy infant, usually between 2 to 4 months—seen as the peak age for SIDS—is put to bed and is later found dead in its crib.

Five Infants Studied

Although the baby may have had a slight respiratory infection, post mortem examination finds no condition serious enough to account for the death.

These investigators first noted the possible association of sleep apnea with SIDS while studying five infants who had been referred to the center because of recurrent cyanotic (bluish discoloration) and apneic episodes.

In the sleep laboratory, all of the infants were observed to have frequent brief apneic episodes.

On the ward, they had a number of prolonged apneic (15 seconds or longer) and cyanotic episodes, some of them sufficiently long and severe to prompt vigorous intervention.

As Dr. Steinschneider described it, the babies “merely slept, stopped breathing, and turned blue. They were not struggling.”

Cardiac Rate Observed

Prolonged apnea showed up most often in babies with an upper respiratory infection. Two of the infants subsequently died at home, and medical findings on autopsy were similar to those found in SIDS.

The scientists then began a research program focusing on respiratory and cardiac rate activity during sleep.

This decision was based on the knowledge that dramatic, although transient, changes can occur in nervous regulatory mechanisms of respiratory or heart activity (“autonomic storm”) while an infant is sleeping.

The investigators believed that the sudden onset of sleep apnea could occur in an otherwise normal infant, but not necessarily result in death.

The researchers found that prolonged apnic episodes were associated with marked changes in cardiac rate. Some premature babies in the group experienced sudden prolonged periods of sleep apnea accompanied by cyanosis and severe bradycardia (abnormal slowness of the heart beat) and cardiac arrhythmia (erratic heartbeats), demanding immediate intervention.

It appears that the severity of an episode of sleep apnea may be related to these more profound alterations of physiological function.

Turning to the variables associated with SIDS, Dr. Steinschneider’s group systematically studied sleep, postnatal age, low birthweight, and nasopharyngitis to see whether these factors were related to prolonged episodes of apnea.

The investigators examined another group of infants with transient cyanotic or apneic episodes. After a week of clinical observation the babies were found to fall into one of these categories:

- Infants who had prolonged sleep apnea;
- Those who had both prolonged apnea and feeding difficulties;
- Those who had no difficulty during sleep but became apneic or cyanotic during feeding;
- Those who had neither feeding nor sleep problems, but had seizures, breathing “spells” or skin color changes.

The same babies were then monitored during a single “standard” nap to see if infants subject to prolonged sleep episodes could be identified.

It developed that those infants experiencing prolonged apneas during sleep and also feeding, and during sleep alone, did suffer more frequent and longer apneic episodes during the standard nap.

Thus, the “nap” method showed which infants were at risk and, in addition, demonstrated the test’s reliability as a possible diagnostic tool.

The nap research also revealed that rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, the sleep characterized by increased variability of respiratory rate, heart rate, and other physiological changes, is associated with more frequent apnea.

In contrast, during non-rapid eye movement (NREM) sleep, heart rate and breathing are slow and regular.

The researchers conclude from these findings that the same basic neurophysiological mechanism may be responsible for both prolonged sleep apnea and for the brief apnea frequently noted during routine sleep studies.

Preliminary studies with month-old infants of varying birthweights indicated that low birthweight infants were more likely to have longer and more frequent apneic episodes.

Previous Research Explained

A previous longitudinal study on a small group of premature babies had established that apnea increased during the first few weeks of life and decreased as the child matured.

In that study, REM sleep again was associated with more frequent apneic episodes.

However, duration was unaffected by sleep stage, thus suggesting that apnea may be best understood as subject to two sets of neurophysiologic mechanisms, one responsible for initiating an episode, the other for limiting its duration.

Finally, evidence of a greater daily occurrence of sleep apnea during periods when infants were described as having “colds” was reported, supporting previous observations to this effect.

Dr. Steinschneider and his associates are continuing their research in evaluating the sleep apnea hypothesis in SIDS.

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Women Golfers, Beginners Can Still Join NIH Golf Ass’n

Women golfers can still join the NIH Women’s Golf Association for the 1976 season.

Beginners who do not have a handicap should pick up an instruction sheet at the R&W office in Bldg. 31, Room 1A-18, Ext. 64600, or call Rose Shreiber, beginners’ coordinator, 443-1374.

New golfers with a handicap of 40 or less for 9 holes should turn in three attested score cards to score Sue Hamilton, Westwood Bldg., Room 7A-07, Ext. 67383, to be eligible for assignment to flights A, B, or C.

