The NIH Record

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

June 9 1981 Vol. XXXIII No. 12

National Institutes of Health

GM Cancer Foundation Awardees To Speak at NIH

Four prize winners of the third annual General Motors Cancer Research Foundation awards (whose names will be kept secret until announced at a New York City press conference June 16) will present scientific lectures, Wednesday, June 17, in the Clinical Center Masur Auditorium from 1 to 3:15 p.m. Each winner will receive a solid gold medal and a $100,000 cash prize.

The lectures will be open to all NIH employees on a first-come first-served basis, and will be presented annually at NIH for the next 5 years. The CC's 14th floor auditorium will accommodate any overflow attendees with a color video transmission.

Three awards are given for the most outstanding contributions in specific areas of cancer research: the Charles F. Kettering award, for research in the diagnosis or treatment of cancer; the Charles S. Mott award, given for research in the area of cancer prevention including environmental influences; and the Alfred P. Sloan, Jr. award, for basic science research, particularly in the areas of etiology and pathogenesis of cancer. This year, two persons are tied for one of the awards.

Candidates are nominated by some 8,000 to 10,000 professors or associate professors in leading medical institutions and universities. Recipients are selected by the General Motors awards assembly consisting of 32 international cancer research scientists. Dr. Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., Director of the National Cancer Institute, recently joined the assembly.

The awards presentation will take place in the evening at the U.S. Department of State following the NIH lectures. □

Poison Sumac

This is the season! Watch out for poison ivy, oak, and sumac (see page 8).

PHS Honors 15 NIH Employees For Outstanding Achievements

Fifteen NIH'ers were recognized for their outstanding achievements and contributions at the Seventh Annual Public Health Service Honor Awards ceremony held May 29 in the HHS North Bldg.

Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Health, HHS, presented the awards with assistance from NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson.

Four NIH commissioned officers received the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award given to a PHS commissioned officer. It is bestowed upon an officer with a genuine sense of public service who has made outstanding contributions to the mission of the Department.

One NIH commissioned officer received the Meritorious Service Medal. This medal recognizes a single important achievement, a career notable for accomplishments in technical or professional fields of unusually high quality and initiative.

The PHS Superior Service Award, the highest award for civil service employees presented by PHS, recognizes superior contributions of an extraordinary nature over a period of time. Six NIH employees received this recognition.

The PHS Special Recognition Award recognizes and honors an outstanding and specific contribution of meritorious benefit to the Department which has substantial impact toward the advancement of its mission. Four NIH employees received this award.

(See PHS HONORS, Page 4)

Proposed Paid Parking Policy, Reimbursement Forms Released by GSA to Commuters

This month, the General Services Administration is releasing two forms for employees to sign regarding the payment for parking by Government employees since November 1979. The forms deal with the possibility that NIH employees might be reimbursed for the 17-month period they paid for parking, or that the Government may still seek to collect for back parking fees, since the Federal ruling suspending payment was issued in March 1981.

One form—Parking Fee Notice—informs employees that paid parking was indefinitely suspended in March because of a legal suit brought by two Government employee unions who alleged that the payment of parking fees by employees was illegal. The March court ruling has been appealed by the Government, and the case is due to be heard in September.

The notice also informs employees that if Government is successful in its appeal they will possibly seek to collect back parking fees for the time the injunction was in effect, and that as of October 1st employees should expect significant increases in parking fees.

In addition, the notice instructs employees to fill out a claim form if they wish to be reimbursed. The claim form reminds employees that it is in their interest to keep all records of payment which might support their claim.

Both the Parking Fee Notice and the Claim Form are to be signed and returned to the NIH Parking Office, Bldg. 31, Rm. B1C–11 by June 26.

Currently, the NIH Parking Office is preparing a desk-to-desk memo explaining the two GSA requests, which will be distributed by Monday, June 15 to all NIH employees. It is expected that most NIH employees will fill out the forms and return them.

Additionally, each B/I/D parking coordinator will be able to answer questions as to what kinds of proof a person must have, who should submit a claim if they rode in a carpool, and other details, although not all, about the proposed reimbursement plan.

It is expected that the plan will be a lengthy process. Presently, the NIH Parking Office is assembling a computerized list of current and former NIH employees who have paid for parking. This information will be submitted to GSA by July 10.

Once the data is developed, a manual cross check will be done between the Government's record and what the employee has claimed. Details regarding discrepancies have yet to be worked out.

Further information about GSA policy regarding paid parking will be given in future issues of *The NIH Record*. □

The NIH Record

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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03, Phone 496-2125

Editor
Jerry Gordon

Staff Writers
William B. Reinckens
Joyce F. McCarthy

Staff Correspondents
CC, Barbara Smakula; DCRT, Mary Hodges; DPM, Judy Fouche; DRG, Sue Meadows; DRR, Barbara Menick; DRS, Arthur F. Moore; FIC, Susan P. Stark; NCI, Patricia A. Newman; NEI, Marsha Corbett; NHLBI, Bill Sanders; NIA, Ann Dieffenbach; NIAID, Jeanne Winnick; NIAMDD, Linda Cross; NICHD, Pamela Driscoll; NIDR, Sally Wilberding; NIEHS, Hugh J. Lee; NIGMS, Wanda Warddell; NIMH, Paul Sirovatka; NINCDS, Diane Striar; NLM, Roger L. Gilkeson.

Protein Hormone Regulation Subject of June 11 Lecture

Dr. Sidney Bernhard, an FIC scholar from the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oreg., has organized a series of discussions on Molecular Coupling in Biological Systems.

The topic for the June 11 session will be Vectorial Ion Transport and Its Protein-Hormone Regulation. The meeting will be held in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, at 8 p.m. Scheduled to speak are Dr. G. Guidotti of Harvard and Dr. G. Inesi of the University of Maryland Medical School.

Another seminar will be held on June 17, in the Stone House conference room, at 8 p.m. The subject will be Protein-Protein Couplings in the Receptor-Adenylate Cyclase System. Speakers will be announced at a future date.□

Open Meeting on Merit Pay To Be Held June 15

The NIH Federal Executive and Professional Association will hold an open meeting on the Merit Pay System at NIH on Monday, June 15 in Wilson Hall from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The speakers will include Calvin B. Baldwin, Jr., NIH Associate Director for Administration; Edward E. Nicholas, Jr., director, Division of Personnel Management; and Randall S. Higgins, position classification specialist and NIH coordinator for implementation of merit pay, Division of Personnel Management.

Third Session On Topic

This is the third session on the merit pay system sponsored by the association. The speakers will discuss problems and accomplishments expected from the system, details on how the system operates at NIH, the extension of the system to lower grade levels, and appeal procedures.

For further information, contact Dr. Suzanne Stimler, president, at 496-5411. □

Black Business Leader To Speak on June 25

Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, founder and chairman of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers, will be the guest speaker at the NIH Black Cultural Committee's summer program, Save Our Children: Strategies for the '80s, on Thursday, June 25, at noon, in the Masur Auditorium.

The program's theme arose out of concern for the murdered children in Atlanta, and the importance of planned strategies to improve the lot of youth.

OIC, an international self-help training program, has 150 centers in American cities and 10 foreign countries. The OIC businesses have aided thousands of blacks by putting profits back into the community. Over 60,000 disadvantaged people of all ethnic groups have been trained through these programs.

Rev. Sullivan, pastor of Philadelphia's Zion Baptist Church, holds the distinction of being the first black man ever to be elected to the board of directors of the General Motors Corporation.

He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the establishment of the Leon H. Sullivan Chair in the School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin.

Rev. Sullivan was named by *Ebony* magazine as one of the 100 most influential blacks in the U.S. today.

In 1977, he authored the "Sullivan Principles," a set of six standards for U.S. companies operating in South Africa, aimed at achieving equal opportunity and racial harmony.□

Scleroderma Session To Be Held in Wilson Hall

A seminar on scleroderma, designed for scleroderma patients, their families, and health professionals, will be held at NIH on Thursday, June 25, 1981, at 7 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. Dr. Herbert Baraf, a local rheumatologist, and a patient with scleroderma will be the speakers. Time will be allowed for questions from the audience.

Scleroderma is a disorder in which the fine blood vessels are abnormal and the body's connective tissue becomes hardened and fibrous. It affects the skin, the musculoskeletal system and, in many persons, internal organs.

This seminar on scleroderma is sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, Metropolitan Washington Chapter, in collaboration with NIADDK. The meeting is part of an ongoing effort by the Arthritis Foundation to provide patients and health practitioners with more information about arthritis and related disorders.

