

"Still
The Second
Best Thing
About Payday"

The NIH Record

'Deeply Honored To Have Served'

Healy Announces Plans to Leave NIH by June 30

By Rich McManus

NIH director Dr. Bernadine Healy announced, with clear reluctance, on Feb. 26 that she will resign her position by June 30.

"Before I went to bed last night, I looked out the window and hoped I'd see enough snow that work would be called off today," she told a gathering of reporters, OD staff and ICD directors at Stone House before reading a statement (see sidebar) announcing her resignation.

As a snowfall too meager to cancel federal labors blanketed the campus, Healy said it was made clear to her, in conversations with HHS Secretary Donna Shalala 2 weeks earlier, that President Clinton had other plans for NIH leadership.

"The NIH claims a piece of my soul, and will always have a place in my heart," said the 48-year-old cardiologist, who has been director for 22 months. "I am proud to have been at her helm."

The director had informed her top staff in a meeting earlier that morning of her plans to step down.

"It was a surprise announcement at this morning's staff meeting," said John Mahoney, NIH associate director for administration, adding, "We'll be very, very depressed."

Healy called the decision to remove her President Clinton's, whose wishes, she assured, were "in the best interests of NIH." She told reporters she never met with the president, but had discussed her NIH job with Shalala on many occasions.

Pressed to reveal the reasons for her leaving, Healy responded, "I don't really know. I'd tell you if I truly knew, but it doesn't really matter. The decision has been made and NIH must go forward."

Healy said she plans to return to the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, which she left to take the NIH directorship in April 1991, to complete some writing and speaking projects.

Taking questions from reporters, Healy said her response to being mentioned as a possible running mate of presidential candidate H. Ross Perot last summer, "was to fall out of bed."

Asked whether rumors that Cleveland Browns football team owner Art Modell had offered to back her political career in her home state of Ohio, Healy responded, "This is a rumor that has not originated in my head. NIH is in my head today."

"Is a political race of any kind in your head?" queried a correspondent. "Today, not many things sound particularly appealing," answered the director.

Healy said she has never pre-scripted the way her life would turn out, admitting that she follows baseball great Yogi Berra's philosophy of living: "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

Fielding more questions, Healy said she supports the NIH reauthorization bill now before Congress, and added that her support for



NIH director Dr. Bernadine Healy announces her resignation at a press conference at Stone House on Feb. 26.

the legislation had nothing to do with her resignation. Asked whether her celebrated contretemps with Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.), or her position on research with fetal tissue, or her views on abortion led to her dismissal, Healy said it has never been her policy to "make decisions based on how they affect me personally. I made the decisions I believed were right at the time. The stand I

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Diggs, Too, Departing NIH

Dr. John W. Diggs, NIH deputy director for extramural research, has also announced his resignation; he will leave NIH on June 14 to become vice president for biomedical research at the Association of American Medical Colleges.

He made his announcement at the NIH director's executive committee meeting on Mar. 3.

"The years I have spent in the federal government have enriched my professional life immeasurably, in ways that sometimes exceeded my expectations," he said. "I am now ready to assume new challenges—those in the private sector—where I hope to be able to make equally significant contributions."

Diggs has spent 33 years in public service, 19 of those at NIH. He lists as career highlights initial work with NINDS on positron emission tomography, the federal assault on AIDS, managing costs of biomedical research, and helping craft NIH's strategic plan.

NINDS Hails Discovery of Gene for Familial ALS

Officials at NINDS hailed the identification of a gene associated with the familial form of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). "This discovery is extremely important because it marks the first identification of a specific gene for a neurodegenerative disease of adult life," said Dr. Carl M. Leventhal, director of the NINDS program that contributed to support for the research reported in the Mar. 3 issue of *Nature*. "It also suggests a likely mechanism for the damage to nerve cells in familial ALS and, possibly, other brain disorders."

In the study, Dr. Daniel R. Rosen of Massachusetts General Hospital and a team of international investigators showed that mutations in a gene that codes for the enzyme superoxide dismutase 1 (SOD1) were tightly linked to the occurrence of ALS among 13 families. SOD1 works inside cells to help neutralize the toxic effects of free radicals, which are highly reactive molecules that can trigger destructive chemical chain reactions. Excess levels of free radicals have been suggested as a cause of tissue damage in Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, trauma, stroke, and other neurological diseases.

"It is intriguing that the gene the scientists

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ALD Gene Probably Found, NICHD Grantees Report

By Anne Blank

NICHD has announced that institute-supported scientists have located the gene that codes for adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), a genetic disease characterized by progressive deterioration of cells in the central nervous system. This finding may eventually pave the way for an intensive effort to test the possibility of gene therapy for ALD.

"By locating the gene most likely responsible for ALD, science has achieved a major step forward in its efforts to understand this debilitating disease," said Dr. Duane Alexander, NICHD director. "This finding offers hope to all those who suffer from ALD, as well as their families."

ALD is an X-linked genetic disorder that is passed on by females, but affects only males. The disease is relatively rare, affecting approximately one out of every 20,000 males. It causes the breakdown of a fatty substance, known as myelin, that forms an insulating barrier around nerve fibers.

The basic mechanism underlying ALD involves a defective gene located on the X chromosome, which ultimately leads to an excess of very long-chain fatty acids (VLCFA). Normally, VLCFA are metabolically broken down in peroxisomes, which are enzyme-

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ALS GENE

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have identified plays a vital role in controlling metabolism of free radicals," Leventhal said. "These findings should stimulate additional research to define the role of free radicals in ALS and other brain disorders."

As many as 30,000 Americans suffer from ALS. Most cases of the disease occur sporadically; however, about 5 percent to 10 percent are familial. ALS strikes in midlife and causes degeneration of the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control voluntary movements. Although patients do not lose sensation or mental alertness, they eventually become physically disabled, have difficulty speaking and swallowing, and may succumb to infections, particularly pneumonia. Death usually occurs in about 5 years. Currently, there is no cure or preventive measure; however, several therapeutic approaches are under investigation.—Norman Oliver and Frances Taylor □

1993 Stride Program Recruits

The NIH Training Center is now recruiting for the 1993 Stride Program, which is designed to provide employees with opportunities for career change and advancement, while at the same time helping NIH meet its staffing needs. The program provides participants with a combination of on-the-job training, and academic courses to prepare individuals for placement in targeted administrative positions.

Occupations targeted for training in 1993 are in OD, NIDCD, and NHLBI. They include entry positions as financial management technicians (rising to operating accountant), personnel assistant (rising to personnel management specialist), computer assistant (rising to computer specialist) and grants technical assistant (rising to grants management specialist).

Application packets will be available on Mar. 22 in the NIH Training Center, DPM, Executive Plaza South, Suite 100 or at one of the information sessions listed below. All sessions are scheduled from 11 a.m. to noon.

- Mar. 22 Federal Bldg., Rm. B119
- Mar. 24 Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 8
- Mar. 29 Westwood Bldg., Rm. 428
- Apr. 1 EPN, Conf. Rm. H
- Apr. 5 Parklawn Bldg., Rm. B
- Apr. 6 Bldg. 38A, Rm. B1N30B
- Apr. 7 Bldg. 10, Medical Board Rm.

Applications must be completed and received in the NIH Training Center, DPM, EPS, Rm. 100 by Apr. 23. □

Corrections

In the Mar. 2 issue of the *Record*, the nutrition information on p. 2 about "dirty chips" was incorrect; each bag of this kind of potato chips contains about 22 grams of fat.