Golfers have until April to qualify.
After CC nurse Esther McConnell (l) described the platelet donation procedure to a group of Navy officers' wives visiting the NIH Plateletpheresis Center recently, four of them agreed to have their platelets typed and, if they match those of a CC patient, become donors. Gail Welcome (r) starts to process one of the visitors. NIH employees who would like information about how to become platelet donors may call Ext. 61130 for an appointment.

NHII Issues Proceedings Of Working Conference About Health Behavior

The Proceedings of the NHLI Working Conference on Health Behavior, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 76-868, have recently been published.

The conference, sponsored by the National Heart and Lung Institute's Office of Prevention, Control and Education, was held May 12-15, 1975, at Bayse, Va.

Exchange Information

The major goal of this conference was to provide the Institute with information and advice from behavioral/social scientists on health behavior problems related to the prevention and control of heart, lung, and blood disorders and, at the same time, to familiarize scientists with these problems and research opportunities.

The Proceedings include the keynote address: Behavioral Medicine as a New Frontier: Opportunities and Dangers, presented by Dr. Neal E. Miller, Rockefeller U.

Single copies of the 300-page Proceedings are available, free of charge, from Dr. Stephen M. Weiss, chief, Health Education and Behavioral Research Branch, OPCE, Bldg. 31, Rm. 5A-08.

Joys of 'Living Sober' Depicted in EHS Film

A film, entitled "Living Sober: the Class of '76," is being shown by the Employee Health Service on Feb. 17 and 20.

In this 28-minute film, recovered alcoholics from all walks of life present their personal testimonials on the positive aspects of sobriety as they meet on a bright, sunny day to celebrate another dry year.

Some interesting points about rehabilitative procedures are also included in the movie.

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, the film will be shown in the Westwood Bldg., Conference Room D, at 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., and on Friday, Feb. 20, in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall, at 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Marilyn Poling, Ext. 63164, a nurse counselor on the EHS staff who has been assigned to the Bldg. 31 Health Unit, is available for consultation on alcohol problems.

Minorities Seek Training

Mr. Yee, as EEO program manager, Mr. Yee is aware that many minority employees at NIH are asking where can I go from here, "and they are not getting the complete answers that they need," said Mr. Yee.

"They are getting the answer that training is a privilege. I don't agree. Training should be a continual process in an employee's development—formal training or on the job. The success of all training programs depends upon the involvement of everybody, including all levels of management."

There is nothing of the thwarted scientist about Mr. Yee—he too much likes his present assignment—but he does feel that EEO progress "is not as visible as researching the cure for a disease in a scientific project. There you have a check and a balance; in EEO there is no such check or balance."

"Also, my reading has changed—no more science. Now I'm continually reviewing EEO policy and procedures. I'm trying to keep up with the laws and regulations governing EEO and Civil Rights activities."

"No," he admitted, "I don't feel that training for any part of my career—at the present time or what has happened in the past."

Symposium Participants Evaluating New Tests To Identify Mutagens

A symposium-workshop on In Vitro Metabolic Activation is being held Feb. 9-11 at Research Triangle Park, N.C.

The meeting is co-sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Division of Drug Metabolism of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Identification Is Important

Because of increasing concern about possible action of many chemicals in the environment, identification of potential mutagens before the population is exposed and suffers genetic damage is of utmost importance.

Preliminary screening of many chemicals for mutagenic activity has been made possible by recently developed short-term tests.

One of the aims of the symposium is to evaluate these new tests which may provide less expensive, more comprehensive, and more rapid results than conventional toxicological procedures.

Biochemical pharmacologists and geneticists participating in the symposium will consider the use of in vitro microsomal activating systems in combination with selected bacterial strains (i.e., the "Ames test") for identifying mutagenic and pro-mutagenic chemicals.

TRAINING TIPS

The Training and Education Branch, DPM, has announced a series of courses to begin in March. Application deadlines are approximately 2 weeks before classes start.

Beginning Typing 3/1-4/14
Small Purchase Procedures 3/5
Telephone Techniques 3/10
Better Office Skills and Behavior 3/15-4/19
ABC Refresher Shorthand 3/15-5/5
Basic Time and Attendance 3/19
Clerical Orientation 3/23

Further information is available from B/1/D personnel offices or the Training and Education Branch, Ext. 62146.
Students in Adult Education Classes Set Own Pace, Work Hard, Gain Basic Skills

Twice a week for 2 hours during their working time, over 100 NIH employees attend Adult Education Classes. Permanent NIH employees are eligible and may request placement testing for this program at any time through their personnel offices.

