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The NIH Record

Dramatic Progress on Understanding AIDS, But Vaccine or Cure Long Way Off—Gallo



Two Distinguished Scientists Put Their Heads Together

Dr. Albert B. Sabin (l), a pioneer in polio research and one of the first cancer researchers in this country, visits with Dr. Robert C. Gallo (r) at NCI's Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology which Gallo heads.—Photo by Bill Branson/NIH

By Francis X. Mahaney Jr.

Although scientists have made dramatic progress in AIDS research, "we still have a long way to go to perfect a vaccine or cure," says Dr. Robert C. Gallo, chief of NCI's Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology and one of the Nation's leading AIDS researchers.

"We still don't know at what point a person is infectious. We still do not know at what dosage it takes to be infected," Dr. Gallo said, speaking on AIDS before a crowded audience at the Stone House recently with Dr. Albert Sabin, renowned for his development of the oral polio vaccine.

The heterogeneity of the AIDS virus' envelope or protein cover (its ability to frequently change receptors on this outer coat makes it difficult to design antibodies which will invariably neutralize the virus) is a key to developing a vaccine, Dr. Gallo indicated and "it is imperative for us to know the nature of these things."

The 48-year-old scientist has been at the forefront of American medical research for more
(See GALLO ON AIDS, Page 11)

NHLBI Mounts Campaign To Cut Cholesterol, CHD

A new national effort to reduce the rate of coronary heart disease (CHD) and death from it by lowering blood cholesterol was officially launched by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute on Nov. 15. NHLBI hosted the first meeting of the coordinating committee of the new National Cholesterol Education Program.

The committee has more than 20 representatives from major medical, public health, and voluntary health organizations such as the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, and the American Heart Association. Eight Federal agencies also have liaison representatives on the committee.

The new campaign will attempt to prevent CHD by lowering elevated blood cholesterol in the U.S. population. It will be patterned to a large degree after the National High Blood Pressure Education Program, also administered by NHLBI, which is frequently cited as a model for public health education and education of the health professions. That national blood pressure control effort is believed to be a major contributor to the nearly 50 percent decline in deaths from stroke that has taken place since the program began in 1972.

In an opening address, NHLBI Director, Dr. Claude Lenfant, said "... since the release of

(See CHOLESTEROL, Page 10)

Dr. R. Kirschstein Gets Top Executive Award: Three Others Honored as Meritorious Executives



Dr. Kirschstein

Dr. Ruth L. Kirschstein, Director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, was recently honored with the Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Executives.

Dr. Kirschstein also received the Executive Excellence Award for Distinguished Executive Service.

At the same time, three other NIH executives were presented the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award. Two of them were Dr. Frank Neva, NIAID, and Norman Mansfield, OD. The third recipient, a scientist, asked that no publicity be given to his award.

President Reagan presented the Distinguished Executives Award, the highest honor that can be given to career civil servants, to Dr. Kirschstein and 31 others at a ceremony in the Old Executive Office Building. She was the only 1985 award recipient from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Since the award's establishment in 1979, 12 HHS executives have been so honored. Dr. Kirschstein is the first woman in HHS to receive this award.

(See AWARDS, Page 10)

R&W's Randy Schools Cited For Executive Achievements

Randy Schools, manager of the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association, recently received the Chairmen's Award from the Greater Washington Society of Association Executives. The society represents over 3,700 professional, medical and individual membership associations employing over 40,000 professional associations executives in the greater Washington metropolitan area.

Mr. Schools, a certified association executive, was given the award for outstanding volunteer service to the Washington, D.C. community.

He was also elected to the post of vice president in charge of health and fitness for the National Employee Services and Recreation Associations. This position represents over 4,000 companies from private industry, the military, and the Federal Government in the promotion of wellness and fitness programs at the workplace.

Mr. Schools holds a master's degree from



Mr. Schools

Georgetown University. Additionally he is active in the American Association of Association Executives and Special Love, a program for children with cancer, which operates Camp Fantastic. □

NIH's R&W Association Wins Association of the Year Award

NIH's Recreation and Welfare Association won the 1985 League of Federal Recreation Associations Award for the best employee service and recreation program in the Federal Government. This is the first time this award was given for the total number of activities and operations in the employee service field.

Also, Catherine Maruffi of the Clinical Center was given a League of Federal Recreation Association Award for "Volunteer of the Year." This was given for her outstanding performance as chairperson of the NIH family picnic as well as volunteering for many other R&W activities and events.

R&W wishes to express many thanks to R&W volunteers, staff, and members for helping to achieve this goal. □

Diabetic Volunteers Needed

People with diabetes who have been taking insulin for 1-15 years are invited to participate in a nationwide study of a new drug that might help to prevent eye and nerve damage from this disease.

To be eligible for the study, diabetics must be between 18 and 56 years of age and have few if any signs of diabetes-related eye damage. For more information, call 496-6534, National Eye Institute. □

Audubon Society To Hold Tuesday Luncheon Seminars

The Audubon Naturalist Society of the Greater Washington Area is sponsoring a series of Tuesday Luncheon Seminars from Jan. 21 through Mar. 11.

Lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. and an hour-long program will begin promptly at 1 p.m. on each Tuesday.

For further information on the cost of tickets and reservations, call the society's headquarters, 652-5964. The luncheon lectures will be held at the society's headquarters located at 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, Md.

Lecture topics for the several Tuesdays will be:

Jan. 21: "Halley's Comet," Tony White

Jan. 28: "The C&O Canal Park—Our Outdoor Museum," Helen Johnston.

Feb. 4: "Attracting and Photographing Birds in My Garden," Dinnie Ellingson

Feb. 11: "The Embattled Birds of Malta," Shirley Briggs

Feb. 18: "John James Audubon: The Man and His Legacy," Walter Pomeroy

Feb. 25: "Birding and Banding in Venezuela," David Meblman

Mar. 4: "A Preview of Spring Wildflowers," Cris Fleming

Mar. 11: To be announced. □

TRAINING TIPS

The following courses are sponsored by the Division of Personnel Management, the NIH Training Center.

<i>Executive, Management, and Supervisory 496-6371</i>	<i>Course Starts</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Capitol Hill Workshop	3/20	2/7
Effective Presentation. Skills	3/25	2/14
Communication Issues	3/25	2/14
<i>Support Staff Training 496-6211</i>		
Communicating with your Supervisor and Peers	3/4	2/4
Advanced Displaywrite 3 for Professionals	3/17	2/14
Computer Literacy for Professionals	3/3	2/1
Data Base III	3/19	2/10
Career Strategies	2/26	1/28
Basic Time & Attendance	3/19	2/14
Basic Time & Attendance	4/16	3/7
Management Development for Secretaries	3/24	2/24
Effective Time Management for Secretaries	3/17	2/14
<i>Training & Development Services Program 496-6211</i>		
<i>The CAREER CURRICULAR PROGRAM 496-6211</i>		

Share Training: For complete NIH Training Center information sign on to WYLBUR and enter SHARE TRAINING. For first-time users enter: x fr &ags1ugl@share(setup) on file37.