Also, a photo on p. 4 was inadvertently flipped. In its mirror image—the correct view—the photo shows Bldg. 1 flanked on the left by a large portion of Bldg. 7; the partially paved road and a smidgen of Bldg. 4 can be seen at right. □

Lecture on Philosophy of Science

On Wednesday, Mar. 31, Dr. Alfred I. Tauber, professor of medicine and professor of philosophy at Boston University School of Medicine, will present a lecture on the philosophy of biomedical science, sponsored by the DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Museum of Medical Research, and NIAID. Entitled "The Immune Self: From Theory to Metaphor," the lecture will be given at 3:30 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

The author of numerous papers on immunology and hematology, Tauber is also widely known for his scholarly contributions to the



Dr. Alfred I. Tauber

philosophy of science. In 1991, with Leon Chernyak, he published *Metchnikoff and the Origins of Immunology: From Metaphor to Theory* (Oxford University Press). This lecture is based on his current work in progress, *The Triumph of Immunology: From Theory to Metaphor*, and should give investigators in the audience the opportunity to stand back from the bench and share Tauber's perspective on immunology within a philosophical context. □

NIH'er Holds Photo Exhibit

ORS personnel specialist Leslie Everheart's photography is the subject of an exhibit called "New Every Morning," which documents the daily life and traditions of the All Saints Sisters of the Poor. The exhibit is on display in the observation gallery of the Washington National Cathedral through Apr. 2. The cathedral is located at Massachusetts and Wisconsin Ave., N.W., and hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day.

"Guardians and nurses of the human spirit," is how former Rev. Mother Virginia describes the role of the All Saints Sisters, who, in 1872, came to Baltimore from England. The exhibit offers a look at their unique life of prayer, solitude, work, fellowship, and ministry. A diary-like journal, illustrated with photos of the sisters and scenes of the convent grounds, is also available. All proceeds from sales of the journal go to support a local hospice, one of the ministries of the sisters. □



"Happy Mother," a sculpture by American sculptor Chaim Gross, was recently dedicated to the memory of former vice president Hubert H. Humphrey, and placed on permanent display at the Department of Health and Human Services' Hubert H. Humphrey Bldg. in Washington, D.C. Participating in the formal dedication ceremony was NLM staff member Frances Humphrey Howard, sister of the late vice president (c), shown here with then-DHHS secretary Dr. Louis W. Sullivan and Ginger Sullivan. Howard, who is special assistant to the NLM associate director for extramural programs, spoke during the ceremony of her brother's lifelong devotion to improving the well-being of children everywhere and the appropriateness of Gross's work in echoing that sentiment.

The NIH Record

Published biweekly at Bethesda, Md., by the Editorial Operations Branch, Division of Public Information, for the information of employees of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, and circulated to nonemployees by subscription only through the Government Printing Office. The content is reprintable without permission. Pictures may be available on request. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the director of the Office of Management and Budget through September 30, 1993.

NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03
Phone 496-2125
Fax 402-1485

Editor
Richard McManus

Assistant Editor
Anne Barber

Associate Editor
Carla Garnett

Editorial Assistant
Marilyn Berman

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Scientists Link Fatal Disorder to Chromosome 18

Scientists at NINDS have linked a deadly brain disorder, called Niemann-Pick type C disease, to a small region of human chromosome 18. These findings, reported in the current issue of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, may eventually lead to improved diagnosis and treatment for this inherited disorder and yield new insight into the metabolism of cholesterol inside the body's cells.

"These findings represent a critical step forward in identifying the faulty gene that causes Niemann-Pick type C disease. Once that is accomplished, we will be poised to develop specific, effective treatment for this devastating disorder," said Dr. Roscoe Brady, chief of NINDS's Developmental and Metabolic Neurology Branch.

About 200 to 300 Americans have Niemann-Pick type C disease, in which faulty metabolism of cholesterol within cells leads to abnormal cholesterol buildup in the brain, liver, and spleen. Affected children typically develop normally until school age, then begin to regress. The first symptoms of the disease can be subtle, such as declining performance in school, but as the disease progresses, brain damage worsens, causing progressive dementia and motor problems, including difficulty with walking,

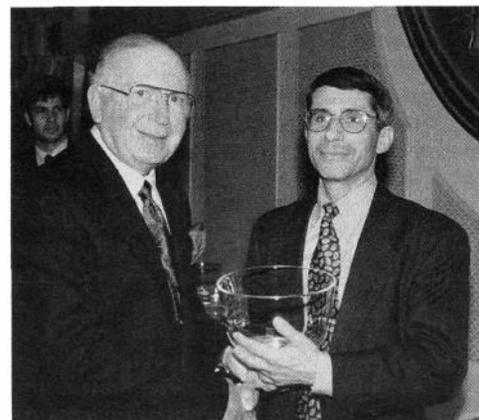
talking, and swallowing. Most patients die before they reach the age of 20.

"I have high hopes that identifying the disease gene for Niemann-Pick type C will help us learn more about how cholesterol is processed inside cells of the brain and other organs," said Dr. Peter G. Pentchev, an NINDS biochemist who has been conducting Niemann-Pick type C research for more than a decade. "This information, in turn, could offer vital insights into how this process goes awry not only in this disorder, but also in such common killers as heart disease and stroke."

In the current study, a collaborative team including scientists at NIMH analyzed DNA samples from 12 affected families and identified a small region on chromosome 18 most likely to house the recessive disease gene. "We've drastically reduced the size of the hunt for this gene," Pentchev said. "The region we've identified covers less than 3 percent of chromosome 18, and, with a little luck, we should identify the precise gene soon."

Scientists will then be ready to determine the corresponding protein defect and to devise new treatments, including drugs designed to intervene in the disease process and protein or gene replacement therapy, Brady added.—

Frances Taylor □



The American Medical Association recently presented its Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Public Service to NIAID director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci (r) for his leadership in the field of AIDS research. Dr. Raymond Scalettar, chairman of the AMA board of trustees, presented the crystal bowl at a dinner in Washington, D.C. Established in 1989, the award is named for the AMA founder and recognizes excellence in public service by career and elected officials. A committee of independent judges selected this year's recipients, which also included surgeon general Dr. Antonia C. Novello, Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.) and Senator Robert Dole (R-Kan.).

Research Festival '93 Organizes for Sept. 20-24

The 1993 NIH Research Festival is scheduled for the week of Sept. 20-24. This year's organizing committee, chaired by Dr. Irwin Kopin, NINDS scientific director, has chosen "Molecular Medicine" as the general theme. The annual festival includes symposia, workshops, and poster displays. Its goal is to bring together researchers from NIH's diverse intramural programs and provide them an opportunity to exchange ideas.

This year's program will open on Monday, Sept. 20, with NIDDK's Alumni Symposium, followed by five other symposia on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Titles for the symposia will be announced soon.

Forty-five workshops will be conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday. They will highlight topics of particular interest for NIH researchers.

There will be two equal-length poster sessions at the festival, one on Monday, Sept. 20 and another on Tuesday, Sept. 21. The posters exhibit some of the work being done in NIH laboratories. There are two important changes in the procedures for displaying posters this year. First, on the application form for poster sessions, applicants must obtain the signature of their laboratory chief, section chief, or supervisor, to indicate approval of their presentation. Second, during each session, the exhibits will be manned from noon to 2 p.m. and again from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The number of poster applications that will be accepted for display is limited to 400. Poster authors should therefore

fax their applications as early as possible. Application forms will be distributed desk-to-desk soon. Limit one application per poster with multiple authors. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m., Friday, May 21.

The Technical Sales Association (TSA) will provide refreshments during each poster session. No picnic will be held this year. Thursday, Sept. 23, and Friday, Sept. 24 have been reserved for the TSA scientific equipment show in the Research Festival tents. The tents will once again be located in parking lot 10D.

A booklet detailing Research Festival events will be distributed later this year. For more information about poster sessions or other festival events, call Gregory Roa, Visitor Information Center, 496-1776. □

NCI Explores Computer-Assisted Cancer Detection, Staging

NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control will sponsor a workshop, "Computer Applications for Early Detection and Staging of Cancer," July 28 to 30, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lister Hill Auditorium, Bldg. 38A. The goals of the workshop are to review new technology for computer-assisted detection and staging of cancer, and to determine whether patient outcome can be predicted with greater certainty. For more information, call Barbara Bonaparte, 496-8544, fax 496-8667. □

Cafeterias, Blind Stands Get Suggestion Boxes for NIH'ers

Suggestion boxes have been installed in the cafeterias operated by Guest Services Inc. (GSI) and the Maryland Vending Program for the Blind (MVPB) concession stands, by the Division of Space and Facility Management (DSFM), ORS. Cafeterias and concession stands are located both on campus and in leased buildings. The boxes will provide an opportunity for NIH patrons to let DSFM know what they like and to make suggestions on how to improve the quality of service.

