

*"Still
The Second
Best Thing
About Payday"*

The NIH Record

At Women's Equality Day

Shalala Emphasizes Intolerance of 'Unacceptable Behavior' at NIH

By Rich McManus

HHS Secretary Donna Shalala used the occasion of her first official visit to NIH—a ceremony observing Women's Equality Day on Aug. 26—to reemphasize her determination not to tolerate "unacceptable behavior" in the workplace at NIH.

Speaking to an overflow audience in Masur Auditorium at an event that, in years past, has drawn only sparse attendance, Shalala first lavished praise on the agency, declaring, "Your record of scientific accomplishment is unparalleled...the greatness of NIH is no accident. It has evolved and flourished during more than a century (and has been) performed by thousands of dedicated men and women like you."

But, she continued, "all sickness is not biological and all healing is not physical. There are many wounds yet to be healed in America. One of the most devastating is our continuing mistreatment of women and minorities. The NIH is a microcosm of American society, and I say that as a fact, not as an excuse. We can't reach our full potential until we root out every



HHS Secretary Donna Shalala emphasizes her intolerance of workplace misconduct at NIH.

remaining trace of prejudice, discrimination, harassment and injustice.

"I've heard the stories," she continued. "I've read the reports. And frankly I'm outraged by what appears to be a pattern of unacceptable

behavior on the part of some employees at NIH. Let me be clear. Under my watch, under Phil Lee's watch, under Ruth Kirschstein's watch, and under Harold Varmus' watch, discrimination and harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. The American people and the vast majority of decent, hardworking NIH employees deserve nothing less."

Shalala said HHS and NIH are taking this issue very seriously. On Aug. 4, she instructed Lee to oversee "an immediate and thorough investigation of outstanding allegations of sexual and racial discrimination, and harassment and hiring practices." She also pledged to strengthen EEO by hiring more staff and reviewing its operations.

"I know that some of you are skeptical," she conceded. "And I acknowledge that you have heard these promises before. But my commitment to diversity and equality is longstanding and nonnegotiable. Everywhere I've gone in my years of public service...I've worked to expand successfully opportunities for women and minorities not because it was the easy thing

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Symposium To Honor NIDDK Alumni, Sept. 20

By Mark T. Sampson

As the kickoff event for this year's NIH Research Festival, the Distinguished Alumni Symposium hosted by NIDDK will be held in Masur Auditorium on Monday, Sept. 20, from 8:45 a.m. until noon.

The symposium, titled "Contributions of Basic Science to Biomedical Research," will honor Dr. Elizabeth Neufeld and five other NIDDK distinguished alumni.

Neufeld will receive this year's Distinguished Alumna Award from NIDDK director Dr. Phillip Gordon. She will present a lecture titled "The Hurler Syndrome, Revisited."

When Neufeld arrived at NIH in 1963, Hurler syndrome was an obscure disease with a grim prognosis and no cure in sight. Then seen as a disease of carbohydrate storage occurring very rarely (approximately 1 in 100,000 births), the inherited disorder was usually an early death sentence characterized by skeletal abnormalities, mental retardation, blindness, and deafness.

Today, because of Neufeld's pioneering contributions, this disease and others related to it, such as Hunter syndrome, are now on the threshold of remedy. Now recognized as mucopolysaccharide storage disorders, these diseases can be correctly diagnosed. Prenatal testing can detect the biochemical markers that

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Future Scientists Spend Summer at NINDS

By Shannon Garnett

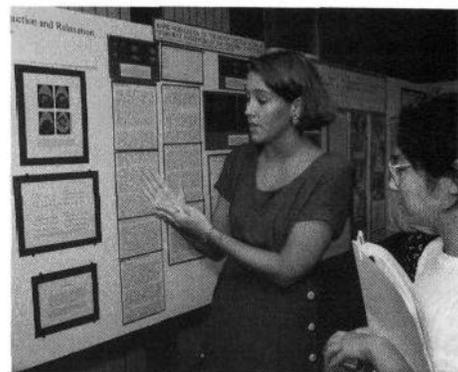
Spend a Summer With Your Future... the NINDS brochure promises and according to Dorian Baucum, a freshman at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences, that is exactly what the NINDS Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences delivers. "I've been exposed to so many aspects of my career here at NIH, the center of medical technology," he said.

Baucum, a native of Washington, D.C., recently graduated from Benjamin Banneker Senior High School. He spent this summer in the Epilepsy Research Branch, testing anticonvulsant drugs.

"I love being here because the scientists don't treat you like a student. They treat you like a budding scientist," said Baucum, who has participated in the program for 2 years. "They actually consider us scientists."

Each year for 9 years, NINDS has offered hands-on experience to hundreds of high school, undergraduate, graduate and medical school students, through its summer program.