This presentation is free and open to the public. Preregistration is encouraged, although not required. For more information, call the Arthritis Foundation at 331-7395. □

June 25 Sailing Club Meeting Features Sail Trim Expert

The next meeting of the NIH Sailing Association will be held on Thursday, June 25, at 8 p.m., in Rm. 117, Bldg. 30.

Joe Evans, sail trim expert of North Sails Chesapeake, will be the featured speaker. He will show the new North Sails movie on trimming sails, present slides, and answer questions on sail trim and racing tactics.

Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome.□

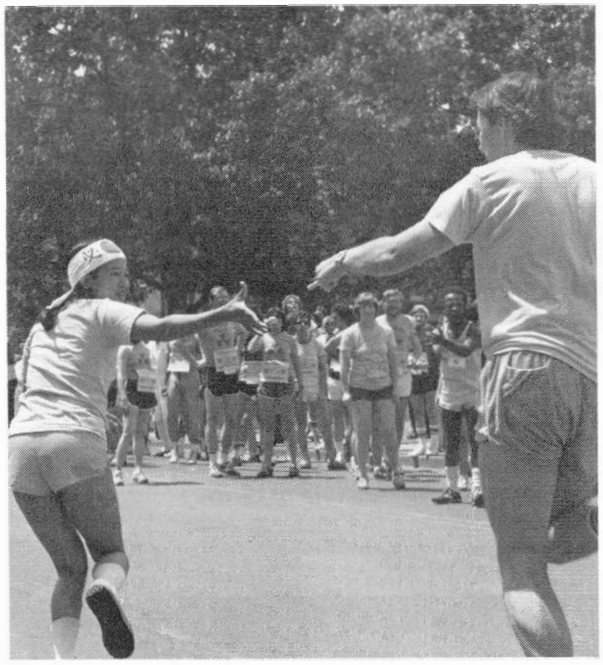
Training Tips

The following courses, sponsored by the Division of Personnel Management, are given in Bldg. 31.

Office Skills	*Course Starts*	*Deadline*
Files Maintenance and Improvement	7/8 8/12	6/24 7/29
Communication Skills		
Interpersonal Problem Solving	6/29	6/12
Summer Employee Program		
Career Planning	6/15	6/9
Beginning Typing Section I Section II	 7/6 7/7	 6/17 6/17
Advanced Typing	7/6	6/17
Medical Terminology	7/6	6/17
Telephone Techniques Review	6/28	6/8

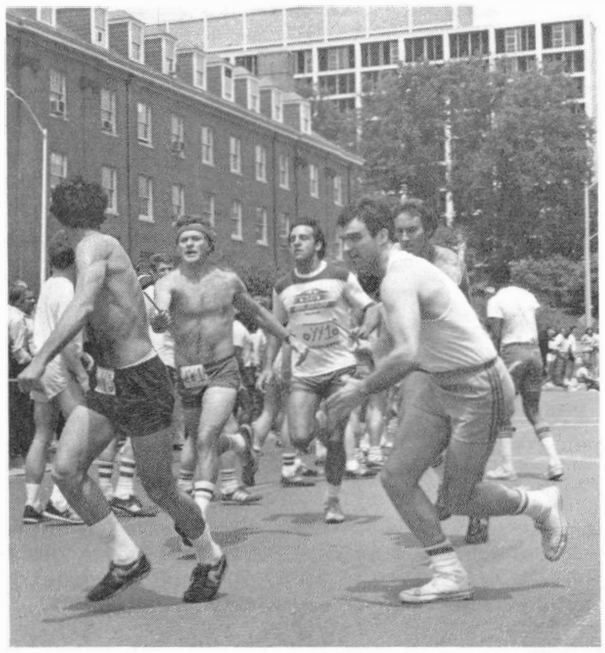
To learn more about these and other courses in office and communication skills, contact the Training Assistance Branch, DPM, 496-2146.

NIH Institute Relay 1981 Draws More Teams, Spectators

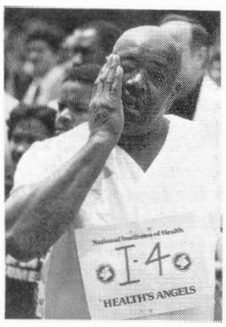


Dr. Margaret N. Wesley (l) gets ready to receive the Outliers-2 (NCI) team baton from her husband, Dr. Robert A. Wesley. The mixed team came in seventh with a time of 15:09.

A little boy who stationed himself on the truck that was videotaping the race had the best view of the finish line.



Seventy-six five-member teams entered this year's NIH Institute Relay. Fierce, competitive running styles highlighted the event. Jack Shawver passes a baton to a team member.



A Blue Star runner shows the heat of the day.

A new women's record was set by "Light Feet" (BoB) team with a time of 15:57. Team members are (l to r): S. Vargo, L. Shone, L. Gelb, P. Bransford, and P. Haun. The "Molar Rollers" (NIDR) turned in the best mixed team time of 13:58 (no photo available). Relay photos by J. Crawford.

The first "Little NIH Relay" took place at the Rocky Mountain Laboratory in Hamilton, Mont., on a cool, rainy May 14. Two mixed teams competed with the Bitter Rooters winning over the Time Warps with a time of 16:06. The winners were (l to r): Terry Brown, Liza Serha, Bill Todd, Alan Barbour, and Bill Britt (alternate Ted Hackstadt not shown).

The "Hepatitis A" team won the men's event with a time of 12:20. Shown with winners plaque from (l to r) are: P. Snoy, J. Moore, W. Cook, A. Shawver, R. Goodman (alternate), and L. Mocca.

R&W Sets Its Sights on 'Wolf Trap'

R&W has orchestra seats available for the following events at Wolf Trap:

The National Symphony will perform on Saturday evening, June 27. Ticket price per person is $9.25.

The Joffrey Ballet will perform on Thursday evening, July 9. Ticket price per person is $8.35.

The Netherlands Dans Theater will perform on Saturday, July 19. Ticket price per person is $8.35.

All prices include service charge. Sign up now at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-18.□

Dr. Fredrickson Receives Georgetown Honorary Degree

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Director of NIH, was presented with an honorary degree of doctor of science before delivering the commencement address at Georgetown University School of Medicine on May 30.□

The future is purchased by the present.—*Samuel Johnson* □

R&W Plans Casino and Baseball Trips

On Fridays, June 19 and July 17, R&W is planning a trip to the Playboy Hotel Casino in Atlantic City, N.J. The $22 price per person includes bus transportation and a buffet luncheon at the casino.

Buses will depart at 8 a.m. from Bldg. 31C, and leave Atlantic City at 6 p.m. for the return trip. Full payment is due at time of booking and no refunds will be given. Sign up at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-18.

On Saturday, June 27, R&W will sponsor a trip to Philadelphia to see the Phillies vs. Pittsburgh Pirates. The $17 price includes bus trip and reserved seats. The bus will leave from Bldg. 31C at 10:30 a.m.

Sign up at the R&W Activities Desk.□

PHS HONORS NIH EMPLOYEES FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

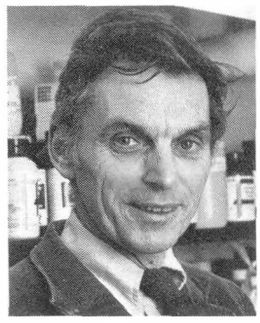
(Continued from Page 1)

PHS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Dr. Brody

Dr. Kuff

Dr. Notkins



Dr. Potter

Dr. Jacob A. Brody, *associate director for epidemiology, demography and biometry, NIA—"For national and international investigation on the epidemiology of aging."*
Dr. Edward L. Kuff, *chief, Biosynthesis Section, Laboratory of Biochemistry, NCI—"For 30 years of excellence in scientific research and advances in RNA and RNA particles."*

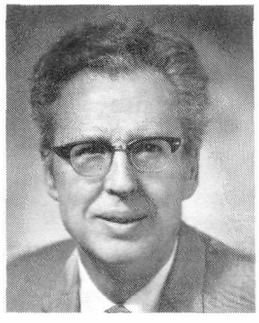
Dr. Abner L. Notkins, *chief, Laboratory of Oral Medicine, NIDR—"For outstanding accomplishments in research providing direct evidence that viruses are capable of causing diabetes in humans."*
Dr. Michael Potter, *head, Immunochemistry Section, DCBD, NCI—"For innovative contributions of great significance to immunology and carcinogenesis."*