Adult Education Program ongoing 496-6211.

The NIH Record

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Health Benefits of Fish Weighed at World Parley

The 8th Annual International Seafood Conference held recently in Marrakesh, Morocco was well attended by scientists from academia, government, and industry groups from around the world. Tremendous interest internationally in the health benefits of seafood, and in research underway on fish and fish oils was apparent from conference participants.

A number of top officials of the Moroccan government gave presentations at the conference. These included the Prime Minister of Morocco, Mohamed Karim Lamrani, who



Bensalem Smili (l), Minister of Fisheries and Merchant Marines, of Rabat, Morocco, confers with Dr. Artemis P. Simopoulos, chairman of the NIH Nutrition Coordinating Committee, during the recent conference on the health benefits of seafood held in Marrakesh, Morocco.

opened the conference with his keynote address and the Minister of Fisheries and Merchant Marines, Bensalem Smili, who presented the closing address.

Conference sessions focused on a number of topics pertinent to both business and scientific issues related to seafood. A panel on "Fisheries in Morocco" was moderated by Dr. Gerald Posner, program manager of international fisheries development of the U.S. Department of Commerce; and a paper on the "Health Benefits of Fish" was presented by Dr. Artemis P. Simopoulos, chairman of the NIH Nutrition Coordinating Committee. Economic prospects were presented by Dan Dolan, economic counsel of the U.S. Embassy in Rabat.

The first conference to successfully bring together scientists including analytical chemists, molecular biologists, physiologists, etc. from around the world to review the various research topics related to the health effects of fatty acids of seafood origin and to develop a research agenda was held last June.

This conference on "The Health Effects of Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids in Seafoods" was cosponsored by the NIH-NCC, the National Marine Fisheries Service of the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (DOC/NOAA), and the Na-

tional Fisheries Institute.

Based on conclusions and recommendations presented at the conference, the NIH and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) issued a joint program announcement on the "Biological Mechanisms of Omega-3 Fatty Acids in Health And Disease States." This was to invite grant applications for the support of research to elucidate the biological mechanisms by which a seafood diet or the ingestion of fish oils influences health and modulates a number of disease processes.

The eight NIH Institutes participating in the joint program announcement, published in the Dec. 6th issues of the *NIH Guide for Grant and Contracts*, include NIADDK; NINCDS; NIAID; NICHD; NIGMS; NEI; NIEHS; and NIA. The two ADAMHA Institutes participating in the announcement are the NIAAA and NIMH. □



Dr. James B. Wyngaarden, NIH Director, and Dr. Hector Nava Jaimes (r), Director, Centro de Investigacion y de Estudios Avanzados del IPN in Mexico, recently signed a Plan for Scientific Collaboration between the two institutions. NINCDS, NIA, NIADDK, and NIDR will participate in implementing the plan. Dr. Craig Wallace, Director, FIC, is coordinating NIH activities and Dr. Pablo Rudomin, Director of CINVESTAV's Neurosciences Program and currently an FIC Scholar-in-Residence, is coordinating activities in Mexico.

G. Burroughs Mider: 1907-1985

Dr. G. Burroughs Mider, former deputy director of the National Library of Medicine and Director of Laboratories and Clinics of the National Institutes of Health, died Dec. 12 after a brief illness. He was 78.

A native of Windsor, N. Y., G. Mider received his A.B. from Cornell University in 1930 and his M.D. from the Cornell Medical



Dr. G. Burroughs Mider

College in 1933. Trained as a surgeon, he first came to the National Cancer Institute in 1939 as a research fellow.

He left the NIH for a series of academic appointments, returning in 1952 as NCI associate director for research. He served as NIH Director of Laboratories and Clinics from 1960 to 1968, responsible for all intramural research at the NIH. He was appointed deputy director of NLM in 1968.

Dr. Mider was widely known as a teacher, writer, and science administrator. He had a long-standing interest in libraries and helped the NIH establish its own rich working library.

An NIH lecture series, the "G. Burroughs Mider NIH Lectureship," was established in his honor in 1968 and continues today.

Dr. Robert Q. Marston, Director of NIH in 1968, said when the series was established: "The first Director of Laboratories and Clinics at NIH exerted a profound effect not only on the progress of the scientific program of NIH, but on the very nature of the role of the scientist-administrator in the Federal service.

"He demonstrated the most extraordinary devotion to the program of direct research at NIH, calling on his many talents of leadership as physician, scientist, and manager. He was responsible for the direct operations of the world's largest biomedical research institution."

Dr. Martin M. Cummings, NLM Director at the time, said on Dr. Mider's retirement in 1972: "He leaves behind him an indelible image on the history of NIH and NLM."

Dr. Charles P. Leblond To Lecture at NIDR As Visiting Scholar

Dr. Charles P. Leblond, professor of anatomy at McGill University in Montreal, will speak on the "Structure and Nature of the Basement Membrane," at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 15, in the ACRF Amphitheater. Dr. Leblond is the third distinguished scientist invited to visit the National Institute of Dental Research as part of the Institute's newly established Visiting Scholars Program.

The Visiting Scholars Program enables junior-level intramural staff to learn first-hand from internationally recognized leaders in biomedical research. Started in September 1985, four scholars are selected each year to spend several days at the NIDR. During this time, the visiting scholar meets with individuals and small groups of NIDR staff and presents a formal lecture. The selection of the visiting scholars is made entirely by junior-level staff.

Dr. Leblond was chosen because of his role in the field of cell biology. In the 1940s, he was instrumental in developing radioautography, a procedure for detecting and localizing radioisotopes in tissue sections. He used this technique to make pioneering observations of the mechanisms of bone formation and turnover; the renewal of epithelial cell populations; the developmental cycle of seminiferous epithelium; the origin and division of glial cells in the nervous system, and the incorporation of satellite cells into skeletal muscle fibers.

Adapting this procedure to the electron microscope, he later traced the pathway of thyroglobulin synthesis and transport in the thyroid gland, and the formation and secretion of collagen and enamel matrix proteins in the tooth.

Dr. Leblond now uses immunocytochemistry and radioautography to study basement membranes. His research is leading to new concepts about the structure, formation, and function of these critical structures.

He received an M.D. in 1934 from the University of Paris, a Ph.D. in 1942 from the University of Montreal, and a D.Sc. in 1945 from the Sorbonne. He served as chairman of the anatomy department of McGill University from 1957-1974, and in 1975 was a Fogarty Scholar at NIH.

A recipient of numerous awards and honors, Dr. Leblond has been presented with the Gairdner Foundation Award, the Isaac Schour Award of the International Association for Dental Research, the Henry Gray Award of the American Association for Anatomists, and the E.B. Wilson Award of the American Society for Cell Biology. □

Dr. J. Cereghino Named Epilepsy Branch Chief

Dr. James J. Cereghino, whose clinical studies led to the approval of carbamazepine as an antiepileptic drug, has been named chief of the Epilepsy Branch, National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke.