Said DSFM, "We value your ideas and to ensure that your needs are met, please take a moment when you visit one of these facilities to complete the questionnaire located next to the suggestion box. Place your completed questionnaire in the box; suggestions/concerns may be provided anonymously. Should you wish a reply to your suggestion or an answer to a question, please provide your name and telephone number on the form."

The DSFM will gather comments biweekly and will discuss suggestions/concerns with GSI and MVPB management. For more information, call Paul Wade, 402-0874. □

Recycle Those Packing 'Peanuts'

The local Mail Boxes Etc. outlet in Bethesda is looking for those ubiquitous styrofoam packing "peanuts" that come in almost all new equipment shipments to NIH. The company accepts good-as-new, foam loose-fill peanuts regardless of shape or color. To arrange a free pickup, call (301) 951-9599. □

NICHD GRANTEES LOCATE GENE MOST LIKELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALD

(Continued from Page 1)

containing cell structures that produce and break down hydrogen peroxide. In people with ALD, however, this process is impaired, resulting in excessive amounts of VLCFA. This build-up damages the myelin in a process known as demyelination, which occurs when the myelin sheath surrounding nerve cells is progressively destroyed. In addition, ALD results in progressive mental deterioration, blindness, and adrenal atrophy. This is the disease in its most severe form, however, which occurs when onset is early in childhood. In adults, ALD may cause milder symptoms.

The disease was recently brought to public attention with the release of the movie *Lorenzo's Oil*, a dramatic account of one family's search for a cure for their son suffering from ALD. Lorenzo's oil, a mixture of glyceryl trioleate and glyceryl trierucate oils, normalizes the levels of VLCFA in plasma. While it may be beneficial to certain patients with ALD, the oil does not seem to ameliorate more severe forms of the disease, and is not a cure for ALD.

In this study, investigators used a technique known as positional cloning to identify a gene that was partially deleted in 6 out of 85 patients with ALD. In the normal population, no deletions in this gene are found. Although investigators originally suspected that the gene would code for an enzyme, known as VLCFA-CoA, that for some time has been thought to be implicated in ALD, it actually codes for a different kind of protein. This protein is one of a family of proteins (ATP-binding proteins) that transport molecules, including proteins, across cell membranes. The abnormal protein underlying cystic fibrosis, which is not related to ALD, is part of this protein family.

With the discovery of the gene most likely responsible for ALD, research in this area has taken a giant stride forward. If indeed this is the correct gene—and investigators are virtually certain that it is—a number of avenues have suddenly opened up, according to NICHD grantee Dr. Hugo Moser, director of the Kennedy Krieger Institute's Center for Research on Mental Retardation and Related Aspects of Human Development, and one of the study's coauthors.

First, knowing the location of the gene will enable doctors to identify individuals who have the gene, either in the carrier or active states. Currently, tests used to identify ALD carriers are not 100 percent accurate. Second, with further study it will enable scientists to understand how the biochemical abnormality leads to the neurological deficit.

"One of the very great puzzles is that only half of the patients with the biochemical deficit get the severe disease, and the other half do not," Moser explained. "Identifying the gene will permit us to understand how the disease process comes about."

Ultimately, the finding may lead to gene

therapy for ALD. The investigators now are trying to develop a transgenic animal model, which is a normal animal into which a defective gene has been introduced. If successful, such a model would hold enormous promise for efforts to develop an effective gene or alternative therapy such as drug treatment.

The immediate next step is to obtain proof that this is the correct gene by adding it to cells in culture that lack it to see if the biochemical defect present in ALD is corrected. □

Extramural Orientation Course Set

The Extramural Staff Training Office (ESTO) will be presenting an NIH orientation course entitled "Fundamentals of NIH Extramural Activities" on June 17-18. It will be held in Bldg. 38A, Lister Hill Auditorium, starting at 8 a.m. on June 17 and concluding at 5 p.m. on June 18.

The course will include an overview of the types of extramural award mechanisms, the grant application referral and review processes, program administration, and the fiscal management of grants. Participants will be limited to about 140 people.

Course applicants (including PHS commissioned officers) are to submit an HHS-350 form (Training, Nomination and Authorization) through appropriate ICD channels to ESTO (Bldg. 31, Rm. 5B35). In item 10, list your office address; item 14—"no cost"; item 18—send vendor's copy to: ESTO, Bldg. 31, Rm. 5B35; item 20 A—"8", B—"8", C—"1", D—"N/A"; be specific in items 16 and 17 and indicate how long you have been in the NIH extramural area; item 21—"N/A"; and item 22—"9998". All other instructions are on the back of the HHS-350.

To be considered applications must be received in ESTO by May 3. Each applicant will be informed of the decision concerning his/her application. For more information, call Susan O'Brien, 496-1736. □



NIH director Dr. Bernadine Healy welcomes NIAAA to NIH at a recent meeting of the National Advisory Council on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Joining her are (seated from l) Loran Archer, NIAAA deputy director, and Dr. Enoch Gordis, NIAAA director.

Hitchcock To Head STD Branch

Dr. Penelope J. Hitchcock has been appointed chief of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Branch of NIAID's Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. She joined the institute as a program officer in the STD branch in 1989. She served as acting branch chief for several months prior to her new appointment.

The focus of the branch is the control and prevention of STDs through a national STD research program. Hitchcock is responsible for administering a broad research program with emphasis on vaccine development, and on clinical, epidemiologic, and behavioral studies



Dr. Penelope Hitchcock

aimed at preventing STDs and their sequelae—pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, cervical cancer, fetal wastage, prematurity, congenital infection, and spread of HIV.

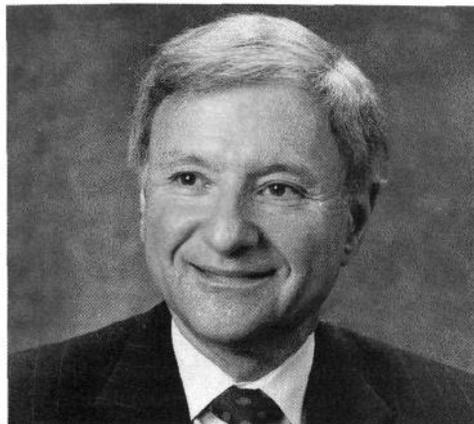
Hitchcock received her D.V.M. with honors and her M.S. from Washington State University. After serving as a senior staff fellow for 7 years in the Laboratory of Microbial Structure and Function in NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratories, she worked as an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis. Her major area of interest has been in the molecular pathogenesis of gonorrhea and chlamydial infection.

Hitchcock is a member of several professional organizations and is actively involved with the international STD diagnostics initiative, the NIH working group on health and behavior, the NIH working group on HPV, the NIH advisory committee for women, and the NIAID committee on minority health. She is author of 32 articles and has served as referee for several publications including *Infection and Immunity*, *Journal of Bacteriology*, *Journal of Clinical Microbiology* and *JAMA*. □

New Chair for NIDCD Board

The National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Board elected Dr. Stephen Epstein to be the new chairperson at a recent meeting. He replaces Geraldine Dietz Fox, the first chairperson of the board and who served as chairperson for her entire board term.

NIDCD director Dr. James B. Snow, Jr. said, "We are delighted to have Dr. Epstein as the



Dr. Stephen Epstein

new chairman of the National Advisory Board. He brings a strong commitment to the research activities of the NIDCD and through his leadership, the board will continue to provide guidance as we work toward understanding the biomedical basis and behavioral impact of communication disorders to try and reduce the burden of these conditions."