PHS MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Dr. Rosenberg

Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg, *chief, Surgery Branch, Clinical Oncology Program, NCI—"For pioneering work in the treatment of soft tissue sarcomas and osteogenic sarcoma."*

PHS SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARD

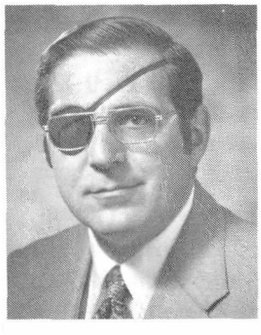


Dr. Hill

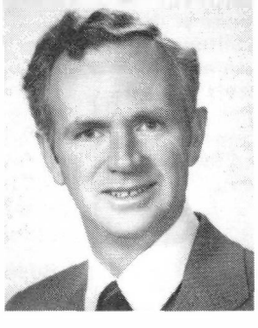
Dr. Terrell L. Hill, *chief, Section on Theoretical Molecular Biology, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, NIADDK—"for success in application of statistical physics concepts to biological problems, resulting in effective models of ion transport, energy transduction and multienzyme interaction."*

Dr. Katz

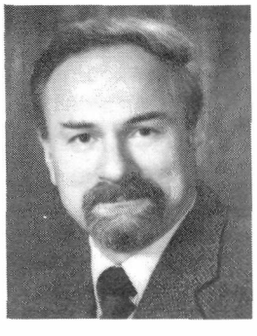
Dr. Stephen I. Katz, *supervisory research medical officer, Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis, NCI—"For outstanding achievements in the immunology of skin diseases research and for provision of highest quality dermatologic consultation in the Clinical Center."*



Dr. Lazzarini



Dr. Lovenberg



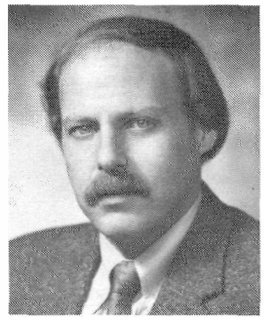
Dr. Peterkofsky

Dr. Taylor

Dr. Robert A. Lazzarini, *head, Molecular Virology Section, LMB, NINCDs—"For outstanding research and for important discoveries on the origin of defective interfering virus particles and the mechanism by which they limit viral infections."*
Dr. Walter M. Lovenberg, *head, Section on Biochemical Pharmacology, Hypertension-Endocrine Branch, NHLBI—"For excellent contributions in the areas of iron-sulfur proteins, hydroxylases, and hypertension, and excellence as a leader in biomedical research."*
Dr. Alan Peterkofsky, *head, Macromolecules Section, Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics, NHLBI—"For excellent research in elucidating the mechanisms by which cyclic AMP levels are regulated in bacteria and for leadership of the NHLBI Intramural peer review committee."*

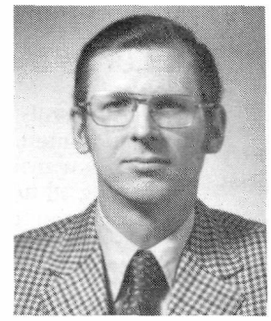
Dr. D. Jane Taylor, *biologist, Breast Cancer Program Coordinating Branch, DCBD, NCI—"For outstanding accomplishments in administration of the breast cancer program, and development of endocrinological methods for the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer."*

PHS SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

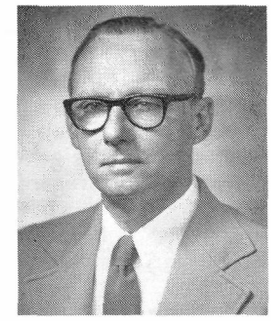


Mr. Galen

Dr. Glatstein



Dr. Land



Mr. Nicholas

Mr. Steven M. Galen, *assistant hospital administrator, OD, CC—"For significant contributions as Project Officer for the modernization of the Clinical Center, including the planning and construction of the Ambulatory Care Research Facility."*

Dr. Eli J. Glatstein, *chief, Radiation Oncology Branch, DCT, NCI—"For succcessful organization and implementation of a program in radiation oncology at the National Cancer Institute, NIH."*

Dr. Charles E. Land, *health statistician, Environmental Epidemiology Branch, NCI—"For scientific leadership in the conduct of epidemiological investigations of cancer risk in man following exposure to low doses of ionizing radiation."*

Mr. Edward E. Nicholas, Jr., *director, Division of Personnel Management, OA—"In recognition and appreciation of exceptional leadership and managerial capabilities and ability in providing continuity in the day-to-day management of NIH diversified operations."*□

Environmental Toxicologists Study DES, Relationship to Immune System Suppression

Diethylstilbestrol—DES—the substance found to cause a rare vaginal cancer in young women whose mothers were treated with the drug during pregnancy, has proven to be an effective research tool in investigating the ways in which environmental agents suppress the body's immune system.

DES is of special interest to researchers in the laboratories of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. It is linked with vaginal cancer in young women, is apparently related to genital malformation and dysfunction among male offspring of treated mothers, and is associated with breast enlargement and low sperm counts among occupationally exposed males.

Less Lymphoid Cells Found

The chemical has also been widely employed as a weight promotant in cattle and other livestock. It is but one of a number of synthetic compounds present in the environment found to have estrogenic activity.

In the NIEHS experiments, the investigators found that DES-treated animals had a lowered number of lymphoid cells in the thymus and bone marrow, key sites in production and activity of these cells.

They also saw a marked decrease in the animal's ability to ward off parasites, tumor cells, bacteria and toxins.

For example, DES-treated animals eliminated *Trichinella* worms less readily than control animals; they were more likely to develop tumors after tumor cell injection than were controls; and were less able to summon biological defenses against bacteria and bacterial toxins.

Drs. Jack H. Dean, Michael Luster, and Gary A. Boorman, NIEHS/National Toxicology Program researchers, have recently published three papers outlining their DES investigations in the *Journal of the Reticuloendothelial Society*. Reticuloendothelial refers to the system of cells in the body that provides defense against biological and chemical attacks.

The defense usually takes place when one of the specialized cells ingests the invading organisms or particle and breaks it down into substances that can be cleared from the body. A second defense mechanism encloses the invader so it cannot interfere with the normal processes of the host animal.

Immunology, the study of the body's defenses against disease, is an emerging field in environmental health sciences. Investigators have begun looking at the ways in which environmental agents may affect the immune systems. Suppression of the immune system may represent an important target organ for toxicity and may explain many yet undefined environmental toxicities.

"Our work doesn't establish a cause and effect relationship between DES-related cancer and these various alterations of the immune response," Dr. Dean said.

"However, we've demonstrated that exposure to chemicals such an DES can produce immune alterations and result in host resistance changes. Thus the immune system appears to be a sensitive target organ for defining cellular toxicity."□

Grant Workshop Reviews Application Procedures

Scientific merit *is* the most important element of a successful grant application; however, applications that are badly written or organized, or tend to overlook crucial instructions, will fare poorly in the system, according to speakers at a recent NIGMS-sponsored grant workshop.

Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIGMS Director, welcomed workshop participants, noting that grantee knowledge of the system is essential to enable NIH to support the best science possible.

"A grant application," advised Dr. Sara Gardner, director of the Pharmacological Sciences Program, NIGMS, "should describe what you would do if nobody paid you." A potential grantee's enthusiasm is a very valuable asset, she added, and the application should reflect this.

The NIH review process, special funding for new investigators, non-Federal sources of funding, and conflict-of-interest laws for Federal employees were discussed.

Dr. Gardner stressed that failure to follow the law in regard to conflict-of-interest can lead to a criminal conviction. Simply stated, the law holds that no Federal employee may use his position to bring financial gain to any institution with which he or she is or will be connected.

This means, among other things, that an NIH postdoctoral fellow who has accepted a position at a university, but whose salary is still being paid by the U.S. Government, may not write a grant proposal on government time, use government resources, or even discuss the application with NIH extramural or intramural personnel, the workshop attendees were told.

The participants were urged to become familiar with the law and to consult their executive officers if they contemplate preparing grant applications.

At the conclusion of the meeting, small groups led by extramural scientists from several Institutes discussed individual questions. One participant remarked that before the workshops he was "terrified of preparing an application." Now, she said, she was "just scared." □

Government Pension Offset: How It May Affect You

The HHS has found that there is some confusion among employees about how they will be affected by the government pension offset provisions regarding Social Security.

The government pension offset provisions apply only to Social Security benefits which are received, based upon the earnings of a spouse or other individual.