The branch, a part of the Institute's extramural Convulsive, Developmental, and Neuromuscular Disorders Program, supports basic and clinical research on epilepsy throughout the country and conducts an international program that screens and develops new drugs for epilepsy.

Dr. Cereghino, an NINCDS staff neurologist since 1970, had been principal administrator of the branch's comprehensive epilepsy program which seeks to stimulate clinical epilepsy research.

In recognition of his international reputation as a leader in the field of convulsive disorders, he was named an Ambassador for Epilepsy by Epilepsy International this year. He is a member of numerous professional organizations and is a past president of the American Epilepsy Society.

Dr. Cereghino is a native of Oregon and a graduate of Portland State College. He received his M.D. in 1964 from the University of Oregon Medical School, and he later earned an M.S. degree in neurophysiology from Linfield University, McMinnville, Ore. □



Five antique bath tubs (circa 1922) from the former Visitation Convent have been donated by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to raise money for the NIH Patient Emergency Fund. Made of cast iron with porcelain enamel and claw feet, the tubs are a great conversation piece. As a silent auction, bids will be taken on each unit, and posted on the bulletin board in front of the Bldg. 31 R&W Gift Shop, where a tub is on display. If you're the highest bidder, you're the owner. Deadline for bids is Jan. 24. They should be mailed to R&W Office, Bldg. 31, Rm. B1W30. Sorry, you must take care of moving the tub to its new destination.

NLM's Sesquicentennial: Many Activities Planned

In 1986, the National Library of Medicine will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding. The Library traces its beginning to 1836, the first year that the Office of the Army Surgeon General included a budget item to increase the holdings of the office library.

A great number of activities are planned, both to celebrate NLM's rich history and to spread the word about the Library's services to a larger user community. NLM Director Dr. Donald A. B. Lindberg points to a proposed Congressional Resolution which would officially designate 1986 as "The Sesquicentennial year of the National Library of Medicine" as a major boost to increasing the visibility of the Library's programs.

"Not only will 1986 be an enjoyable time of celebration," Dr. Lindberg added "but a great opportunity to bring together medical writers, communications experts, librarians, health professionals, and others to share ideas as we enter the next period in the Library's history."

Among events planned are:

- A 1-day seminar, "NLM: Online for Medicine and the Media," for representatives of the electronic and print media and science writers (Feb. 5).

- A special week in March for NLM's Extramural Programs—to include an IAIMS (Integrated Academic Information Management Systems) symposium.

- An exhibit at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., where the Library was housed for 20 years following President Lincoln's assassination.

- A colloquium on "Medicine and the Arts," in April.

- The Leiter Lecture at NLM, Apr. 11.

- Open House at NLM, Apr. 11.

- A special program and reception at the Ford's Theatre the evening of June 16.

- Group photograph of NLM employees (about 60) in June.

- NLM Sesquicentennial Picnic for employees, July.

- Special meeting and commemorative program at the Board of Regents meeting in September.

- Medical film festival at NLM, Oct. 6-10.

- International MEDLARS partners meet at NLM for special program, October.

- A 1-day colloquium on space medicine at NLM in cooperation with NASA, November.

In addition to these events, there will be exhibits at major professional meetings. NLM will host groups of visitors from such major meetings in Washington as MEDINFO, the World Congress of Cardiology, and the American Association of Law Librarians. □

O. W. Sweat Named Chief of NIH Security; Was Distinguished Montgomery Police Officer

O.W. Sweat (pronounced "sweet") was named chief of the NIH Protection and Security Management Branch, Division of Safety, ORS, on Dec. 9.

Mr. Sweat came to NIH following a distinguished 26-year career with the Montgomery County Police Department. For the past 2 years, he has served as the chief, Field Services Bureau. In this post, he was responsible for a \$36 million budget, management of 70 percent of the department (including all county police stations and approximately 600 patrol officers), and the operational support program, including the county's excellent crime prevention and community relations programs. He was particularly effective in the department's campaign to crack down on drunk drivers and for improving training for traffic officers.

A strong proponent of crime prevention and community relations programs, he began a program of security and protection for animal research facilities through which the county has been able to plan in advance for demonstrations. He also coordinated emergency management and security activities with local hospitals and became familiar with their functions and security problems. These and other reasons made Mr. Sweat unusually qualified for his new position at NIH.

"I was presented with an opportunity to go into a field which complements my background. At the same time, I was presented with new and different challenges while I could remain living in the same area after changing jobs," he said.

"Security should have top priority here while at the same time allowing research to continue in as unrestricted an atmosphere as possible. We want to raise the level of consciousness of all NIH employees about protecting themselves—as well as government and personal property. (Theft is the biggest NIH crime problem.) Doctors and researchers are already 'security experts' as they protect their experiments in a highly professional way. Our goal is to expand their expertise to include their property and person."

Before joining the Montgomery County Police Department in 1959, Mr. Sweat served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He decided to enter police work because it offered a more stable life style than the military. He spent about half of his police career in uniform and about half as a plainclothes officer.

During his career, he served as officer in charge of the homicide/sex squad, director of the police academy and commander of the Silver Spring district. In 1968, he was pro-



Mr. Sweat is the new NIH Chief of Security and Protection.

moted to major and appointed chief of the investigative services bureau, which includes all the department's detectives and undercover vice and narcotics officers.

Those who have worked with Mr. Sweat as a detective said he was aggressive and persistent. He solved one rape case through a single fingerprint on a window ledge. He found the rapist, who had crawled through a window to get to the victim, by questioning everyone in the neighborhood and by taking fingerprints from dozens of people. As a result of this extraordinary achievement, Mr. Sweat was named Montgomery County's Policeman of the Year in 1968. In December 1983, he was made chief of the Field Services Bureau.

"The NIH community in one way or another deals with people's lives and deaths, and I've been dealing with the same issues most of my life. The spirit of cooperation here is exceptional. Campus-wide, people want to help—there's a high degree of cooperation. Although NIH is unique, the need for safety is no different here than from any other community," he added. □

Sons of Italy Festa Raises \$800 for PEF

The NIH Lodge of the Order of the Sons of Italy raised \$800 for the Patient Emergency Fund at its third annual "Buon Natale" Festa held Dec. 17 in the Bldg. 10 cafeteria.

Since the OSI lodge's inception in 1983, the group has donated about \$3,000 to the PEF, Camp Fantastic, March of Dimes and a Cooley's anemia group. □

Thought Exchange Network Available on Computer

Would you like instant, up-to-date information on Norwegian posture chairs, talking PCs, optical character readers, surplus equipment, software, users' groups, demonstrations, networking and communications, the User Resource Center, and much more?

It is now available to all NIH staff through TEN—the NIH Thought Exchange—an online information service on Office Automation.

TEN was designed and established by the Office Technology Coordinators (OTCs) and programmed by Dr. David Scheim of the National Eye Institute.

NIH staff can scan TEN for an overview of information available, search for information related to specific topics, or add their own entries.