Epstein is nationally recognized as a specialist in pediatric otology. He also is associate clinical professor of surgery in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at George Washington University School of Medicine and clinical assistant professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at Georgetown University School of Medicine. He received his M.D. in 1964 from the Chicago Medical School and completed his surgical residency at Providence Hospital and a residency in otolaryngology at the Washington Hospital Center, both in Washington, D.C. □

Workshop on the Epidemiology of Skin Diseases, Sponsored by NIAMS

The NIAMS is sponsoring a scientific workshop on the epidemiology of skin diseases on Mar. 25 and 26. The objectives are to review the current state of knowledge and gaps in that knowledge, identify research opportunities, and propose research strategies. The workshop will also identify areas in which epidemiologic studies would advance the understanding, management, and prevention of diseases in order to encourage more research into these areas. An interdisciplinary group of participants will present clinical and epidemiologic perspectives on nonmelanoma skin cancer, psoriasis, toxic epidermal necrolysis, dermatologic aspects of HIV infection, and chronic cutaneous ulcers. The workshop will be held in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 10. To register, call Suzanne Sangalan, 496-0803. □

Get in 'STEP' with Aging; 30th Anniversary Program Features All-Day Forum

The Staff Training in Extramural Programs (STEP) committee will present a forum about aging on Wednesday, Apr. 7, in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. In honor of STEP's 30th anniversary, this will be a day-long program, beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The potential for a long and healthy life is greater now than at any time in history. The long-term trend of improved health care and nutrition, combined with significant advances in the treatment of disease, has increased anticipated life expectancy in the United States from 47 years at the turn of the century to more than 75 years today. As a result, our expectations of the effects of aging in both our lives and the lives of our parents has significantly changed.

This forum will focus on a wide spectrum of topics concerning aging, including the basic biology of aging; current understanding of the aging process; the extension of healthy life through diet, exercise and lifestyle; and an exploration of various options for providing elder care.

The first portion of the program (9:45-11:30 a.m.) will address the biology of aging. Dr. George M. Martin of the University of Washington and Dr. George R. Martin of the National Institute on Aging will speak on aging at the cellular level and the impact of age-associated changes in cellular function on organ systems and immune responses.

Health problems associated with aging such as

osteoporosis, hip fractures and urinary incontinence often lead to a loss of independence and greatly increased cost of care. However, diet, exercise and lifestyle can have a significant role in maintaining health and independence. The study of human aging and research on practical interventions to reduce or delay age-related frailties will be addressed (12:30-2:15 p.m.) by Dr. Maria A. Fiatarone of Harvard Medical School and Dr. Andrew P. Goldberg of the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

Many elderly people experience some form of difficulty in performing personal care and home management tasks and the amount of assistance needed often increases significantly with age. The problems of providing resources for elder care will increase as the "baby boomers" reach retirement age. In the final panel (2:15-4 p.m.), Dr. Rhonda Montgomery of the University of Kansas and Elizabeth Boehner of the department of family resources, Montgomery County, will provide both a national and personal perspective on elder care issues.

The forum will conclude with a presentation by Dr. John W. Diggs, NIH deputy director for extramural research, celebrating the 30th anniversary of STEP at 4 p.m.

The forum is open to all NIH'ers and no advance registration is required. Continuing education credit is not available. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For more information call 496-1493. □

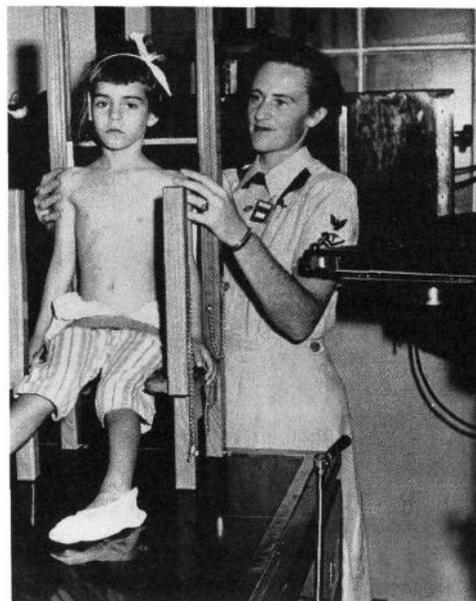
NLM Sponsors Exhibit on Federal Nurses in Bldg. 38 through Apr. 23

"The Proud Profession: Nurses in the Federal Service" is the latest exhibit to be displayed in the National Library of Medicine's main lobby, Bldg. 38.

The exhibit demonstrates with books, photographs, films, and memorabilia the various ways that nurses have served the federal government from the Civil War until the present, both in the military and nonmilitary sectors.

Featured in the exhibit are materials from the History of Medicine Division's collection, including the first American edition of Florence Nightingale's *Notes on Nursing* (probably the most important single book in the history of the profession), a signed presentation

copy of a report by Clara Barton to Surgeon General John Moore, and the manuscript diary of Amanda Akin Stearns, a nurse at the Armory



Pediatric ward, United States Naval Hospital, Oakland, Calif., c. 1955.

Square Hospital in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. Also on display are nursing uniforms from the First and Second World Wars (on loan from the National Museum of Health and Medicine), and a video-disc selection of nursing films from the NLM historical audio/visuals collection. A special point of focus is the United States Cadet Nurse Corps, which helped train more than 120,000 nurses during World War II.

The exhibit is on display through Apr. 23. For more information, contact Stephen Greenberg, 496-5405. □

HEALY

(Continued from Page 1)

took with Mr. Dingell I'd keep today."

Healy called NIH "the Beirut of both the abortion and fetal tissue issues," meaning that the agency has unfortunately been the turf on which larger societal issues have been fought.

"I made my views (on these issues) perfectly clear to President Bush (before accepting the directorship), and I agreed to honor his decision regarding the moratorium on fetal tissue. They never asked me to change my mind on this issue. They never said I couldn't debate the issue behind closed doors, and I did, as any good public official does."

The director admitted that the abortion



Healy, Dr. John W. Diggs, NIH deputy director for extramural research, and Lily O. Engstrom, assistant director of NIH's Office of Extramural Research

Photos: Bill Branson



NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander greets Healy following the announcement of her resignation effective June 30.

"NIH is this Nation's most authentic answer to the question of our humanity, and I am proud to have been at her helm."

question has dogged NIH, but asserted, "NIH is not the proper place to debate this issue. We're a science agency, not a public policy institute."

Continuing to take questions, Healy said she was never asked by the Clinton transition team to remain at NIH permanently, only for the interim.

"Maybe I shouldn't have asked, 'How long?'," she said sheepishly, "but I did."

Shalala supports fully Healy's current program emphases—the NIH strategic plan, an enhanced Human Genome Project, and reorganization of the OD staff, among others, reported Healy.

"The next 4 months are of critical importance to NIH," she continued, "and I am really pleased and delighted to be at the helm. Within 2 weeks, we will announce the 16 vanguard centers in our Women's Health Initiative. The strategic plan will be unveiled in the next 4 to 6 weeks, and I know you'll love it. Implementation of parts of the plan will be going on by June. In fact, the National Eye Institute has already adopted part of the plan."

Statement by Dr. Bernadine Healy, Director, National Institutes of Health

Today I am announcing that I will step down as director of the National Institutes of Health by June 30, 1993. My announcement today will help ensure that there is time for an orderly transition without the abrupt changes that sometimes challenge government agencies.

Since Dr. Shalala has become secretary of Health and Human Services, I have met with her many times and I am confident of her support and commitment to the recently completed NIH strategic plan; to basic science and the expanded Human Genome Project; to our efforts on women's health and minority health, and to recruitment and retention of the best scientific talent.

I am deeply honored to have served as the director of this great institution. Most of my professional life has been nurtured by the NIH, both directly and indirectly, at Harvard, Johns Hopkins and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. The NIH claims a piece of my soul and will always have a place in my heart.

I firmly believe, as I said in my confirmation statement to the Senate, that the NIH is a national treasure. The fruits of NIH's medical research have proven to be among our Nation's greatest achievements, saving countless lives and profoundly improving the human condition. The NIH translates the American public's investment into far-reaching biomedical discoveries and a wealth of scientific knowledge which benefits all of humankind.

I have been privileged to work with superb scientists and administrators here at the NIH, who are firmly committed to our mission: individuals including the diverse and determined group of deputy directors, institute directors, as well as the Office of the Director staff, many of whom I have personally recruited. These individuals are not only valued colleagues and dear friends, but most importantly provide a core of talent and leadership that will ensure NIH's success in the months and years to come.