Social Security benefits for which Federal employees are eligible in their own right are not offset by the amount of their Federal pension. In these cases, the Federal employees receives Social Security and the Federal pension.

Under a 1977 amendment to the Social Security Act, Federal employees who qualify for Social Security benefits based on the earnings of their spouse, and who are also entitled in their own right to a Civil Service pension, will have their Social Security spouse benefits reduced by the amount of their Civil Service annuity. In many cases, this could wipe out all or most of the Social Security spouse benefits.

A 5-year grace period was established, under the 1977 amendment, which protects Federal employees eligible to retire prior to Dec. 1, 1982. These Federal employees considered *eligible* to retire within the 5-year grace period (1977–1982) are automatically exempt from loss of spouse benefits. They need not retire during that period.

Of course, in order to qualify for spouse benefits, the retired Federal employee must also meet the requirements for spouse benefits existing in January 1977, which includes married women, dependent husbands, and divorced women (or divorced dependent husbands) whose marriage lasted at least 20 years.

The determining factor for exclusion from Social Security offset provisions to Federal employee pensioners is not when the individual actually retires from the Federal service, but rather the date he/she attained the age and service requirements to become eligible for retirement, such as age 55 with 30 years service; age 60 with 20 years service; or age 62 with 5 years of service.

Employees who have questions on how the offset provisions may affect their particular case should contact their local Social Security office, or call 953-3600. There is also a pamphlet available in personnel offices entitled, *Government Pension Offset—How It May Affect You.* □

Quarantine Permit Office Opens

The NIH Quarantine Permit Service Office has recently been established at the Division of Safety, ORS.

The office will provide guidance on the need for permits as well as issue permit applications.

A new manual with detailed information will soon be published. All inquiries should be directed to Drs. Robert W. McKinney or John Irwin, Bldg 13, Rm. 3K-04, or call 496-2960 or 496-3353. □

Procedures on All NIH Large Mailings Revised

A recently issued instruction and information memorandum has incorporated several new mail management procedures affecting all future voluminous mailings, it was announced by NIH mail manager Bill Arnwine. They are as follows:

The processing of Form HHS—26—Request for Duplicating, Photographic and Miscellaneous Processing—has been revised when large mailings are included.

It will be necessary that the submitting B/I/D program officials send the request through the B/I/D mail manager who enters on the form in the "Additional Specifications and Remarks" block, a brief statement as to the class of mail service and mail container to be used and his signature.

Any request for mailing that does not comply with this requirement is to be returned by the Printing and Reproduction Branch, DAS, to the requesting office for compliance.

With regard to bulk mailings (200 or more items), in-house mailings mailed through the NIH mail system include use of indicia items drawn from the Central Stores System (DANAC Warehouse) or purchased from the Self-Service Stores. However, bulk mailings completed by a contractor must include use of mailers with the G–29 permit imprint.

Contractors Prohibited

Contractors are not authorized to use indicia mail items for placing mail directly into the U.S. Postal mailstream. NIH program areas are not authorized to draw indicia mail items from stock for issue to contracted mailing agencies, except for the Occupational Training Center.

The problematic process of capturing accurate contractor mail cost is expected to be relieved by the following new policy implementation:

Depending upon the source of contract, the contractors must use either GPO Form 712 or the USPS From 3602. Contracts are to include requirements that one copy of the completed form must be provided by the contracted mailing service to the NIH Mail Service Section chief immediately after the mail has been placed in the U.S. Postal Service mailstream.

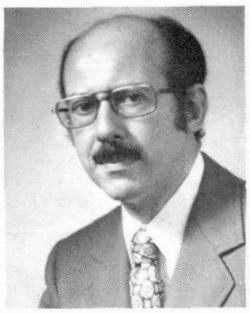
Quarterly Report Required

A standardized report format has been devised in the effort to identify excessive first class mail use and costs. The completed Form NIH 2488 will be required by each B/I/D at the end of each quarter, beginning with the fourth quarter of FY 1981. It is recommended that data collection start now.

Due to the excessive cost and misuse of express mail, all B/I/D's are urged by the division to initiate an approval/clearance procedure for express mail shipments. In such cases, it is requested that the NIH Mail Service Section chief be informed of such B/I//D procedures for monitoring.

The above procedures are effective June 1. □

NIH Scientists Elected to National Honorary Society



Dr. Felsenfeld

Dr. Leder

Two NIH scientists, Drs. Gary Felsenfeld and Philip Leder, have been elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at its 20th annual meeting in May.

The academy is a national honorary society recognizing leading scholars, scientists, public figures, and artists.

Dr. Felsenfeld, chief of the physical chemistry section, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, NIADDK, has focussed on the structure and physical chemistry of nucleic acids and their interactions with other molecules. He has shown special interest in interactions likely to be of biological significance.

In recent years, his studies have been directed at understanding the relationship between gene expression and the structure of chromatin, the complex of DNA and protein present in the nuclei of all higher organisms (eukaryotes).

Dr. Leder, chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, NICHD, is a pioneer in the field of gene expression research. He has been the recipient of numerous professional and scientific awards, including the NIH Director's award and the Dickson Prize in Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh.

A member of the National Academy of Sciences, he was one of 10 NIH scientists honored by President Carter as "meritorious executives" in 1980. He has served at NIH for 19 years. □

PHS Outpatient Clinic To Open at NIH

On or about June 15, the Bureau of Medical Services, HSA, in cooperation with the NIH Clinical Center, will open a primary care clinic in one of the temporary trailers in the parking lot next to Bldg. 10.

The clinic will function as a satellite of the USPHS Outpatient Clinic at 4th and C Streets, S.W., and will be staffed by a physician, nurse, and pharmacist on a 2-day-a-week basis. Plans call for staff and time expansion as demands increase.

Services will be limited initially to active duty officers. A general announcement will be made when the clinic is available to others.

Appointments will be handled through the main clinic, 245-1663. To reduce errors, callers should indicate the NIH site when making an appointment. □

Nutritional Expert 'Digs' Exotic Mimicry Plants

Not far from NIH there is an apartment containing several hundred pampered potted plants. There are large leafy plants, small ones that are no bigger than a pebble, and others of varying sizes. Some of them have been with their caretaker for many years.

This botanical oasis is the "hobby and passion" of Dr. Thomas P. Vogl, a biophysicist with the Nutrition Coordinating Committee, OD. Plants have been his interest since he was a youth growing up in Manhattan.

One entire section of a room in his apartment is dedicated to his special interest in the cultivation of members of one family of exotic succulent plants from the desert of South Africa.

A bank of fluorescent lights bathe them with a steady stream of bright light. The plants, whose Latin family name is *Mesembryan Themaceae*, thrive in a specially constructed environment that almost duplicates the conditions found in their natural desert home.

Nonbotonists know these unique plants as "mimicry" plants. They get their name from the fact that they imitate their desert environment. These plants, many grown from seeds, take on the characteristics of small, different colored stones and other indigenous formations.

The appearance of many of these miniature natural wonders may remind one of the work of English sculpture Henry Moore or Swiss artist Jean Arp.

Working with these plants and his other flora complements Dr. Vogl's other scientific interests. "I've always been interested in the biological effects of light," he said, adding that during his research career he has done work on how light affects jaundice in newborn babies.

Besides his interest in his own botanical collection, Dr. Vogl is vice president of the National Capitol Cactus and Succulent Society. The group of 100 amateur plant enthusiasts meets the third Sunday of each month in the science room at St. Anselm's Abbey. "People from all walks of life are members, and all levels of experience from the beginner to the more experienced," he said.

The society is holding its annual show at the U.S. Botanical Gardens at 3rd Street and Independence Ave., S.W., on June 19–21. The show is free to the public for both viewing and entry of plants. A special beginner's class will be offered to those who have not exhibited before.

The only requirements are that a plant must be a succulent, or a cactus; be free of disease or insect pests; and be in the possession of the exhibitor for 6 months.

Registration of plants will be from 2 until 9 p.m., Thursday, June 18. Judging will take place Saturday morning.

The show will be open for viewing by the public Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Some of Dr. Vogl's exotic plants will be on display. He can be reached at 496-2323 for entry forms and additional information about the plant show or the society.□

Every day Dr. Vogl inspects his South African mimicry plants whose existence depends upon the bank of fluorescent lights above.

Three NIMH Researchers and Grantee Share Ittleson Prize

Three NIMH staff scientists and an Institute grantee will share the 1981 Blanche F. Ittleson Prize for research in the study of depression in children. The prize was presented to the researchers at the annual American Psychiatric Association meeting last month in New Orleans.