To use TEN for the first time, log on to WYLBUR and type: EXEC FROM &JNE1GVD.TENSET ON CAT. After you have used TEN once, you need only to log on to WYLBUR and type TEN to gain access. TEN is simple to use, with HELP available at any point. It features an easy link to other electronic information services at NIH, including DPM's SHARE TRAINING and DCRT's Information Exchange.

By providing convenient, up-to-date information, supplemented by the input of NIH staff, TEN will assist offices in making informed decisions about Office Automation. TEN also provides the capability for any other group within NIH to easily set up and administer a similar information sharing mechanism on a separate subject.

If you have any questions concerning TEN, please contact the NIH OTC or your BID OTC (listed in the NIH yellow pages under Office Automation). □

Forum on P.C. Statistical Packages To Be Held on January 23

The NIH Microcomputer Statistical package User's Group will present a forum on various statistical packages available for microcomputers. At this forum several speakers will discuss their experiences with different programs.

Purpose of the forum is to inform the NIH community about the support available for users of statistical software on microcomputers.

A second purpose is to organize an ongoing series of seminars which will look at each package in-depth.

The forum will take place Jan. 23 at 3 p.m. in Bldg. 10, Medical Board Room. For further information contact Bob Klein (496-6832) or Deborah Ismond (496-3333). □

NIA Opens Inpatient Elderly Continence Treatment Unit in Baltimore

"Incontinence is a 2- to 3-minute illness. If the right people do the right job, very few people need to be incontinent." These provocative statements, offered by Dr. Bernard T. Engel, director of NIA's Inpatient Geriatric Continence Research Program, echoed the theme for the opening ceremony of the unit.

The event was held at the Francis Scott Key Medical Center (FSKMC) in Baltimore, where the unit is located.

The 150 guests in attendance heard several distinguished speakers discuss the clinical, psychological and financial burdens imposed on elderly, incontinent patients and their families. Dr. Engel also reviewed treatment procedures that will be used for patients receiving care in the 15-bed unit.

The program has been made possible through an interagency agreement between NIA and the Health Care Financing Administration.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop delivered the keynote address. Dr. Koop has had a longstanding interest in the clinical and social consequence of incontinence, and the welfare of the aged. He described incontinence failure or inability to control bowel movements and urine as being extremely degrading to those older men and women affected by it.



"There are potential advantages in bringing these (incontinence) studies to the bedside of the chronically impaired," says NIA Director, Dr. T. Franklin Williams.

And, though its incidence rises proportionately with age, Dr. Koop made it clear that the involuntary loss of urine or feces is *not* a normal concomitant of aging.

"Life with incontinence is certainly not a life with dignity," Dr. Koop said. Nearly 3 million older men and women are incontinent; however, no one should anticipate becoming that way "just because he or she's getting up there in years," the robust, 70-year-old Surgeon General remarked.

While up to 15 percent of the community-based population is incontinent at any one time, these problems appear far more often among nursing home residents. About half of



U.S. Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop cuts the ribbon that marks the opening of the Inpatient Geriatric Continence Research Program. The director of the program, NIA's Dr. Bernard Engel, looks on.

Photos by: Photography and Arts Unit NIA Gerontology Research Center.

all such patients are either bowel or urine incontinent or both.

A number of factors may contribute to incontinence, including impaired mobility, cognitive impairment, cerebrovascular accidents (for example, stroke), prostate or anal surgery, and the use of certain medications. Emotional factors may also contribute to the onset or severity of the disorder.

And, according to the Surgeon General, the costs associated with this frustrating condition are enormous. One to one-and-a-half billion dollars are spent each year for treating incontinence in nursing homes, he said. "So what we really need to do is to take away the degradation (of incontinence) and save money."

The new Inpatient Geriatric Continence Unit operates out of FSKMC's Mason F. Lord Building, under the guidance of Dr. Engel and his GRC colleagues, codirectors Drs. Louis Burgio and Kathleen McCormick.

Dr. Engel and his staff have demonstrated the clinical efficacy of using several forms of behavioral treatment to alleviate symptoms of urinary and bowel incontinence in otherwise healthy, elderly adults. As reported in the October 1985 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine* (Vol. 3, No. 4), the investigators reduced the frequency of accidents by an average of 80 percent among 39 elderly men and women who were urine incontinent. Thirteen, or one-third of the patients, became totally continent.

These patients received several sessions of either biofeedback and bladder-strengthening exercises or habit training to achieve this high de-

gree of success.

The investigators also have shown in the past that operant conditioning (biofeedback) and sphincter muscle training can improve the outlook for many elderly patients with bowl incontinence.

Similar therapies will be employed in the new unit. According to Dr. Engel, treatment will be specifically tailored to the needs and limitations of each patient. For example, elderly men and women with mobility impairment (limited liability to walk or move about), but free of cognitive (mental dysfunction) may receive biofeedback. Patients with intellectual and mobility impairment will more likely benefit from improved nursing care coupled with habit training.

Another speaker, NIA Director Dr. T. Franklin Williams, said there are many advantages in bringing these studies to the bedside of the chronically impaired. "Effective new invasive therapies for this often neglected medical problem" can help ease the burdens on both the patient and the caregivers, Dr. Williams explained.

Dr. Engel praised several pioneer researchers, including Dr. Williams, who early recognized the importance of studying incontinence. But he placed special emphasis on the support offered by Dr. Koop and the Deputy Surgeon General, Dr. Faye Abdellah, without whom the project would never have become a reality.

Prior to a reception, Dr. Koop cut the ceremonial ribbon, officially opening the research unit.—Jan Ehrman □

Laser Can Reduce Diabetic Vision Loss

The American Medical Association (AMA) last month held a news conference in Washington, D.C. to call attention to the importance of an NEI multicenter clinical trial to evaluate treatment of diabetic eye disease. The study showed that treatment with a laser can reduce the risk of visual loss from diabetic macular edema by 50 percent.

At the Dec. 5 conference, Dr. Harrison Rogers, AMA president, said, "Diabetes is responsible for loss of vision in thousands of Americans each year. . . . In 1976, photocoagulation (coagulation by intense light) was shown to be effective in preventing severe visual loss from advanced proliferative diabetic retinopathy. This new study shows that photocoagulation also is effective in preventing loss of vision from diabetic edema."

In diabetic macular edema, vision is blurred by excess fluid which swells retinal tissue. While visual loss from macular edema is not as severe as that from proliferative diabetic retinopathy, it can be serious enough to keep an individual from performing such everyday functions as reading and driving a car.

Enrolled in the study were people whose eyes were in the early stages of diabetic eye disease. A total of 1,490 eyes were assigned to the deferred treatment group while 754 received immediate focal photocoagulation with the argon laser.

Vision Improvement

After 3 years of followup, 24 percent of the eyes in the untreated group had lost a significant amount of vision, while only 12 percent of those in the treated group had done so. And, while laser treatment increased the likelihood of an improvement in vision and decreased the frequency of persistent macular edema, it caused only minor visual field changes.