In closing, let me quote the American playwright, Howard Sackler, who said "to intervene, even briefly, between our fellow creatures and their suffering or death, is our most authentic answer to the question of our humanity."

NIH is this Nation's most authentic answer to the question of our humanity, and I am proud to have been at her helm.



Diane Armstrong, director of NIH's Office of Equal Opportunity and Healy exchange warm words during the Stone House reception.

"I am preparing fully for the upcoming budget hearings before Congress, and plan to see that put to bed before I leave."

Asked what her legacy at NIH will be, she responded, "That is for time and you to tell."

Commented Mahoney at a Stone House coffee and reception following the announcement, at which Healy's staff and ICD directors offered their appreciation and condolences, "We echo her words. She has a full agenda over the next 4 months. We look forward to working as hard and as well as we can to accomplish these goals."

Regarding the search for a new NIH director, Shalala said, "I will be conferring with scientific leaders and the White House to establish a process for the selection of Dr. Healy's successor. We will assure in our selection of a new director that the highest standards of scientific integrity and strong leadership will be maintained."

The secretary also commended Healy for her NIH leadership:

"She has been a strong leader and a strong advocate for NIH programs. She has provided a national voice in support of basic research, and with her vision of strategic planning for the NIH, she has helped provide better focus for the institutes." □

Life Insurance Open Season

The Office of Personnel Management has announced an open enrollment period under the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) Program. The period begins Monday, Mar. 29 and ends on Friday, Apr. 30. All eligible NIH employees may elect to enroll in FEGLI (if life insurance coverage was previously waived) or increase their current coverage.

No physical examination is required for employees to elect or increase their life insurance coverage. Those employees who are satisfied with their current level of life insurance coverage do not need to do anything to retain this coverage. Those who want to increase their current coverage will need to contact their servicing personnel office during the open enrollment period to obtain an election form (SF 2817). The new FEGLI booklet and a brochure, both of which describe the FEGLI program, will be distributed to employees prior to the beginning of the period. □

R&W Dry Cleaning Service Expands to Clinical Center

R&W members in Bldg. 10 can now use the same reliable and inexpensive dry cleaning service available to members in Bldgs. 31, 38 and EPS. Dry cleaning goes out Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at around 10 a.m.; clothes are returned usually on the next pick-up day. For more information call 496-4600. □

USUHS Needs Volunteers

The USUHS department of medical psychology seeks married or cohabiting couples, 45 or younger, in which the female partner experiences severe premenstrual symptoms to participate in a study of communication patterns. Participants will be paid. For more information call (301) 295-3263. □

NINDS's Michael Walker Honored by Senior Executive Association

Dr. Michael D. Walker, director of the NINDS Stroke and Trauma Division, recently received the 1992 Executive Excellence Award from the Senior Executive Association (SEA) Professional Development League.

The Executive Excellence Awards program recognizes career federal executives who, through their outstanding leadership, have made significant contributions to improving the efficiency, effectiveness, and productivity of the federal government. The awards are presented in two categories: Executive Achievement and Distinguished Executive Service. Walker, the only HHS employee chosen for the honor, was presented with the award in Executive Achievement recently at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

He was honored for his superior accomplishments resulting from several major national and international clinical trials, including one that identified the drug methylprednisolone as an effective treatment for spinal cord injury when given within 8 hours after the injury. *U.S. News and World Report* proclaimed this discovery a research milestone and included it as one of the top 10 medical advances of 1990.

In another trial funded by NINDS under Walker's leadership, investigators found that each year in the U.S. the use of warfarin or aspirin can prevent 20,000 to 30,000 strokes per year in people who experience the irregular



Dr. Michael D. Walker (c) accepts his award from SEA Chair Marylouise Uhlig as William D. Ruckelshaus looks on.

heart rate known as atrial fibrillation.

"These clinical studies are the tip of the NINDS iceberg now addressing clinical issues of high priority to national health issues," said NINDS director Dr. Murray Goldstein.

The SEA is a professional nonprofit association formed in 1980 to represent the interests of the members of the Senior Executive Service. The awards program was established in 1985 in an effort to increase public recognition of the contributions of federal career executives. □

NICHD's Cizza Is the Recipient of Two Science Awards

Dr. Giovanni Cizza of the Developmental Endocrinology Branch, NICHD, has been chosen to receive two awards—the 1992 AGS/Merck Sharp & Dohme New Investigator Award from the American Geriatric Society



Dr. Giovanni Cizza

scientific programs committee, and the Henry Christian Award from the American Federation for Clinical Research.

The AGS/Merck award was presented during the 13th annual scientific meeting of the

American Federation for Aging Research for "original work in the neurosciences with relevance to geriatrics." Cizza presented a paper entitled, "Reduced Basal and Stress-Mediated Responsiveness of the CRH Neuron in Aged Rats: Functional Implications," by G. Cizza, L.S. Brady, K. Fukuhara, R. Kvetnansky, A. Moazzes, M.R. Blackman, G.P. Chrousos and P.W. Gold. The Christian award was given to Cizza for "excellence in aging research" for the abstract entitled, "Neuroendocrine Correlates of Behavioral Effects of Alprazolam in Aged Fischer Rats" by G. Cizza, J.R. Glowa and P.W. Gold.

Cizza came to NIH in 1988 as a guest researcher in the Clinical Neuroendocrinology Branch, NIMH, a position he held until 1989. In 1988, he was also a special volunteer, Developmental Endocrinology Branch, NICHD, a position he holds today. He also held the position of Fogarty international fellow from 1989 to 1992.

He received his medical degree from the University of Pisa, Italy, *magna cum laude* in 1985. In 1988, Cizza received his Ph.D. in pharmacological research from the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan, Italy. He received his postgraduate degree in endocrinology from Pisa University School of Medicine in 1989. □

Five Members Named to NICHD Advisory Council

Four new members and one current member were recently appointed to the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council. The five members are Gloria H. Cook of Ormond Beach, Fla.; Dr. Margaret C. Heagarty of New York City; Dr. William A. Spencer of Houston; Dr. Robert L. Trelstad of New Jersey; and Dr. Everett Anderson of Massachusetts.

Cook is a prominent civic leader with 35 years as a volunteer in the health field. She is well-versed in the administrative end of health care and served as national president of the Easter Seal Society.

Heagarty is the director of pediatrics, Harlem Hospital Center and a professor of pediatrics, College of Physicians & Surgeons, Columbia University. She has a history of substantial contributions to the field of ambulatory pediatrics.

Spencer is president of the Institute of Rehabilitation & Research Foundation and professor emeritus, department of rehabilitation, Baylor College of Medicine. His career has focused on innovative and quality care in rehabilitation, and the total inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of living.

Trelstad is chairman of pathology, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He is an outstanding scientist whose research interests are in the fields of developmental biology/genetics, cell biology, molecular biology, and extracellular matrix.

Anderson is the James Stillman professor of comparative anatomy, Harvard School of Medicine. His research interests include anatomy, cytology, and reproductive biology.



The five new members of the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council are (seated, from l) Gloria H. Cook, Dr. Margaret C. Heagarty. Standing are (from l) Dr. William A. Spencer, NICHD director Dr. Duane F. Alexander, Dr. Robert L. Trelstad. Not shown is Dr. Everett Anderson.

EEO Committee To Meet

The OD EEO advisory committee has planned a series of brown bag lunches where employees can learn about selected topics. Held from noon to 1 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, the future sessions and topics are: Mar. 31, "KSAs" with Gloria Anderson; Apr. 20, "Time Management"; May 20, "Performance Evaluation" with Joel Hedetniemi; June 23, "Dealing with Difficult People" by Dr. Michael Bowler. For more information contact Joanne Ringel, 496-3592. □

Former Surgeon General Everett Koop Donates Papers to NLM

"America's Family Doctor," C. Everett Koop, has donated his personal papers to the National Library of Medicine. He was surgeon general of the U.S. Public Health Service from 1981 to 1989. The papers, totaling almost 50 linear feet, were accepted by NLM director Dr. Donald A. B. Lindberg.