The recipients are Drs. Leon Cytryn and Donald McKnew, Biological Psychiatry Branch, Intramural Research Programs; Stanley Greenspan, chief, Mental Health Study Center; and Donald Cohen, professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Psychology, Yale University Child Study Center.

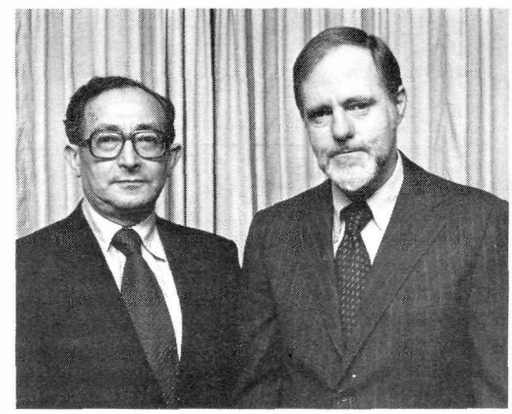
Drs. Cytryn and McKnew, who work as a team, have been involved in every aspect—diagnosis, family background, life events, biochemical measures, psychobiology, and psychopharamacology.

In pioneering studies, the two psychiatrists identified and described three diagnostic categories of childhood depression—acute, chronic, and masked—which have since gained recognition in the scientific community.

They found that symptoms of acutely and chronically depressed children are similar to those of depressed adults, i.e., marked withdrawal, sadness and apathy, sleeping and eating disturbances, school failure, feelings of worthlessness, helplessness, and hopelessness, and suicidal ideation.

An acute episode is typically nonrecurrent, time limited and, according to the researchers, most often associated with the loss—either physically or emotionally—of an important caretaker. A brief hospitalization, with family rallied around, may be all that is necessary to relieve symptoms.

Chronic depression, on the other hand, is recurrent and very often associated with a history of depression in the family, an indication of possible genetic factors, observed



Drs. Cytryn (l) and McKnew believe that early recognition and treatment of childhood depression can prevent serious problems in adolescence.

the researchers, who recommend testing of other siblings in such cases. Chronic depression may occur also when the child has suffered a series of losses of important caretakers, or has been a child abuse victim, or if either the child or parent is chronically ill.

Masked depression is a more controversial diagnosis and more difficult to recognize, said the scientists, as acting out behaviors, hyperactivity, and aggression tend to cover the underlying feelings of sadness and worthlessness not apparent without close examination of the child.

Typically, family therapy is the mode of treatment for young children. Older children may undergo individual therapy. Drug treatment, found useful in some cases, is still under investigation, the researchers report.

Without early recognition and treatment

(Continued on Page 11)

Some Summer Allergies Are Hidden; Watch Out for Poison Ivy, Oak, Sumac

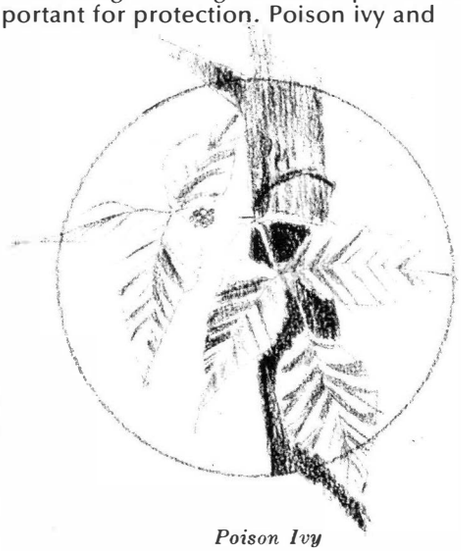
The itching, oozing, redness, and skin irritation of allergic reactions to poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac are among the less desirable traits caused by contact with our friends the green plants during the summer.

All three of these plants are members of the plant genus *Toxicodendron* which cause allergic reactions in an estimated 150,000 Americans. An allergy to the plants is common in adults and rare in very young children, probably because they get less exposure. The reaction appears to be as common among the general population as it is among people with other allergies.

Plants Contain Urushiol

Poison ivy, oak, and sumac—all native to the United States and Canada—are botanical booby traps that grow in woods, swamps, and gardens. All produce a sticky sap containing a chemical named urushiol. Contact with this sap can cause dermatitis in 7 out of 10 people.

Learning to recognize these plants is important for protection. Poison ivy and



Poison Ivy

poison oak have slightly glossy green leaves that grow in groups of three, and when present, their berries and flowers are greenish-white.

Poison ivy is usually a vine, sometimes a trailing or erect shrub. Poison oak looks like poison ivy, but is usually more shrublike.

Poison sumac is distinguished from other sumacs by its drooping green berries; harmless sumacs have red, erect berry clusters.

Poison ivy allergy is sneaky: its blistery rash does not occur immediately on contact. Twelve hours or more may go by before the redness and itching begin—that is what is known as "delayed hypersensitivity."

Substances capable of causing contact dermatitis are made of extremely small molecules. When applied to the skin, these molecules penetrate the outer layer, even if the skin is not broken or damaged.

These molecules by themselves are too small to cause an allergic reaction, but once into the deeper skin tissues, they combine with proteins there.

The sensitized lymphocytes then travel through the bloodstream, carrying their newly acquired sensitivity to other portions of the skin. Following each succeeding contact with the allergen, the sensitized lymphocytes move to receptive areas of the skin and attach to certain target cells there.

These target cells expand until eventually their cell membranes burst, leading to the weeping lesions of contact dermatitis.

The rash itches and oozes. The worst is usually over in 5 days, that is, if the skin, clothes, tools, and pets exposed have been thoroughly washed. Urushiol remaining on the skin or on these other items can cause further outbreaks. This is why most people think poison ivy "spreads."

The most essential treatment is to make sure that skin and clothes are free of sap. Adequate sudsing of the skin or the use of 70 percent alcohol and rewashing of any clothing suspected of harboring urushiol should prevent the spread of the lesions.

Wet, cold compresses of water, boric acid, and aluminum acetate may ease the itching while the skin is oozing. Calamine works also by drying the blisters.

The rash shouldn't be excessively treated with over-the-counter lotions, since some of these contain ingredients that themselves cause reactions when applied to the skin. For really bad cases, call a physician. Avoidance is the best method of prevention for most people allergic to poison ivy, oak, or sumac.

Behind all allergies is an altered immunity. Scientists at a network of centers supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases investigate allergies to find their causes and to develop treatment methods.

Better techniques for immunotherapy against the family of urushiol compounds are being sought. Studies to determine which member of the family is best for use in more effective preventive treatment are being conducted. For more information, or a free copy of *Poison Ivy Allergy,* call 496-5717.

Poison Oak

Nature has given to us the seeds of knowledge, but not knowledge itself.—*Seneca* □

2 NICHD Scientists Share Award for Best Paper

Drs. Kreitmann (l) and Schmell, NICHD, recently shared the 1981 American Fertility Society award for their investigations of manual ovarian egg removal and the role of antigenic proteins on the surface of mammalian sperm cells, respectively.

Two papers by scientists in the Pregnancy Research Branch, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, recently shared the 1981 award for best paper by an associate member of the American Fertility Society. Drs. Olivier Kreitmann and Eli Schmell, principal authors, accepted the award at the society's annual meeting in Atlanta.

Dr. Kreitmann's paper, Induced Corpus Luteum Dysfunction After Aspiration of the Preovulatory Follicle in Monkeys, explored the effect on subsequent fertility of manually removing an egg from the ovary.

Needle Inserted into Follicle

To obtain an egg for *in vitro* fertilization or alternative procedures, doctors insert a needle into the preovulatory follicle—the sac on the ovary containing the egg—and withdraw its contents.

In doing so, they unavoidably remove many of the cells that later form the corpus luteum, a structure on the ovary which secretes hormones needed for pregnancy.

As a result, the corpus luteum that forms is often smaller than normal and produces decreased amounts of hormones. If the level of hormones secreted is too low, the success of the pregnancy may be threatened.

Dr. Kreitmann and his coauthors, Drs. Wilbert Nixon and Gary Hodgen, concluded from their study that aspirating the preovulatory follicle to obtain an egg may result in hormonal deficiencies which decrease fertility.

In the second paper, Mammalian Sperm Proteins: Monoclonal Anti-Mouse Sperm Antibodies, D. Schmell described studies aimed at understanding the structure and function of antigenic proteins on the surface of mammalian sperm cells.