The focal photocoagulation technique evaluated in the study coagulates only the blood vessels in the macular area suspected of leaking fluid into the macula. This technique differs from the panretinal technique used in treating proliferative diabetic retinopathy in which many laser burns are placed in the peripheral retina, avoiding the macula.

The new findings, from the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study, were published in an article in the December issue of the AMA's *Archives of Ophthalmology* and in an editorial in *JAMA*. Thus 18,000 ophthalmologists and almost 150,000 primary care physicians were reminded of the necessity of yearly eye examinations for their diabetic patients. □

CC Staff Must Wear Personal ID Badges

Though December is the month traditionally associated with greeting cards, February will be the month when all Clinical Center employees start wearing their own personalized greeting card—a Personal Identification Card, or PIC.

Every CC employee, and anyone who reports to work there regularly, including consultants and contractors, will be required to wear the PICs at all times while on the premises.

The PICs, about the size of a playing card, will feature a color photograph against a red background and the employee's name and department. They are to be worn either around the neck or clipped to a breast pocket.

New employees and outside workers just beginning duties at the hospital will be issued temporary PICs, good for 10 days. Those who forget to wear their cards to work will also be issued temporary cards at the discretion of department chiefs.

Enforcement of PIC regulations will be up to supervisors and employees.

Though the CC will be the first NIH building to require PICs, the hope is that the trend will eventually spread to each building on campus.

Snapshots for the PICs will be taken later this month when a temporary photography studio comes to the Clinical Center. Following this initial session, photos will be taken at the Protection and Security Management Branch (PSMB), Division of Safety, in Bldg. 31.

Authorities hope that the PIC system will make the Clinical Center a friendlier and safer place. Patients and visitors will not, however, be required to wear any identification.

Lost or stolen PICs must be reported to PSMB. Those who terminate their employment with the Clinical Center are required to surrender their cards when they leave.

PICs will be compatible with the Cardkey electronic access control system used in some buildings on campus. All CCers may one day be able to tell people that their good looks opened doors for them. □

Men in the Eighties: Macho, Meek or What?

Who is the man of the eighties? If women have trouble figuring out men, men are even more in the dark understanding their own identities and roles.

Men are beginning to acknowledge and accept their tender side, to recognize the many ways they avoid intimacy, and to understand the reasons they may fail in their relationships.

The Employee Counseling Services of the Occupational Medical Service presents Bruce W. Barth, a psychologist in private practice, who will speak on this topic on Wednesday, Jan. 15, in Wilson Hall, from noon to 1 p.m. □



The staff of NCI's Central Animal Services received a special NIH group award recently in recognition for their resourcefulness "in the face of adversity" during a manpower shortage earlier this year. CAS provides technical support and animal health monitoring for NCI scientists located in Bldgs. 37, 10 and 41. Last February, the section's work force was reduced from six to four fulltime positions because of a transfer and resignation during a hiring freeze. Sidney N. Dempsey (front), Sherman I. Minor (l), Roy A. Myrick (center back) and Gordon R. Hinkle decided to band together to solve their problems. The foursome performed "over and above" the duties detailed in their job descriptions, their supervisors said.

Two NCI Scientists Receive Awards For Reticuloendothelial Research

Two members of the NCI's Biological Response Modifiers Program (BRMP) received 1985 research awards at the joint conference of the 17th International Leukocyte Culture Conference and the 22nd National Meeting of the Reticuloendothelial Society (RES) held at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, recently.

Dr. Elisabetta Blasi received the society's 1985 Presidential Award and Dr. Craig Reynolds received its 1985 Young Investigator Award. This is the first time that both research awards have been given to members of the same research program—a special achievement for the BRMP.

Both awards are given for outstanding research on the reticuloendothelial system. The reticuloendothelial system is composed of phagocytic cells that defend the body by ingesting microorganisms or other cells and foreign particles. Drs. Blasi and Reynolds, along with the other finalists, presented their work at a special plenary session during the meeting. Each award, consisting of a plaque and a \$500 cash prize, was announced at the awards banquet.

Predoctoral students and postdoctoral trainees with fewer than 2 years of postdoctoral research training were eligible to apply for the 1985 Presidential Award. Dr. Blasi was selected from among more than 58 applicants.

A native of Italy, Dr. Blasi received her Ph.D. in biological sciences from the University of Perugia and is currently working on a second Ph.D. in experimental microbiology. Her award-winning research was on the role of oncogenes in the immortalization of precursor bone marrow cells. Specifically, she has shown that oncogenes work in combination to convert normal mouse bone marrow cells into immortal macrophage cell lines. The biological activities of these cell lines closely resemble those of normal macrophages. These cell lines also differentiate in response to such signals as interferon production.

Dr. Blasi has recently been given a 1-year position as a visiting associate in the BRMP laboratory of Dr. Luigi Varesio. She plans to continue her studies on the role of oncogenes in the cancer development of normal cells.

The 1985 Young Investigator Award is given for outstanding research by an investigator, younger than 36, who is a member of the RES or who is sponsored by an RES member. Dr. Reynolds was selected from among more than 25 applicants.

Acting head of the BRMP's Natural Immunity Section, he is the author or coauthor of more than 60 scientific papers and book chap-



Drs. Elisabetta Blasi and Craig Reynolds display their awards received from the Reticuloendothelial Society.

ters. He received his B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. In 1978, he joined the NCI as a postdoctoral fellow in the Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis.

Dr. Reynolds has characterized and described the functions of natural killer (NK) cells. His research has contributed to the recognition that a small population of white blood cells, known as large granular lymphocytes, are responsible for most, if not all, of the NK activity in normal individuals. His future research will include the study of specific molecular or biochemical events leading to the activation and functioning of NK cells. □

Canada's Shakespearean Tour Comes to Warner Theater

R&W has discount orchestra tickets for the Stratford Festival of Canada Shakespearean Tour.

See *Twelfth Night* on Jan. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$24 for orchestra seats (regular price: \$27.50). *Twelfth Night* is a delightful, delectable, and totally endearing comedy.

You can see *King Lear* on Feb. 1, at 2 p.m. Orchestra seats are \$25.50 (regular price: \$29.50). *King Lear*, one of the most transcendent tales of suffering, is a profound expression of humanity's continuing struggle to remain human.

Clive Barnes, of the *New York Post* says the Stratford Festival is "one of the three great English-speaking Classical Theatres together with Britain's National Theatre and its Royal Shakespeare Company." □

Applications for Interns Accepted Through Feb. 28

NIH's Management Intern Program is accepting applications through Feb. 28 at the GS-5, 7 and 9 levels. The program permits up to 15 months of rotational on-the-job administrative training assignments. Interns will also enroll in formal course work and attend seminars.

The program provides an opportunity for individuals demonstrating high potential to undertake a period of specialized training in preparation for a career in administrative management at NIH.

Eligibility Requirements

Recruitment is limited to DHHS employees. Eligible candidates must:

- Have a career or career-conditional appointment and have worked at HHS for 1 year immediately prior to Feb. 28.

- Be willing to work full-time.