During his tenure as surgeon general, Koop dealt with many sensitive issues. He advised the public on matters such as smoking and health, diet and nutrition, environmental hazards, and the importance of immunization in preventing the spread of disease. He also led a vigorous campaign to prevent the spread of AIDS, and worked to protect handicapped infants.

The papers given to the library touch on all important activities of his term as surgeon general. The collection contains personal correspondence, nonofficial copies of some official correspondence, invitations, copies of Koop's speeches, and many publications, clippings, and articles about the health concerns of the United States in the 1980's.



Dr. C. Everett Koop (r) examines with Lindberg a small fraction of the papers the former surgeon general recently donated to the National Library of Medicine.

The papers will become a part of NLM's extensive historical collections: pre-1914 books and journals, rare medical texts, historical audiovisuals, and manuscripts.

For additional information about the collection, call 496-5405. □

STEAP Initiative To Improve Pre-College Science Education

A new science education initiative called the Science Teaching Enhancement Award Program (STEAP) will create a corps of master teachers who will work in partnership with major research universities and local school systems to improve biology education at the pre-college level. This 2-year pilot program, administered by the National Center for Research Resources, is being funded by NIH's Office of the Director.

The first five institutions selected to receive STEAP awards will recruit a few highly motivated, creative teachers. These teachers will be trained to capitalize on the physical and human resources of the universities and act as liaisons between university staff and junior and high school science instructors.

Future teachers will receive intensive research opportunities to improve their laboratory skills, increase their knowledge about human health and disease, develop relevant materials for classroom use, and help pre-college teachers integrate the materials into classrooms at different levels.

In addition, the participants will conduct workshops and inservice programs in their own home school districts and at state and national conferences. They will serve as links to other teachers in their states, and help encourage the participation of minority teachers or teachers from minority school districts.

The long-range goal of STEAP is to create science programs that appeal to students in grades 6 through 12 and interest them in future careers as biomedical scientists, medical professionals, and educators.

The first STEAP grants have been awarded to the University of Maine, Orono; University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky.; University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston; and University of Nevada, Reno. □

Show Benefits Pediatric Programs

"Moppetts in Storybook Land—A Musical Variety Show," will be presented Mar. 27 and 28 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The show, which benefits the Children's Inn at NIH and NIH pediatric programs, is put on by Katherine Mizell's Modelling Moppetts and Stage II Teen Models. Tickets to the "24th annual bunny benefit" are \$4. For more information call (301) 279-7353. □

Duo Piano Concert Set, Apr. 2

The patient activities department of the Clinical Center will present Charlotte Armstrong and Carl Banner in a duo piano concert Friday, Apr. 2 at 12:30 p.m. in the 14th floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. The concert is free and open to the NIH research and patient community and to the public. The program will include music of Mozart, Schubert, Debussy and Ravel. □

Paik Is Guest of NIDR

Dr. Dai-il Paik, an associate professor with the Seoul National University, has joined NIDR as a guest researcher, analyzing epidemiologic and behavioral sciences data from research he conducted in Korea.

One study he led measured oral health attitudes, opinions, and practices of Koreans ages 10-69. Using the study findings, Paik and NIDR health educators will determine what type of education campaign would help encourage Koreans to improve their oral health.

Korea faces a rising rate of tooth decay due, in part, to an increase in the consumption of sweets as many Koreans adopt a Western diet. The country has only two water fluoridation



Dr. Dai-il Paik

pilot programs that serve just a small percentage of its 40 million citizens.

Paik conducts basic research as well as epidemiologic and behavioral studies. While at NIDR he plans to finish data analysis of his latest research on hydroxyapatite, one of the compounds in teeth and bone. A native of Seoul, he received his D.D.S., MS.D., and Ph.D. in preventive dentistry from Seoul National University. He hopes to maintain a long-distance collaboration with NIDR staff when he returns to his country next fall. □

DCRT Computer Training Classes

Classes	Dates
Advanced DOS Topics	3/17, 3/18
ENTER MAIL	3/17
BITNET	3/18
Intermediate PC-DOS	3/22-3/23
Molecular Modeling with Quanta	3/22-3/26
Orientation to Running SAS on the Mainframe	3/29
Introduction to ISPF/PDF	3/29
Usage of Applications of Molecular Quantum Mechanical Programs	3/30
SAS Fundamentals I for Programmers	3/30-3/31
SAS Fundamentals I for Non-programmers	4/1-4/2
SAS Fundamentals II for Programmers	4/5-4/6
Computer Data Structures	4/5, 4/7, 4/12, 4/14
Andrew File System	4/6
PC Viruses	4/7
SAS Fundamentals II for Non-programmers	4/7, 4/8
LISTSERV Electronic Mailing Lists	4/8
Getting Started with C	4/12-4/15

Classes are offered by the DCRT Training Program without charge. Call 496-2339 for more information. □

Sztein Heads NIAMS Branch

Dr. Susana Serrate-Sztein has been appointed chief of the Rheumatic Diseases Branch, NIAMS. Prior to this appointment, she was chief of the autoimmunity section and a medical officer in the Division of Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation, NIAID.

Sztein will plan, administer, and direct the institute's extramural research programs in arthritis and related scientific disciplines. She will also participate with the institute's national advisory board and other organizations in developing national policies, legislative activities, and overall goals related to the field of rheumatic diseases.

A native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sztein received her medical degree in 1979 from the School of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. She came to NIH in 1979 as a visiting fellow in NCI's Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis. From 1982 to 1989, she was an assistant professor in the department of pathology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. In 1990, she was appointed chief of NIAID's autoimmunity section. While at NIAID, she developed and



Dr. Susana Serrate-Sztein

implemented a 5-year plan to promote basic and applied research in autoimmunity, with a special focus on new therapies for autoimmune diseases. □

Gladys Whitted Honored

Gladys Whitted, an NIH small and disadvantaged business utilization specialist, was recently honored by the National Federation of Black Women Business Owners (NFBWBO) at its first annual Negro History Month Black Women Business Awards luncheon. Honoring women who "have achieved a level of independent economic success manifested through the ownership of a business or who have proven to be a great asset to our community," NFBWBO recognized Whitted for her "excellent performance" in her position at NIH. □

CC Marks Nutrition Month

The Clinical Center nutrition department will celebrate National Nutrition Month Mar. 23 to 25, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. near the B1 cafeteria entrance in Bldg. 10. Registered dietitians will be available to discuss this year's theme, "Eat Right America." Items will include: soup and salads on Mar. 23, entrees on Mar. 24 and desserts on Mar. 25, with samples to taste, recipes to try and even a raffle. For more information, call 496-3311. □



NHLBI director Dr. Claude Lenfant received the Federal Executive of the Year Award for 1992 from the Federal Executive Institute Alumni Association (FEIAA). He was cited "for extraordinary achievement in executive management and personal leadership resulting in distinguished achievements in public service." The award was presented during a special luncheon, held in Reston, Va., as part of the group's annual Executive Forum. Shown are (from l) Joan Turek-Brezina, director, Division of Technology and Computer Support, HHS; Thomas McFee, HHS assistant secretary for personnel administration; Lenfant; FEIAA President Allan Kam, senior trial attorney and chief counsel, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and Susan Tolchin, professor of public administration, George Washington University.

The NIH Life Sciences Education Connection

The National Center for Research Resources and the Office of Science Education Policy (OSEP) are working together to sponsor the annual Science Education Partnership Awards (SEPA) program directors' meeting Mar. 17, 18 and 19.

The meeting will give SEPA grantees the opportunity to share information about their individual projects with other program directors and members of the NIH community.

Topics to be addressed will be: the implementation of project evaluations; computer networking among grantees and the larger education community; the dissemination of project resources; and the latest on the development of national science education standards. The SEPA grants were designed to link scientists with educators to produce pilot projects that foster excitement about the biomedical sciences in young people and the general public.

The front page of the Feb. 2 issue of the *NIH Record* featured an article on the long-standing "Adventure in Science" Program. An effort is now under way to bring to the NIH campus this well-established Saturday program for children ages 8 to 15.