To study the antigens, Dr. Schmell and his coauthors, Drs. Bela Gulyas and J. Thomas August, produced monoclonal antibodies which bound specifically to proteins on the surface of mouse sperm.

Using these monoclonal antibodies as probes, they discovered that antibodies which bind to proteins on the tail of the sperm cell completely inhibit sperm motility. Dr. Schmell is now attempting to use these antitail antibodies to develop a reversible male contraceptive.□

New Regulations Issued on Disability Retirement

The Office of Personnel Management recently issued new regulations implementing changes in disability retirement required by Public Law 96-499. Included was information to applicants stating the advantages and disadvantages of disability retirement.

If you are comtemplating disability retirement, and your employment record shows that you are eligible for regular voluntary retirement, you should be aware of this information.

The amount of retirement annuity will be the same whether you retire on disability annuity, or whether you retire voluntarily based on your age and service.

Under current law there is no tax benefit unless the taxpayer is totally disabled for *all* gainful employment. Since the decision on your application is based only on whether you are disabled for your current position, or a vacant position of equal grade or pay, a finding of disability by OPM does not meet the IRS requirement. If there is a question, it is suggested that you check with the local IRS office.

Other benefits, such as paid-up commercial life insurance policies, which may result from a finding of total disability, are often tied to the Social Security definition of disability.

Whether you apply for disability retirement or voluntary retirement because of disability, you may choose either to use all or part of your sick leave prior to separation, if eligible. Or you may have the sick leave used to extend your length of service in the annuity computation.

Approval for use of sick leave is not automatic. You must provide evidence of your incapacitation as required.

Unless OPM determines that a disability is permanent, you must undergo annual examinations until age 60. Also, every disability annuitant under 60 years of age must report his/her annual income from wages of self-employment in such detail as OPM may require.

When, in each of 2 consecutive years, income from wages or self-employment equals at least 80 percent of the current rate of pay for the position from which you retired, your earning capacity is deemed restored and your disability annuity is stopped.

If your disability retirement annuity benefit is stopped due to either a recovery from the disabling condition that established entitlement to a disability benefit, or restoration to earning capacity, you will be eligible for a retirement benefit based on age and service.

This benefit would begin no sooner than the day after your disability annuity stopped, but it would not include the cost of living increases that were applied to the disability annuity.

Applications for disability retirement take longer to process than voluntary retirements. In many cases, there is not enough medical or other information in the file.

This results in a delay while the information is secured. In some cases it is even necessary to offer the employee a medical examination by a doctor designated by OPM.

If you have questions regarding any of this information, call your personnel office.□

Visiting Scientist Program Participants

Sponsored by Fogarty Internat'l Center

5/1—**Dr. Elizabeth Ann Lane**, Australia, Clinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. William Z. Potter, NIGMS, Bg. 10, Rm. 4S239.

5/1—**Dr. Akihiko Nagai**, Japan, Laboratory of Immunobiology. Sponsor: Dr. Berton Zbar, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 2B09.

5/3—**Dr. Piotr Chomczynski**, Poland, Laboratory of Pathophysiology. Sponsor: Dr. Pradman K. Qasba, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. B1B42.

5/4—**Dr. Saburo Yamaoto**, Japan, Laboratory of Immunobiology. Sponsor: Dr. Monte Meltzer, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 2C26.

5/8—**Dr. Rayudu Gopalakrishna,** India, Laboratory of Pathophysiology. Sponsor: Dr. Wayne B. Anderson, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. B1B47.

5/11—**Dr. Takashi Inuzuka**, Japan, Developmental and Metabolic Neurology Branch. Sponsor. Dr. Richard Quarles, NINCDS, Pk. 5 Bg., Rm. 425.

5/14—**Dr. Lajos Szente**, Hungary, Gerontology Research Center. Sponsor: Dr. Josef Pitha, NIA, Baltimore, Md.

5/19—**Dr. Byung Churl Lee**, Korea, Neonatal and Pediatric Medicine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Barry B. Bercu, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 13N260.

5/21—**Dr. Seiji Ito**, Japan, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Ira Pastan, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 4B27.

5/21—**Dr. M. Ramachandra Kaimal**, India, Section on Theoretical Biophysics. Sponsor: Dr. John Stephenson, NHLBI, Bg. 31, Rm. 4B44A.

Former FIC Scholar Receives Cancer Research Award

A former Fogarty scholar-in-residence, Dr. Takashi Sugimura was presented the Ernst W. Bertner Memorial Award for 1981 at a recent symposium on fundamental cancer research. The meeting was sponsored by the University of Texas System Cancer Center M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute.

Dr. Sugimura is well-known for his investigation into the molecular causes of stomach cancer and identification of the role played by mutagens and carcinogens in cooked or prepared natural foods.

Born in Tokyo, he received his medical degree in 1949 from Tokyo University School of Medicine. In 1957, he left Japan to study in the United States. For 2 years, he served as an NCI visiting scientist, and spent the following year as a research associate at Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland. He returned to Japan in 1960 and is currently the director of the National Cancer Center Research Institute.

For his work in experimental stomach cancer, Dr. Sugimura received the Japan Academy Prize and Imperial Prize in 1976. He was named a Fogarty scholar-in-residence in 1977 and spent two terms here in 1977 and 1979. In 1982, he will return for a third residency.□

Dr. E. M. Nadel Dies; Former NCI Pathologist

Dr. Eli M. Nadel, 62, well-known pathologist and administrator formerly of the National Cancer Institute, died recently from an apparent heart attack in St. Louis.

At the time of his death, he held the posts of assistant vice president for medical research, professor of pathology, and cancer program director at St. Louis University Medical Center.

Dr. Nadel

Dr. Nadel's more than 100 scientific papers embraced nutrition, endocrinology, malaria, and cancer—particularly steroid metabolism, carcinogenesis, and leukemia.

He joined NIH in 1946 and worked as an experimental pathologist under Drs. Ralph Lillie and Harold Stewart. Conducting research with guinea pigs, he investigated transplantable tumors, the effects of stilbestrol, and the production of fibromas of the uterus.

Dr. Nadel moved to the Division of Research Grants in 1956, where he served as executive secretary for both the pathology and general medicine study sections. He also acted as clinical science project review officer.

Appointed assistant to the associate director of NIH in 1958, he later was named NCI assistant director under Dr. Kenneth M. Endicott. In his last post at NIH, Dr. Nadel served as chief of the NCI Diagnostic Research Branch until 1965.

After retiring from the Public Health Service, Dr. Nadel was affiliated with the Veterans Administration. He acted as chief of research in pathology, hematology, and laboratory medicine in Washington, and as chief of staff and acting director for the VA Hospital in Charleston, S.C.

In 1968 he joined the St. Louis University School of Medicine. There he served variously as associate dean, acting chairman of the physiology and pathology departments, and professor of community medicine. He took over his most recent posts in 1975.

A native of New York City, Dr. Nadel received his bachelor's and master's degrees from City College of New York and his medical degree from the Long Island College of Medicine.

As a child, he had a brief career in theater and films. In addition to several roles in full-length feature films, he occasionally appeared in the "Our Gang" series.

Dr. Nadel is survived by his wife and three children. □

Good health for all our people is a continuing goal. In a democratic society where every human life is precious, we can aspire to no less. Healthy people build a stronger nation, and make a maximum contribution to its growth and development.—*John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)* □

Karate Teaches Self Defense and Explosive Grace

When one thinks of karate one usually associates it with the wheeling cinematic image of a gi-clad athlete hurling himself through the air with outstretched legs targeted for an opponent's head.

Each karate-ka or practitioner of karate learns that the controlled forms of exercise done at each practice session are designed to allow a person to better harness the physical and spiritual power that makes up the sport's graceful violence.

The NIH Karate Club, existing under the auspices of the NIH Judo Club, is directed by Dr. W. French Anderson, a first degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do (Korean) karate. He is the club's founder (January 1979) and principal instructor, and has provided an unusual opportunity for employees to learn the intricacies of self defense.

For the last dozen years, Dr. Anderson, chief of the laboratory of molecular hematology, NHLBI, has devoted much of his spare time to the study and teaching of karate.