To meet eligibility requirements at the GS-5 level, employees must also have:

- Successfully completed a 4-year course leading to a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university; or
- Three years of experience in administrative, professional, technical, investigative, or other responsible work that has provided a general background for the position; or
- Any time-equivalent combination of such education and experience.

At the GS-7/9 levels, employees must:

- Meet requirements for GS-5; and
- Have additional education or experience.

Information Sessions

Candidates are urged to attend one of the following two information sessions to assure that all questions are answered:

Feb. 12, Bldg. 10, Masur Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 24, Bldg. 31, Rm. B2C12, 2 p.m.

Application forms are available from the NIH Training Center, Bldg. 31, Rm. B2C31, 496-6371. □

Assertiveness Training

The Employee Counseling Services of the Occupational Medical Service will offer an "Assertiveness Training" class starting Jan. 22 and continuing on Jan. 29, Feb. 5 and 12 in Bldg. 31, B2B57 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Attendance is limited to 15 participants. If interested, please call Rachele Selzer for a pregroup interview at 496-3164. □

T. Cook's Recommendations Saved Ctr. From Fire Loss

Thomas J. Cook, chief of the Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Branch, Division of Engineering Services, ORS, has received a Special Achievement Award in recognition of action that prevented severe fire damage to the NIH Perrine (Florida) Primate Center in May 1985.

Mr. Cook received his award at a recent surprise presentation in the office of Dr. Robert A. Whitney Jr., Director, DRS.



Tom Cook (r) receives a Special Achievement Award from Dr. Robert A. Whitney Jr., for recommending a firebreak that prevented devastating fire loss at the NIH Perrine (Florida) Primate Center.

"Mr. Cook's foresight prevented a financial loss of more than \$2 million, and even more importantly, saved the lives of more than 1,000 rhesus monkeys," Dr. Whitney said in making the presentation.

Firebreak Recommended

When NIH acquired the Perrine property in 1982, the facilities were in serious disrepair. Members of the Division of Engineering Services staff, including Mr. Cook, visited the site and arranged improvements. Mr. Cook strongly recommended that a firebreak be developed along the perimeter fence and that the roads crossing an undeveloped part of the property be cleared of overgrowth to allow access by emergency vehicles. DES promptly put his recommendations into effect.

In May 1985, brush fires, intensified by extremely dry conditions, threatened the center, including the rhesus breeding colony and a large wooden-frame laboratory building. The fire damaged a portion of the undeveloped NIH property and the nearby Dade County metro-zoo, but the firebreak prevented it from reaching the main building and animals. □

Dr. James Fozard Joins NIA's Longitudinal Study

Dr. James L. Fozard joined the National Institute on Aging recently as associate scientific director for the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging (BLSA). The 27-year-old study operates out of the NIA Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore.

In his new position, Dr. Fozard is responsible for the day-to-day management of the BLSA, one of the most comprehensive studies of its type in the world. BLSA staff members make repeated physical, medical and psychological measurements on more than 900 community-dwelling men and women, ranging in age from 20 to 95.

The major purpose of the BLSA is to quantify true age changes, determine the causes of these changes, and to seek out the physiological or psychological mechanisms responsible.

Besides his administrative role, Dr. Fozard will provide scientific guidance regarding the needs and future directions of the study, and conduct independent research relevant to the study's objectives.

Treatment Service Director

Prior to joining the NIA, he was director of the patient treatment service of the Veterans Administration central office in Washington, D.C. During his tenure, the VA's long-term patient care programs experienced unprecedented growth and new programs were started, including the Geriatric Evaluation Unit and Adult Day Health Care. The service also developed VA initiatives in hospice and respite care, teaching nursing homes and dementia, including a program guide about dementia for health care practitioners (to be published by the VA in December 1985).

During his seven-year tenure as director of the VA patient treatment service, Dr. Fozard was no stranger to NIH. He served as the VA representative to the Federal Interagency Committee on Population Research, cochair of the Federal Interagency Committee on Research on Aging and the VA representative on the DHHS Secretary's Task Force on Alzheimer's disease.

He brings to his position considerable experience with longitudinal studies. He was a psychologist with the Normative Aging Study at the VA Outpatient Clinic in Boston (1967-78) and codirector of VA's Geriatric Research, Educational and Clinical Center in the same city (1976-78). He was an assistant professor of psychology with Harvard Medical School's psychiatry department from 1968 to 1979.

His educational background includes an M.A. in psychology from San Diego State College (1958) and a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Lehigh (1961).

Author or coauthor of some 70 books, chapters, or original research papers, Dr. Fozard is an American Psychological Association (APA) Fellow, and the 1984 recipient of the Distinguished Contribution Award from the APA's



Dr. Fozard

Division of Adult Development and Aging. In 1985 he received a commendation from the VA's Chief Medical Director for 18 years of contributions to the medical care of older veterans and leadership in aging research.

His memberships include the Gerontological Society of America and the Advisory Council of the International Association of Attention and Perception. He chaired the APA Task Force for the White House Conference on Aging (1979-81) and served on the steering committee for the Mini White House Conference on Mental Health and Aging (1981). □

Dr. P. V. Choudary, NINCDS, Awarded Neurosciences Prize

Dr. Prabhakara V. Choudary, a senior staff fellow in the NINCDS Developmental and Metabolic Neurology Branch, has received the Neurosciences Achievement Award from the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America.

Dr. Choudary is a member of the NINCDS team that cloned the gene for glucocerebrosidase, the enzyme deficient in the most common Jewish genetic disorder—Gaucher's disease. The team has also expressed the gene in mouse cells and Gaucher's fibroblasts in culture.

These advances may one day enable scientists to correct the deficiency by replacing the defective gene in Gaucher's patients. □

CHOLESTEROL

(Continued from Page 1)

the findings from the Coronary Primary Prevention Trial (January 1984), there has been a growing consensus that reducing elevated blood cholesterol will reduce the incidence of heart attack and heart attack death. Indeed, we have reached the point that our best collective scientific judgment advocates that we initiate a major educational effort directed at the health professions and the public."

At the same time, Dr. Lenfant stressed that the area of blood lipids is one that has many unanswered questions. He said it is a fast-moving and exciting field of research as evidenced by the fact that this year's Nobel Prize for medicine and the Lasker Award for medical research went to Drs. Michael Brown and Joseph Goldstein for their work on low density lipoprotein receptors.

"There is clearly much new knowledge that will be acquired in the forthcoming years in this area," Dr. Lenfant said.

"Nevertheless," he added, "we should not be concerned that what we may be saying in 5 or 10 years may not be identical to what we are saying today. What we say must always represent our best assessment of the evidence at hand, and, the evidence on hand in 10 years should be far superior to the evidence on hand today. Today's evidence, however, is clearly sufficient to launch the National Cholesterol Education Program."

Dr. Lenfant noted that the program will have two major premises. One is that it will be a partnership among many organizations and agencies in both the public and private sectors. The second is that its messages will be based on a solid scientific foundation, but the science basis will be "dynamic and not dogmatic," he said.