Several local scientists and engineers who have been "Adventure in Science" instructors, including Dr. Edward E. Max, chief, Laboratory Cell and Viral Regulation at FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, presented information on Feb. 18 to members of the NIH community interested in volunteering to work on establishing a similar program on campus.

Volunteer instructors and managers are still needed. Contact Max, 402-0484, for more information.

A public education campaign produced by NIDCD, titled "I Love What I Hear!" has been designed to reach children in the third to sixth grades. The materials include an 11-page teacher's guide and an 8-minute VHS videotape that introduces children to the extraordinary biology of hearing and teaches them about preventing noise-induced hearing loss in a lively and entertaining way.

All of the activities have been pretested with third through sixth grade children and used successfully in classroom settings.

These materials can be obtained at no cost by calling the NIDCD Clearinghouse, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern time, toll-free 1-800-241-1044 (voice), 1-800-241-1055 (TDD/TT), or by writing to the NIDCD Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 37777, Washington, DC 20013-7777. All materials, including the videotape, can be duplicated for educational use without charge.

The teacher guide materials are available in Spanish and all tapes are closed captioned. Open captioned tapes are also available through

the NIDCD Clearinghouse.

Scientists are needed to volunteer to work with elementary, middle, and junior high schools in a variety of capacities including science fair projects, presentations and demonstrations, student and teacher mentoring, curriculum development and other activities for science education programs on and off the NIH campus.

For more information contact Dr. Patricia Hoben in the Office of Science Education Policy, 402-2470. □



Program Helps Minority Students

Reports on the poor quality of science education and lack of interest in science among today's youth might breed despondency about the future of scientific research and understanding.

One light at the end of the tunnel, however, is the Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program (MHSSRAP). The NCRR sponsors about 3,000 students and 600 teachers at institutions throughout the United States.

Each institution's program is different and designed to foster interest in science and medicine among minority youth. Students accepted into MHSSRAP earn money while doing lab work with a biomedical research mentor during the summer.

MHSSRAP has influenced many minority students to attend college and enter careers in biomedicine, health research and health professions.

The MHSSRAP program at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) in Augusta has been particularly successful: 100 percent of its participants have gone on to college. Sixty-four percent of those who have earned undergraduate degrees have chosen medical or research-related careers.

Vera Thurmond, associate director of the Student Educational Enrichment Programs at MCG, attributes the high success rate to its science education "pipeline" for students.

As eleventh graders, high school honor students attend an MCG educational enrichment program in the health sciences.

"They meet MHSSRAP participants and get really excited about the apprentice program. Most of them can't wait to apply," Thurmond said.

MHSSRAP students at MCG are immersed in a collegiate atmosphere. "They form friendships in the dorms, and get really excited about going to college themselves," Thurmond said.

"The Medical College of Georgia testifies to the success of the apprentice program," said Dr. Marjorie Tingle, director of the MHSSRAP program. "MCG has used this program to show minority youth they have a place in the future of biomedical research. This gives them confidence to pursue these careers." □

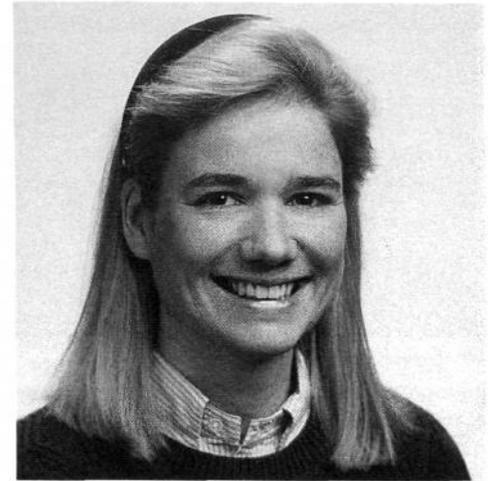
NIDR's Heegaard Wins Merck Award

Dr. Anne-Marie Heegaard, a visiting fellow in the Bone Research Branch at NIDR, is the winner of the Merck Sharp & Dohme Young Investigator Award from the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR).

The society honored her for an abstract she wrote on biglycan, a protein found in bone, and its possible role in the development of bone abnormalities associated with Turner's and triple-X syndromes.

Turner's syndrome is characterized by a deleted X chromosome and triple-X by an excess of X chromosomes. Turner's syndrome females are short statured and can have other skeletal defects, including a predisposition to osteoporosis. Triple-X females may be of normal height or taller than average.

Heegaard is the fifth member of her branch to win the Young Investigator Award since the



Dr. Anne-Marie Heegaard

ASBMR established it 14 years ago. A native of Denmark, she received her M.D. from the University of Copenhagen. She will return to her country after finishing the NIDR fellowship in July. □

Blood Donor Day Set, May 21

Just a reminder that Donor Appreciation Day will be held on Friday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. "This is our way of expressing thanks for your commitment over the past year to the Blood Donor Center. Please mark your calendars and celebrate the festivities with us," said DTM.

For more information about Donor Appreciation Day or to schedule a blood donation, call 496-1048. The center is located in Bldg. 10, Rm. 1N416. Hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. □

High Cholesterol Vols Needed

The Cardiology Branch, NHLBI, seeks volunteers with cholesterol greater than 275 mg for outpatient study. Participants should have no other medical problems. Volunteers will be paid. Call Cressie Kilcoyne, 496-8739. □



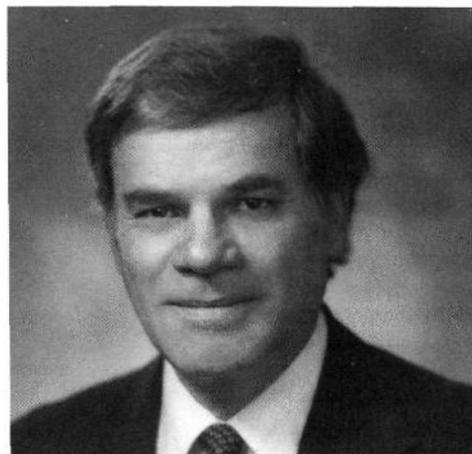
TRAINING TIPS

The NIH Training Center of the Division of Personnel Management offers the following:

<i>Courses and Programs</i>	<i>Starting Dates</i>
Management and Supervisory 496-6371	
Shaping Organizational Priorities	3/31
Preparing Vision and Mission Statements	4/1
Strategic Planning and Implementation	4/2
Projecting an Effective Executive Image	4/7
Using Animals in Intramural Research:	
Guidelines for Investigators	4/8
Practical Management Approaches	4/22
Avoiding Writing Anxiety	4/30
Effective Presentation Skills	5/3
Congressional/Presidential Operations	
Workshop for NIH	5/3
Interacting With Difficult Employees	5/6
Working With Personal Differences:	
MBTI-I for Professional and Managerial	5/11
Office Operations and Administrative Systems Training 496-6211	
Thriving in Place/Striving for More	4/13
Creating and Maintaining Filing Systems	4/16
Guide to Good Grammar	4/19
NIH Correspondence: Letter and Memo Preparation	4/22
Developing Proofreading Techniques	4/26
Time Management for Office Support Personnel	5/11
Personnel Management 496-6211	
Comp. Federal Employee Benefits	4/12
Adverse & Conduct Based Actions	4/19
Performance Based Actions	4/27
IMPACT for Personnel Staff	5/11
Special Courses 496-6211	
Appropriation Law	4/5
Project Leadership Workshop	4/20
Break the Smoking Habit	5/13
Retirement Planning Seminar	5/12



Dr. Douglas R. Lowy (second from r) of the Laboratory of Cellular Oncology, NCI, received the Wallace P. Rowe Award for Excellence in Virologic Research during NIAID's 9th annual Wallace P. Rowe Symposium on Animal Virology last month. The award was presented by symposium cochairs (from l) Dr. Robert M. Chanock, chief, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases; Dr. Janet W. Hartley, head, viral oncology section, Laboratory of Immunopathology; and Dr. Malcolm A. Martin, chief, Laboratory of Molecular Microbiology. Lowy was cited for "outstanding and innovative contributions to the papillomavirus field, leading to advances in the understanding of the molecular biology of bovine and human papillomaviruses and providing a basis for prevention of infection."