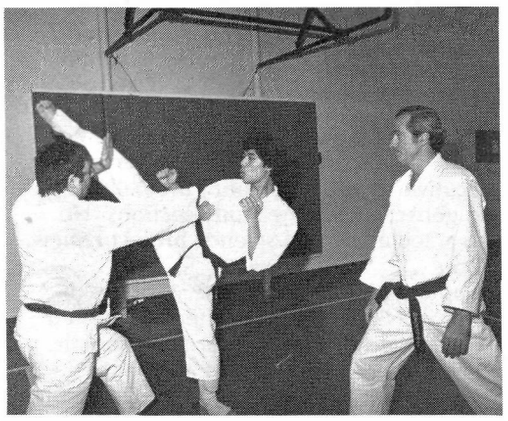
"Our club provides a martial arts environment for the person who would probably never walk into a regular commercial karate studio for instruction," observed Dr. Anderson.

The style NIH employees learn is Tae Kwon Do—the art of striking with hand and foot—a form that has ancient origins in the martial arts of China, Japan, and Okinawa.

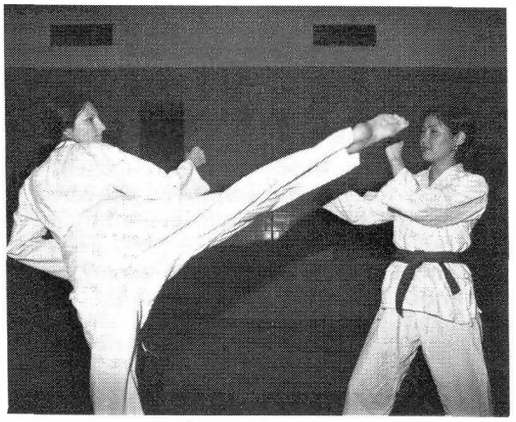
Most of the people taking karate initially became interested because they wanted to learn how to defend themselves if attacked. However, not all students feel this way.

Among them is Sarah L. Richards, an advanced belt, who works as a grants technical assistant in the Division of Research Grants. "I enjoy doing the forms; it's like dancing," she said noting that she had taken ballet for several years and compares both activities favorably.

"Knowledge of self defense will put a person in a more comfortable position in any situation," said Dr. Anderson explaining what the club tries to convey to its students.



Black belt instructor Michael C. Choi's (c) right roundhouse kick is blocked and countered with a controlled punch to the chest by Brown belt instructor William C. Miller during a training exercise supervised by Dr. Anderson.



Dr. Flossie Wong-Staal (r) practices with Ms. Richards during a controlled free sparring exercise.

Four New Members Join NICHD Advisory Council

Four new members were recently named to the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council. They are Dr. Celso-Ramon Garcia, Dr. Paul R. Gross, Mrs. Jeannie L. Rosoff, and Dr. William Spellacy.

Dr. Garcia earned an M.D. from State University of New York Downstate Medical School in 1945. He is presently professor of obstetrics and gynecology and the William Shipper Jr. professor and director of the division of human reproduction, department of obstetrics, University of Pennsylvania.

His interests focus primarily on the physiology of mammalian reproduction, surgery of the human reproductive tract, and infertility.

Dr. Gross, president and director of the Marine Biological Laboratory, received a Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1954.

He has served as a consultant for various organizations and has published numerous articles in the areas of biochemistry of development, cell biology, biophysical chemistry, aging, general and comparative physiology, science education, general education, and science and public policy.

Mrs. Rosoff is a lawyer who established and has been director of the Washington office of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America for the past 15 years.

She has devoted her career to public policy, fertility regulation, population size and health, having authored numerous articles on these topics.

Dr. Spellacy is known for his research efforts in maternal-fetal medicine. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, he is currently professor and head of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Abraham Lincoln School of Medicine in Chicago, Ill.

He has authored numerous articles relevant to the metabolism of pregnant women and the fetus, endocrincology of reproduction, and perinatology.□

Student Education Loans Offered by Credit Union

The NIH Federal Credit Union is offering as of June 1 student loans for educational expenses. According to Department of Education guidelines, a borrower of either a Federal or state loan must be a U.S. citizen and attend at least 6 semester hours at an accredited school.

An eligible candidate applying through the NIHFCU and living in Maryland would qualify for a state loan; those outside the state would apply for Federal loan. An applicant must be a member of the NIHFCU to qualify, and anyone applying under 18 years of age needs a cosigner.

The designated loan limits are:

- undergraduate dependent students (as determined by the school's financial aid officer) can borrow $2,500 per academic year up to a total of $12,500 over 4 years.
- undergraduate independent students can borrow $3,000 per academic year; allowing a total of $15,000 over 4 years.
- graduate students—dependent or independent—can borrow $5,000 per academic year, allowing a total of $25,000. That amount includes any other loans made at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Interest rates for new student education loans will be at 9 percent and at 7 percent for those with any outstanding Federal Insured Student Loans. Those students with a 7 percent loan are due for repayment within 9 to 12 months (at the option of the lender) if they graduate, withdraw, or cease taking 6 semester hours.

Students with a 9 percent loan have a 6 months grace period and a 10-year maximum time for repayment at a minimum of $30 a month if they graduate, withdraw, or cease taking 6 semester hours.

For more information about the new student education loans, call the NIH Federal Credit Union, 496-2331. □

Mrs. Ellen M. Chu, librarian, Division of Computer Research and Technology, has been elected a director and a member of the executive board of the D.C. Library Association. She is also a delegate to the Online Computer Centers Users Council, a national network of over 2,000 member libraries. Formerly the secretary of NIH Toastmasters club, Mrs. Chu received her M.S. degree in library science from Catholic University.

Inez Shaaya (r) wife of Dr. Eli Shaaya, a visiting scientist from Israel working at NIADDK, teaches a traditional Israeli folk dance to Marjukka Scheinin, wife of Dr. Mika Scheinin, a visiting scientist from Finland now doing research with NIMH. This was part of last month's meeting of the International Women's Group, volunteers organized to provide support to foreign visitors to NIH. Their final meeting until next September will be Monday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m., at Congressional Elementary School. Members and friends of IWG are invited to attend the City of Rockville Independence Day Celebration on July 4th at Richard Montgomery High. For further information about the group and upcoming events contact Janet Bartch, 496-4335.

ITTLESON PRIZE

(Continued from Page 7)

of childhood depression, Drs. Cytryn and McKnew believe that serous problems in adolescence are likely to ensue.

Study center chief, Dr. Greenspan is being cited for research leading to the theoretical and practical foundation for clinical approaches for infants and their families who are at risk for maladaptive developmental patterns.

"The research is the basis for new clinical assessment and intervention techniques, including service system approaches," Dr. Greenspan explained. The psychoanalytically trained child psychiatrist is coeditor with George H. Pollock of a 3-volume publication, *The Course of Life: Psychoanalytic Contributions Toward Understanding Personality Development,* published recently by NIMH.

Dr. Cohen, the fourth corecipient, has focused his research on the biological substrates of childhood mental disorders.

Not only have the research strategies been diverse, but they also have had a substantial impact on clinical practice, Dr. McKnew noted. "Ten to fifteen years ago, it never occurred to me that so many children think about suicide. Today, asking about suicide is a routine part of nearly all children's psychiatric workups." □

Disease at times creates experiments that physiology completely fails to duplicate, and the wise physiologist can obtain clues to the resolution of many problems by studying the sick.—*Charles H. Mayo (1865–1939)* □

Age, Genes, Diet Can Cause Reactions to Drugs

Why do some people need 20 times more coumarin (an anticoagulant) than others? Why do effective doses of some antischizophrenia drugs range from 100 mg to 2,000 mg in different patients?

The story of how scientists are beginning to unravel the mystery of individual responses to drugs is told in a new booklet, *Medicines and You,* written by Maya Pines for the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Your age, your genes, your diet can all affect how medicines will work in your body, the booklet points out. For example:

An 80-year-old's kidneys function half as well as a 40-year-old's —greatly influencing the length of time during which drugs that will be excreted in the urine remain in his or her body.

Ten percent of black Americans, and a total of 100 million persons throughout the world—especially people with Near Eastern and Mediterranean heritage—can become very ill after exposure to such common substances as phenacetin, sulfa drugs, certain anti-malarial drugs, vitamin K, or even the vapors from moth balls.

The defective gene causing this reaction seems to be associated with the body's defenses against malaria, which probably explains why it occurs mostly in people from areas where malaria used to be prevalent.

Drug actions are also influenced by everything we ingest. For instance, dangerously high blood pressure may result when a patient taking certain antidepressant medications eats aged cheese or drinks red wine.

Using pictures and diagrams, the 62-page booklet also describes how drugs act at the cellular and molecular levels within the body, and how increasing knowledge of these actions is being used to make more effective medicines.