The Training and Education Branch, Division of Personnel Management, then places persons in the nine currently scheduled classes which aid in development of basic skills—such as writing, reading, speaking, and arithmetic—and are geared toward attainment of a General Educational Development certificate comparable to a high school diploma.

Other Classes Listed

In addition to those described below, two classes taught by Eileen Kyle and Pat Sadler meet in the Clinical Center. Ilse Fleischman, Miiki Goebbe, and Irene Kimmelblatt also teach classes in Bldg. 31.

The program allows participants to enroll at their own level of academic proficiency and continue their studies on a year-round basis until they have achieved their goals. There is no cost to the employee or to the B/I/D.

Graduates Continue Studies

Mrs. Sadler, who has been teaching three Adult Education Classes at NIH since August 1972, recalls 11 former students who received GED certificates, five of whom have applied to continue their education in the Upward Mobility College.

Mrs. Sadler is also one of several teachers at the Parklawn Bldg. Recently, during a typical afternoon class, Mrs. Sadler and her students were working on punctuation and the intricacies of restrictive and non-restrictive clauses in simple, compound, and complex sentences. On alternate days they tackle mathematics.

The class, which has equal numbers of men and women, had completed exercises at home in English 2200—a programmed text that enables the students to set their own pace.

Take Test When Ready

That afternoon they were providing tricky examples for each other to solve and asking Mrs. Sadler for assistance with some of the tougher problems. Then they took two end-of-chapter tests as they felt prepared to do so.

On this particular day, Robert Grey was anxiously awaiting the results of the State's high school equivalency test he had taken in Upper Marlboro on two previous Saturdays. He has had three different teachers during his studies at NIH and was looking forward with mixed emotions to leaving the group. The happy result—he passed!

Mrs. Sadler, who holds B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Texas Southern University and the University of Houston, had previously been a teacher and counselor for several years in her native Texas.

Teachers Enjoy Program Too

She finds part-time teaching and the individualized pace of instruction rewarding. She and her husband, Dr. William A. Sadler, chief of the Population and Reproduction Grants Branch, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, have three school age children at home.

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings other classes meet in the same cheerful room in Bldg. 31 with Ardis Breslauer, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, who has taught for 2½ years at NIH.

Sailing Assn. Gets Under Way At First Meeting on Feb. 26

The first 1976 meeting of the NIH Sailing Association will be held Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room of Bldg. 30. In addition to organizational business, a short film on sailing will be shown. NIH employees interested in sailing are invited to attend.

The Association maintains a fleet of four 10-foot day-sailers at Annapolis Harbor which are available for charter to qualified members at low rates. Racing and onboard teaching programs will be offered.

Membership is open to all NIH employees and their families. Application forms can be obtained at NIH offices. For further information, call John J. Wilson, Ext. 67843.

Mr. Breslauer, standing, answers a question from John Abney, while Fred Lunsford, Lilly Mack, and Rosa Dennis continue working on mathematical problems. Mrs. Sadler, who has been teaching three Adult Education Classes at NIH since August 1972, recalls 11 former students who received GED certificates, five of whom have applied to continue their education in the Upward Mobility College.

Like the other teachers, she is hired by the Montgomery County Schools and recently participated in an inservice training course for the new series of programmed texts used in adult education throughout the county.

Mrs. Breslauer, like her colleagues, finds the students hard-working and enthusiastic—in fact, three more people have just signed up to take the placement test and start the classes.

Skills Used Daily

Since improved communications and computation skills are helpful in daily life as well as on the job, and classes during working hours do not add to commuting schedules nor distract from family obligations, nearly all the students who begin the program continue until they achieve their goals.

According to Milton Tipperman, NIH adult education coordinator, a computer search of personnel records recently showed that about 10 percent of all NIH employees have not completed high school and thus are potential participants in the adult education program.

Employees interested in the program may contact their personnel offices or Mr. Tipperman, Bldg. 31, Room B2-B-39, Ext. 62146.

628 Employees Change Health Plans, Options

During the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program's "Open Season," from Nov. 15 to Dec. 31, 628 employees made changes.

Of this total, 197 employees changed their enrollment plan; 229 changed their option or type of enrollment within the same plan; 187 enrolled, and 15 cancelled enrollments.