During the meeting, Dr. Lenfant announced that Dr. James Cleeman will serve as the coordinator for the National Cholesterol Education Program. For the past 2 years, Dr. Cleeman had been chief of the Health Education Branch in NHLBI.

In remarks to the coordinating committee, Dr. Cleeman noted that survey data showed that the public appears more convinced than physicians that lowering elevated blood cholesterol is an important means of preventing heart disease. However, neither the public nor physicians rated blood cholesterol reduction as strong a preventive as either stopping smoking or controlling high blood pressure.

Survey data also revealed that 98 percent of the public said that they have at one time or another had their blood pressure checked while only 35 percent of the public reported having

their blood cholesterol measured, Dr. Cleeman said. These findings, he said, illustrate some initial educational challenges for the program.

Keynoting the first meeting of the NCEP coordinating committee meeting was Dr. Timothy Johnson, medical editor for ABC television, syndicated news columnist and founding editor of the Harvard Medical School Health Newsletter. Dr. Johnson said the interest in health by the media and the public should provide many opportunities to convey educational messages about blood cholesterol.

He urged that the public messages be simple and direct and, where possible, use easy-to-remember numbers such as 120/80 in the blood pressure program. "Perhaps an overall goal of 200 mg/dl for blood cholesterol level should be established for the public at large," he added.

Also addressing the meeting was Dr. Michael McGinnis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, who underscored HHS's continuing priority on preventing disease and promoting health. He said that the new national effort to reduce blood cholesterol should benefit the health of the American people in the same manner as high blood pressure control.

Initial emphasis of the new program will be to provide physicians and other health professionals with up-to-date information and recommendations and to make the public aware of the implications of elevated blood cholesterol. They also will be urged to have their blood cholesterol measured during their next visit to their doctors. □

AWARDS

(Continued from Page 1)

She was cited "for sustained extraordinary accomplishment in management of programs of the United States Government and for leadership exemplifying the highest standards of service to the public, reflecting credit on the career civil service."

Dr. Kirschstein's career in the Public Health Service spans 29 years. She came to NIH in 1956 as a medical officer in the Clinical Pathology Department of the Clinical Center. From 1957 to 1972, Dr. Kirschstein was with the Division of Biologics Standards, now the office of Biologics in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

While there, she developed the tests that provided a means for assuring the safety of viral vaccines for such diseases as polio, measles, and rubella.

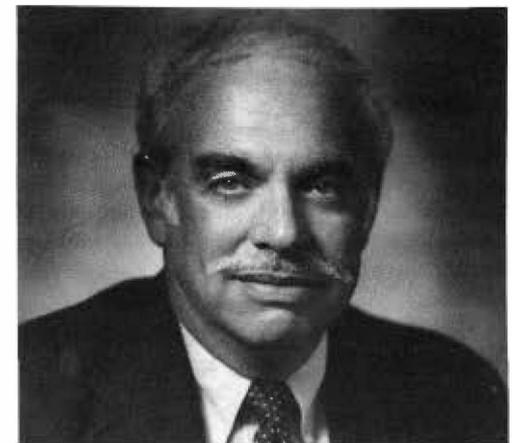
In 1972, Dr. Kirschstein became acting deputy director of the then Bureau of Biologics, FDA. The following year, she was appointed deputy associate commissioner for Science of the Food and Drug Administration. Since 1974, she has served as Director of NIGMS.



Dr. Neva

Dr. Neva, chief, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, NIAID, was nominated for the rank of Meritorious Executive for his outstanding abilities as an administrator, research scientist and physician.

He directs a laboratory and clinical research program which investigates parasitic diseases of global importance including malaria, schistosomiasis, amebiasis, trypanosomiasis, and leishmaniasis. He was cited "for outstanding administration of the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases of the NIAID and sustained research accomplishments of importance to hundreds of millions of people throughout the world."



Mr. Mansfield

Mr. Mansfield, director, Division of Financial Management, OD, is directly involved in formulating, overseeing and executing management policy for NIH. He was cited "for his outstanding effort as advisor to the Director of the National Institutes of Health, and his excellent leadership in improving data quality and management efficiency."

Mr. Mansfield has also been a leading figure at NIH in improving data efficiency. He played a major role in improving overall NIH consistency and reliability in estimating research project grant applications, costs, award rates and paylines. □

Dr. Martha Bryan Named Handicap Program Mgr.

Dr. Martha R. Bryan was recently appointed handicap program manager in the NIH's Division of Equal Opportunity.

Dr. Bryan previously served as director of handicapped student services with the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. During her 6 years in this position, she developed a comprehensive accommodations program for the disabled students and employees of the university.

Among her accomplishments were the development of an accessibility guide and tactile map of the campus, adaptive aids for sight impaired persons, large-scale awareness programs, interpreting services, a program for learning disabled persons, and an employment referral network.



Dr. Bryan

She received her doctor's degree from the University of Tennessee in educational psychology with collateral studies in special education and rehabilitation, administration, and research. She holds a master's degree in counseling and a bachelor's degree in psychology. She has published articles, on learning styles and disability issues.

Dr. Bryan is active in the Association of Handicapped Student Services Programs in Post-Secondary Education and the American Educational Research Association and holds memberships in other professional organizations.

Before 1980, she was director of two Special Student Services Programs for Disadvantaged Students funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Inquiries regarding the NIH Handicap Program should be directed to Dr. Bryan on 496-2906. □

GALLO ON AIDS

(Continued from Page 1)

than a decade. He is best known for his work in the biology and biochemistry of viruses and tumor cell proliferation.

Dr. Gallo received several major awards last fall.

On Dec. 12, the New York Academy of Sciences honored him for his seminal work on the discovery of the T-cell growth factor (TCGF), which led to his isolation of HTLV-I, the first human retrovirus, and HTLV-III, believed to be the causative agent of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

"I can't think of another scientist more original, more creative, or bold in the type of research problems he will tackle," says his colleague, Dr. Max Essex of Harvard University.

Last October, Dr. Gallo received the distinguished Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Award for his "outstanding contributions to cancer research," especially his pioneering discovery of T-cell growth factor, also called interleukin-2, a molecule that may play a role in the immune system's response to certain tumor cells. Interleukin-2 is a critical part of a new approach to curing cancers, now being tested at NCI.

The Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Awards—named in memory of the late 38th Vice President of the United States—are presented each year by the Boston University School of Medicine. Mr. Humphrey, who was serving his fifth term in the U.S. Senate at the time of his death, died of cancer in January, 1978.

Dr. Gallo also received the "Rabbi Shai Shacknai Prize in Immunology and Cancer Research" by the Hebrew University in Jerusalem Dec. 16; Italy's "Premio Internazionale Tevere

Roma" on Sept. 22, 1985; the "Simon M. Shubitz Award" at the University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation on May 7, 1985; The "Lila Gruber Honor Award for Cancer Research" by the American Academy of Dermatology on Dec. 3. He was honored by the Infectious Diseases Society of America on Oct. 3, 1985 for his contributions to AIDS research.