Dr. Martin Rodbell, senior scientist in the Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, NIEHS, recently received an honorary doctorate degree from the Universite de Montpellier in Montpellier Cedex, France. He was honored, at the university's 700th anniversary celebration, for his continuing contributions to the advancement of biomedical research in the area of receptor mechanisms, and his discoveries of the role of GTP-binding proteins, termed transducers, in mediating the actions on cell surface receptors of light, hormones, and a variety of other chemical signals.

EEO Briefings Target Job Plans

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) is sponsoring a series of briefings on the EEO critical performance element that was incorporated in all NIH managers' and supervisors' performance plans effective Oct. 1, 1992. The purpose of the briefings is to provide guidelines on how performance can be assessed under the EEO critical element. All NIH managers and supervisors are invited and encouraged to attend. A special session will be presented to ICD directors at a regularly scheduled staff meeting. The briefings will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, Mar. 30, 2-3 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 6
- Monday, Apr. 5, 2-3 p.m. in Lister Hill Auditorium, Bldg. 38A
- Tuesday, Apr. 6, 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. in Bldg. 10, Lipsett Amphitheater
- Wednesday, Apr. 14, 10-11 a.m., Parklawn Bldg., Conf. Rm. G

No advance registration is required. For reasonable accommodation needs and any questions, call Joan Brogan, 496-2906. □

NIH's Support Heart Fundraiser

Michelle Scala of OD's Division of Procurement and Dawn Daniel of NIAID's Grants Management Branch were among the participants in the second annual "Dance for Heart," a 2-hour dance/exercise program sponsored by the Oakwood Fitness Center in Kilmarnock, Va., to benefit the American Heart Association.

The event combined the efforts of many local exercise enthusiasts as part of a nationwide endeavor to reduce death and disability from heart disease and stroke. Area volunteers solicited sponsors to pledge contributions for every minute they danced or exercised during the 2-hour event. Scala won the contest for the most donations solicited with a total of \$802. The total amount of money raised from the event was more than \$1,300.



Dawn Daniel (l) and Michelle Scala recently participated in a "Dance for Heart" exercise program in which both won prizes.

Vision Ills Due to Diabetes Are Treated Successfully, NEI Says

The National Eye Institute reported recently that current treatments for a common, sight-threatening complication of diabetes have proved 95 percent effective in maintaining vision, but 8,000 still go blind each year from this disease.

Reporting in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Dr. Frederick Ferris III, chief of NEI's Clinical Trials Branch, said the continuing loss of sight from diabetic retinopathy is primarily because of failures to have regular eye examinations so the condition can be caught before vision is severely damaged.

"The tremendous effectiveness of current treatment lends even greater urgency to current efforts to ensure that all people with diabetes receive appropriate treatments," he said.

Diabetic retinopathy causes the slow and often symptomless deterioration of blood vessels in the retina, the light-sensitive tissue that lines the inside of the eye and translates light into visual signals that the brain interprets as vision.

As the disease progresses to the proliferative stage, its most sight-threatening phase, new and extremely fragile blood vessels begin to multiply and grow toward the center of the eye, leading to hemorrhaging within the eye, retinal detachment, and blindness.

Patricia Grady Appointed NINDS Assistant Director

Dr. Patricia A. Grady was recently appointed assistant director of NINDS, assuming most of the responsibilities of the former NINDS deputy director.

In her new post, she is responsible for executing the policies of the director, allocating resources to carry out those policies, and assisting the director in the management of all activities related to NINDS's mission and functions.

"Dr. Grady brings to this position her experiences as a scientist and a scientist-administrator; of equal importance, she also has that essential ingredient that makes things happen—common sense," said NINDS director Dr. Murray Goldstein.

From 1988 to 1992, Grady served as a health scientist administrator in the NINDS Division of Stroke and Trauma, where she administered a portfolio of research grants related to stroke and neuroimaging. During that time, she was also involved in a variety of trans-NIH activities, playing an active role in the NIH task force for medical rehabilitation research and the NIH diagnostic radiology coordinating committee.

Grady was born in Connecticut and raised in Florida. She received her B.S. in nursing in 1967 from Georgetown University. In 1968 she received her master's degree and in 1977, her doctoral degree in physiology. Both degrees were from the University of Maryland.

Before joining NINDS, Grady held a number of academic positions at the University of Maryland. She has been a member of the

About 7 million Americans with diabetes have at least early signs of diabetic retinopathy, with approximately 65,000 people each year progressing to proliferative retinopathy.

Current treatment guidelines call for: (1) regular eye examinations through dilated pupils; (2) timely laser surgery, using a high-energy beam of light to destroy or seal developing retinal blood vessels before they damage vision; and (3) when needed, vitrectomy, a surgical procedure that clears hemorrhaged blood from inside the eye that can cloud vision.

NEI's newly published findings, based on an analysis of 5-year followup data from the Early Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy Study, showed that with appropriate treatment even people with proliferative diabetic retinopathy have a 95 percent chance of maintaining vision of 20/200 or better for at least 5 years. A person whose best corrected vision is 20/200 (meaning this person can see at 20 feet what a person with perfect vision can see at 200 feet) or worse in the better eye is considered legally blind.

Previous studies reported that about half of all people who advance to proliferative retinopathy go blind without treatment within 5 years. □



Dr. Patricia A. Grady

faculty since 1970, serving as both researcher and professor in the schools of medicine and nursing. She is also a former NIH postdoctoral research fellow and has been an NIH research grantee throughout her research career.

"I have always enjoyed being part of the NIH, both as an NINDS-funded investigator and as a program administrator. Now I have the opportunity to put my background to work on a whole new set of challenges as assistant director," she said. "This is an exciting time in health research administration and it's stimulating to be a part of it." □

Bldg. 10's Clinic Cafeteria Opens

The clinic cafeteria, located on the second floor of Bldg. 10, reopened on Feb. 8. The Division of Space and Facility and Management (DSFM), Office of Research Services, in cooperation with Guest Services, Inc. (GSI), began on Dec. 1 the initial steps in renovating the cafeteria. Remodeling took about 2 months to complete.

Both Paul Horton, DSFM director, and Sam Bavaro, GSI district manager, had as one of their goals barrier-free access to the facility. In addition to the upgrades in the surroundings, the new menu offers patients and employees an extensive array of food choices.

When the second floor cafeteria reopened, its patrons were not only greeted by new carpeting, improved lighting, additional cash registers, and improved customer flow, but also a change in the hours of operation at both the clinic and B1 cafeterias. The B1 cafeteria is now open 24 hours, 7 days a week, including holidays. The second floor clinic cafeteria is open during lunch time only, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Beginning Mar. 8, a new GSI service was added to the first-floor clinic lobby adjacent to the flower shop. A beverage and pastry cart is open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. This service provides a wide selection of pastries with a variety of coffees and teas.

The DSFM and GSI plan a grand opening celebration in late March. Look for details as they become available. □

OSIA Goes to Atlantic City

Join members of the NIH chapter of the Order Sons of Italy (OSIA) on Saturday, May 1, on their spring fling to New Jersey's glitter palaces. The cost is \$25 per person and includes roundtrip bus fare, morning juice and doughnuts, driver's gratuity and casino bonus. Bus check-in is at 8:30 a.m. at the Bldg. 31C parking lot; bus returns to NIH by 10:45 p.m. Seating is limited, so call Ed Farley, 496-7681, or Nina Bacanari, 869-4045, to reserve a space. Send payment to: OSIA AC Trip, 8 Russell Ave., Unit 211, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. □

Study Subjects Sought

The medical psychology department at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences needs healthy volunteers, ages 18 to 45, for a study of cognitive style and personality. Volunteers can earn up to \$45 for 3-4 hours. For information call Lisa, (301) 295-3263. □

Vitamin Study Needs Volunteers

NICHHD is looking for volunteers between the ages of 25 and 40, on no medications, to participate in a study of vitamin D metabolism. Subjects will be paid. For more information, call Kim O'Brien, 496-5531. □