New premium rates on health benefit plans became effective Jan. 4, and these new biweekly deductions were reflected in Jan. 27 paychecks.

Check Deductions

Employees are requested to verify whether deductions for health benefits enrollments are correct on their Salary and Leave Notification Statement. If the amount withheld is incorrect, timekeepers should be contacted.

628 Employees Change

Mr. Breslauer, standing, answers a question from John Abney, while Fred Lunsford, Lilly Mack, and Rosa Dennis continue working on mathematical problems concerned with space and time.

the adult education program.

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FAES-Hopkins Program Seeks Faculty Expansion

The Cooperative Graduate Program in the Biomedical Sciences, sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, Inc., begun in the late 1960's, seeks faculty expansion. The Program is expected to increase gradually in size over the next several years to about 10 students.

A joint FAES-Johns Hopkins Committee administers the Program, selects students, and oversees their course preparation in the department of biology at Johns Hopkins and their thesis research at NIH.

At the end of the first year of study, the student chooses a preceptor from a list of NIH faculty. Students may work briefly—for instance, during summers—in several laboratories before making a definite choice.

Provisions have been made covering tuition and a living stipend for up to 5 years of study.

Other Disciplines Added

Originally, a few biochemists comprised the NIH faculty for this Program. FAES plans to enlarge the faculty to include other disciplines and more investigators. To be included on the faculty, NIH scientists must be willing to commit themselves to teaching and participating in other student-related activities at NIH or at the Johns Hopkins campus, whether or not the faculty member has a graduate student at that time.

NIH scientists who wish to participate in the Program may apply by submitting a curriculum vita and a list of recent publications to: FAES-Johns Hopkins Cooperative Graduate Program, Bldg. 10, Room B1-L101.

For further information, see Dr. Alan Schechter, NIAMDD, Bldg. 10, Room 9N-307, or Dr. Elizabeth Neufeld, NIAMDD, Bldg. 10, Room 9N-236, Ext. 62710.

Tax Computing Assistance Is Available in Building 31

Tax forms, tax information, and limited assistance in computing returns are available in Bldg. 31, Rooms 5B-38, 5B-39, on Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. On Thursdays—at appointment only—assistance is given from 2:30 to 7 p.m.; call Ext. 61710.

In requesting help, a draft of the tax return—completed as much as possible—should be given to the tax assistant. Tax forms only will be available in Bldgs. 10 and 13 and the Westwood Bldg. Room numbers will be posted later.

Fredrickson Taking Part in AAAS Annual Meeting

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, and a number of other NIH scientists will be taking a prominent part in the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science scheduled Feb. 18-24 in Boston.

The theme of this 142nd annual meeting is Science and Our Expectations: Bicentennial and Beyond.

On Feb. 18, Dr. Fredrickson will discuss The Impact of Biomedical Research on Health Care. On Feb. 19 he will participate in a panel discussion on The Role of Controlled Therapeutic Investigations in the Nation's Health Program.

Another feature of this year's meeting is a Conference on Minorities in the Sciences and Biomedical Science to critically evaluate efforts to increase minority participation.

The Fiscal 1977 budget was submitted as a consolidated appropriation for all Bureaus, Institutes, and Divisions except for buildings and facilities which remain a separate appropriation.

1976 Summary by Appropriation
(Budget authority in thousands)

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* NIH is still operating on a continuing resolution for training programs.

Name to NHLI Posts

Dr. Wolf W. Zuelzer has been appointed acting director of the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources. National Heart and Lung Institute. An expert in blood banking sciences, Dr. Zuelzer was also recently appointed associate director for Blood Resources and Chief of the Blood Resources and Transplantation Branch, NHLI.

Dr. George C. Murray has been appointed deputy director of the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources. He had been special assistant to the director of that Division since joining NHLI in 1974.

Dr. Murray came to NIH in 1968, and held several positions in the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke. In 1972 he was appointed head of the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Section, and head of the Section on Communicative Disorders, both in Collaborative and Field Research.

FAES Assists Foreign Visitors

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences is sponsoring a program to aid foreign visitors when they arrive at NIH. Furniture and household items have been purchased for temporary loan to visiting fellows or scientists to ease the initial relocation problems.

FAES is also accepting donations of such items in good condition for this program. Donations are tax deductible.

To donate items or to arrange to borrow furnishings, call Nancy Beecum, Ext. 65272.