Lastly, the mayor of Waterbury, Conn. remembered the smalltown boy who made good by presenting the immunologist with a plaque from the city. Dr. Gallo was born in this west-central Connecticut manufacturing town where one longtime resident remembered him as "a very nice little boy," attending St. Peter and Paul Grammar School and Sacred Heart High School there.

Dr. Gallo has built the foundations of his research around the growth of human leukemic cells and the role of cellular and viral DNA polymerases. He developed tissue culture systems for growing human myeloid cell lines and demonstrated that these cells can be induced to differentiate into phenotypically normal mature granulocytes. This work culminated in Dr. Gallo's discovery of T-cell growth factor and the development of the first system for the routine longterm culturing of normal and neoplastic T-cells.

Dr. Gallo began working at the NCI in 1965 as a Clinical Associate in the Medicine Branch. In 1968, he became a Senior Investigator in the NCI Human Tumor Cell Biology Branch. Following that, he served three years as Head, Section on Cellular Control Mechanisms. He has been chief of the Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology since 1972, and has authored more than 615 scientific articles.

He received his B.A. summa cum laude in 1959 from Providence College in Rhode Island and his M.D. from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1963. □

Dr. Loré Ann McNicol Joins NIGMS as Administrator

Dr. Loré Ann McNicol, a molecular biologist, has joined the NIGMS Cellular and Molecular Basis of Disease Program as a program administrator. Dr. McNicol will administer grants pertaining to membrane structure and function.

Awarded a B.A. with honors in 1965 from the University of Montana in Missoula, she went on to the Boston University School of Medicine where she received a Ph.D. in medical sciences in 1968.

Subsequently, Dr. McNicol held post-doctoral positions at Tufts University in Boston; the Institute for Cancer Research in Fox Chase, Pa. and the University of Maryland in College Park. She has been on the faculties of

the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, the California Institute of Technology, and the University of Maryland.

Most recently, she was a guest worker in the NIAID Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, where she worked on cloning cell-surface antigens of the sexual stages of *Plasmodium falciparum*—the organism responsible for the most virulent form of human malaria—in an effort to find vaccine candidates.

Dr. McNicol has written or collaborated on more than 25 research articles and textbook chapters and has been an ad hoc reviewer for a number of scientific journals. □

Scientists Isolate Elusive Reproductive Protein; May Be Basis for Acceptable Male Contraceptive

By Leslie Fink

Scientists have isolated and characterized a protein that appears to block a hormonal step necessary for the development of sperm and egg cells. Because the protein, called inhibin, blocks this step without upsetting the body's hormonal balance, it may lead to improved birth control pills for women and provide the basis for a hormone contraceptive for men.

Inhibin may also "constitute a missing link" in knowledge about the mechanism that precisely orchestrates secretion of reproductive hormones, according to endocrinologist Dr. Roger Guillemin, an NICHD grantee at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, Calif.

Dr. Guillemin, his colleagues at Salk and those at the biotechnology firm, Genetech, Inc. in south San Francisco, reported their findings in the Dec. 19 issue of *Nature*.

Although scientists have for many years suspected that both male and female sex glands make a substance like inhibin, isolating the protein and describing its structure had to await the development of modern gene-splicing techniques. Using genetically engineered copies of inhibin, scientists can now begin to study exactly how the protein blocks reproduction.

"Endocrinologists have postulated the existence of an inhibin since the thirties," says Dr. William Sadler, chief of NICHD's Reproductive Sciences Branch. "But this has been based on indirect evidence. Now we can supply inhibin to researchers who will test to see if it really does what we thought it would do."

A half-dozen or more hormones secreted at different times from the ovaries or testes and regions of the brain perform a delicate balancing act that controls reproduction. By adding or taking away these hormones, scientists developing oral contraceptives have tried to tip the balance, disrupting the chain of events that leads to the growth and discharge of eggs or sperm.

"Discovering the structure of inhibin is attractive from a practical point of view because

of its potential as a contraceptive," says Dr. Sadler. "This discovery could provide a basis for the first hormone-based male contraceptive."

In both women and men, for example, the pituitary hormone follicle-stimulating hormone, or FSH, stimulates the sex glands to produce eggs or sperm. By blocking FSH secretion, inhibin may indirectly prevent the ovaries or testes from producing sex cells.

But inhibin would differ from other hormone-based contraceptives, because it appears to block fertility without disturbing the rest of the body's hormonal balance. Because of their overall effects on the hormone system, current birth control pills produce side effects that prevent some women from using them.

And although scientists have previously tested FSH-inhibiting substances as male contraceptives, their unwanted side effects have kept them off the market. These drugs effectively blocked FSH secretion—and thus, sperm production—but, they also blocked the pituitary's secretion of luteinizing hormone (LH), a reproductive hormone that indirectly controls sex drive in men.

"You've got to develop a substance that won't inhibit LH, too," says Dr. Sadler. "Because if you inhibit LH, you won't get any men to take the drug."

Inhibin may overcome these obstacles for both men and women by acting only on FSH-producing cells of the pituitary gland. In this way, it may block fertility without disturbing the amount of LH or other reproductive hormones.

While knowledge of the molecular structure of inhibin will help scientists learn how to use the substance safely as a contraceptive, it will also help them learn more about how hormones in both sexes control reproduction. During a woman's monthly cycle, for example, secretion of FSH is precisely timed to occur when LH levels are low. Although they do not fully know the mechanism that controls these changing hormone levels, scientists suspect

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that inhibin helps coordinate their rise and fall, which is essential for normal reproduction.

Dr. Guillemin heads a research team that has studied reproductive proteins such as inhibin for many years. In 1977 he shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for determining the structure of luteinizing hormone releasing hormone produced by a brain region called the hypothalamus. Long before Dr. Guillemin proved that hypothalamic proteins existed, scientists had suspected proteins from the brain controlled certain endocrine functions. Today the hypothalamus is known to produce at least five protein hormones. □

Five New Alzheimer Centers Funded by NIA at \$25 Million

The National Institute on Aging has announced funding for five new Alzheimer Disease Research Centers, awarding \$3.4 million in grants for the first year of operation and a total of \$25 million over the next 5 years.

This brings to 10 the number of Alzheimer centers funded by the NIA in a program designed to speed up understanding of what causes the disease and what can be done to treat it.

The new centers will be established at Duke University (Durham, N.C.); the University of Kentucky (Lexington, Ky.); the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, Pa.); the University of Washington (Seattle, Wash.) and Washington University (St. Louis, Mo.).

Each center will conduct new and expanded studies of the basic, clinical and behavioral aspects of Alzheimer disease. They will also train scientists and health care professionals new to the field, and serve as an important link between the research community and the public as research advances are reported.

"One of our major goals in setting up the centers program was to create a network for investigators to share information and resources," said Dr. Zaven Khachaturian, chief of the NIA's Physiology of Aging Program. "We now have the critical mass of scientific prowess to use a Manhattan Project approach to conquer Alzheimer disease." □

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