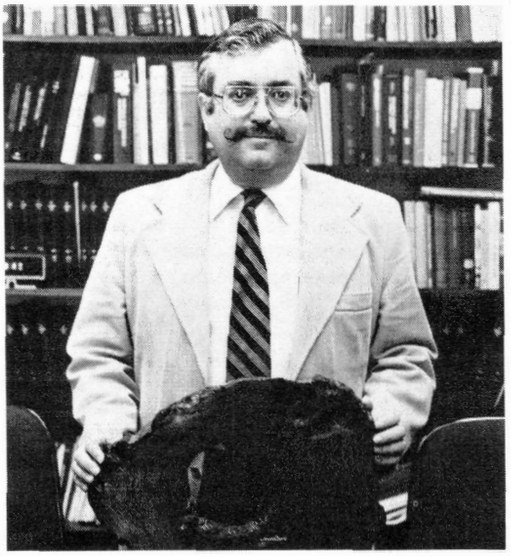
The booklet also contains a detailed glossary defining 28 biomedical words and phrases relevant to the subject.

Medicines and You, the third booklet in the NIGMS series, *A New Medical Science For the 21st Century,* is available from the NIGMS Office of Research Reports, Rm. 9A-10, Westwood Bldg., telephone 496-7301.□

Dr. Feinleib, New American Epidemiological President

Dr. Manning Feinleib, associate director for epidemiology and biometry, and chief of the Epidemiology Branch of NHLBI's Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, has been elected to serve as president of the American Epidemiological Society during 1981–1982.

The American Epidemiological Society was established in 1927 to serve as a learned society for the growing discipline of epidemiology. Its primary function is to hold an annual meeting where preliminary research can be presented in a collegial environment where critical consideration and extensive discussion is encouraged.



Dr. Feinleib takes office with the APS symbol—a section of a wooden pipe long ago used in London to carry water to the Broad Street pump. During the 1849 epidemic, a Dr. John Snow removed the pump handle because he had charted cases of cholera grouped around the pump site.

Members are elected after nomination by their peers and now number 180. Dr. Jacob Brody, associate director for epidemiology, biometry and demography, NIA, is immediate society past president.

Dr. Feinleib began his career at NIH in 1966 as a research epidemiologist for what was then the National Heart Institute. His research activities have included the establishment of the Framingham Offspring Study, a continuation of the Framingham Heart Study to a second generation, and the NHLBI Twin Study. He has published extensively on many aspects of cardiovascular epidemiology as well as on biostatistical and genetic methodology.

In addition to his positions at NIH, he is a visiting lecturer on epidemiology at Harvard University, clinical professor in the department of community medicine and international health at Georgetown University, and associate at the Johns Hopkins University.

During 1971–1972, he served as president of the Society for Epidemiologic Research, and in 1972 he received the Speigelman Gold Medal Award from the statistics section of the American Public Health Association. He is listed in *Who's Who in the East, Who's Who in Government,* and *American Men of Science.* □

New Squirrel Monkey Breeding, Research Program Starts in Alabama

In a major effort to improve reproductive and breeding capabilities of the squirrel monkey for laboratory animal model use, NIH has launched a 5-year program at the University of South Alabama.

A new 10,000 square foot breeding and research facility was formally dedicated on May 15, and will be in full operation this summer. Dr. Christian R. Abee, director of the division of animal health and resources of the university's School of Medicine is the principal investigator.

The prime mission of the program, administered by the Animal Resources Branch of the Division of Research Resources, is to learn more about the reproductive process of the Bolivian squirrel monkey (*Saimiri sciureous*), and to provide a resource of genetically defined laboratory-born-and-reared squirrel monkeys for biomedical research.

The emphasis on the program will be improvement of reproduction by reducing losses due to infertility, unsuccessful pregnancies, and neonatal deaths.

According to primatologists, the reproductive biology of the squirrel monkey is not completely understood, and there has been very little effort directed toward the development of improved reproductive techniques. The basic problems encountered in this species are infertility and fetal wastage.

The squirrel monkey was first introduced as a laboratory animal around 1930 at the University of Chicago. The first laboratory births of squirrel monkeys occurred between 1940 and 1945. The development of this species as a laboratory animal occurred slowly, from 1930 until the late 1950's when their use in biomedical research significantly increased.

The squirrel monkey was found to be a particularly useful model for certain metabolic diseases, such as atherosclerosis and cholelithiasis. Field studies were carried out, documenting the prevalence of arterial lesions in animals captured in the jungle in 1967 and 1968. The finding led to the development of a resource colony at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest University.

The squirrel monkey is fast emerging as an important laboratory animal model. A 5-year breeding and research grant has been awarded by NIH.

Another important use for the squirrel monkey involved aerospace research. It was used in the exploration of hazardous space flight-connected conditions and in actual flights involving unknown risks.

The squirrel monkey was particularly useful because of its small size. It was determined during this research that the squirrel monkey is particularly susceptible to motion sickness.

200 Monkeys To Start Colony

The new research and breeding colony will consist entirely of the Bolivian squirrel monkey species. Approximately 200 were originally shipped from the Caribbean Primate Research Center, a DRR-supported facility in Sabana Seca, Puerto Rico. They have been in a holding area at South Alabama and are presently being transferred into the new primate facility.

The new research laboratory was designed specifically for housing a large primate breeding colony. It is constructed with an indoor-outdoor animal housing area, with walls that open to take advantage of mild weather, thus reducing energy costs. A variety of design features, such as padded cage floors, steam heating, and removable cage panels have been incorporated to reduce potential health hazards in the colony.

During the first few years of operation, the emphasis will be on reproduction research and the gradual increase of the colony. Later on in the program, as animals are available, they will be offered to NIH-supported researchers throughout the country.□

Charlotte Karel Ends NINCDS Grants Career

Charlotte Karel retired May 30 as chief, Office of Data Analysis and Reports, National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke. Days formerly spent tracking grants' data and preparing circle graphs are now filled with bird-watching and high-speed photography.

As chief of ODAR, Mrs. Karel was responsible for issuing reports on grants, contracts, and fellowship awards. Her other duties included classifying research applications and responding to information requests from Congressional members and voluntary health organizations.

She began working for NINCDS as a program analyst in 1966, and was appointed chief of ODAR in 1977. Before joining the Institute, she was a chemist with the Psychopharmacology Service Center of the National Institute of Mental Health.

In addition to observing and photographing nature, Mrs. Karel says that her retirement plans include silversmithing, traveling to Alaska and "doing all the things I haven't even had time to realize I was missing." Mrs. Karel's friends and coworkers honored her at a retirement party, May 29.□

Dr. J. Diggs Receives Howard Alumni Award

Dr. John W. Diggs, deputy director of the NINCDS Extramural Activities Program has been awarded the first distinguished Ph.D. Alumni Award from Howard University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Diggs

The award is given to a Howard alumnus who has "achieved distinction during the postdoctoral decade." Dr. Diggs received his Ph.D. in physiology from Howard in 1972.

"He has accomplished so much within a decade of getting his Ph.D.," said Howard University associate dean Dr. Johnetta Davis. "He is distinguished as a health scientist administrator, a teacher, an author of scholarly papers . . . and he's had extensive community involvement."

The award citation refers to Dr. Diggs' role in research administration as one that "has exerted a pronounced influence on the allocation of Federal resources to academic institutions and other related entities pursuing research and or training in neuroscience."

As deputy director of the EAP since 1980, Dr. Diggs manages NINCDS's manpower program and helps coordinate the Institute's grants and contracts program. He recently served as the focal point for the evaluation of applications from neurological centers for the use of positron emission transverse tomography, a promising technique for studying metabolic function of the human brain.

"As the establishment of the PETT centers has been one of the Institute's most important recent research initiatives, to have directed the evaluation of these applications was a most rewarding experience," said Dr. Diggs.

In previous positions at NINCDS, he served as chief of the scientific evaluation branch of the EAP and as executive secretary of the Neurological Disorders Review Committee B. He began working at NINCDS in 1974 as a health scientist administrator.

Earlier in his career, Dr. Diggs was a research physiologist with the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. While employed there, he developed an experimental model to study drug addiction in the rat, focusing on drug tolerance and opiate receptor sites in the brain.

His extensive community involvement centers on his role as president of the Montgomery County, Md., chapter of a national black fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha. Composed of 150 black professional men, the fraternity's activities include promoting youth education programs and conducting minority business seminars. □

There are two objects of medical education: to heal the sick, and to advance the science.—*Charles H. Mayo (1865-1939)* □

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