A recent graduate of Princeton University, Jennifer Porter spent her summer in the NINDS Neuroimmunology Branch where several multiple sclerosis (MS) protocols were being conducted. The patients for these protocols were given monthly magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Porter analyzed the



Under the guidance of Dr. Camilo Toro of the NINDS Medical Neurology Branch, Juliet Dearing of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University has uncovered evidence that relaxation may be an active process.

MRIs, counted and measured the MS lesions, and measured the ventricles to determine the amount of white matter. Using the computer, she then compared the white matter total with that of the lesions.

"My experience here has been very positive. I have not only enjoyed being at NIH, but I've also learned a lot," said Porter, who will be a first-year medical student at the University of Maryland in Baltimore in the fall. "The

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ALUMNI

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signal the presence of the disorders. Enzyme replacement therapy and even gene therapy are moving rapidly toward a cure, thanks to her innovative work.

The disorders were once thought to result from an increased production of carbohydrates called mucopolysaccharides. Neufeld and her associates were the first to demonstrate that these disorders instead result from an insufficient breakdown of carbohydrates.

Her team traced the disorders to a deficiency of certain enzymes normally found within the lysosome, the cell's degradative organelle. Hurler syndrome was traced to a deficiency of alpha-L-iduronidase; for Hunter syndrome it was iduronate sulfatase.

Through the work of many laboratories, at least 10 enzyme deficiencies that give rise to mucopolysaccharide storage disorders have been identified.

Further research by Neufeld and her colleagues led to the discovery of recognition markers on these lysosomal enzymes and complementary receptors on the cell's surface, underscoring the importance of these components in unraveling the mystery of these inherited disorders.

Neufeld's exploration of the recognition system for lysosomal enzymes led to further studies of the pathways for the insertion of enzymes into lysosomes, a process that figures prominently in the mucopolysaccharide disorders I-cell disease and pseudo-Hurler polydystrophy.

The earlier basic research of Neufeld and her associates led directly to an opportunity to help those affected by the disorders. Diagnostic tests led to genetic counseling and improved management of patients with the diseases. However, effective therapy remained an elusive goal.

After she moved to the UCLA School of Medicine in 1984 to become chair of the department of biological chemistry, Neufeld continued to work on lysosomal storage disorders. After focusing for some years on Tay-Sachs disease, she has returned to studies of Hurler syndrome. Her students and postdoctoral fellows have identified multiple mutations that may cause the disease.

In collaborative studies with colleagues in other institutions, Neufeld is working toward enzyme replacement and gene therapy, using a canine model of Hurler syndrome.

Neufeld was a biochemist with NIDDK from 1963 to 1984, during which time she served as chief of the Genetics and Biochemistry Branch. From 1987 to 1991, she was a member of the NIDDK Advisory Council. Presently, she is professor and chair of the department of biological chemistry at the UCLA School of Medicine.

For her major contributions toward the understanding of lysosomal storage disorders, Neufeld was awarded the prestigious Albert Lasker Clinical Medical Research Award in 1982 and the Wolf Prize in Medicine in 1988.

This is the fourth year that the Distinguished



Dr. Elizabeth Neufeld

Alumni Award is being given and the first time it has been hosted by NIDDK. The symposium will also feature presentations by five NIDDK distinguished alumni:

◆ Dr. Richard Axel will speak on "The Molecular Biology of Smell." Axel helped discover a method to transfer genes from one animal cell to another, a process that has revolutionized molecular genetics by facilitating the isolation of genes and the analysis of genetic regulatory mechanisms. He is also recognized for his breakthrough research on the genetic mechanisms underlying the sense of smell. Axel has used gene transfer techniques to clone the gene for the T cell surface protein CD4, which serves as a receptor for HIV. A research fellow with NIDDK from 1972 to 1974, he is currently Higgins professor of biochemistry and biophysics and professor of pathology at Columbia University and investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

◆ Dr. Arthur Kornberg will present a lecture titled "For the Love of Enzymes." He helped discover the mechanisms of the biological synthesis of DNA and RNA, work for which he and Severo Ochoa shared the 1959 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. The long-time NIH grantee was with NIDDK from 1947 to 1953. Now professor emeritus of biochemistry at Stanford University School of Medicine, Kornberg and his associates continue to unravel the mysteries of DNA synthesis, work which has important implications for the study of cell growth and cancer.

◆ Dr. Stuart Kornfeld will speak on "Trafficking of Proteins to Lysosomes." He has made major contributions toward understanding the role of sugar-protein complexes as targeting signals to direct the movement of important molecules within the cell. Such studies have led to a greater understanding of the pathology of lysosomal storage disorders and have broad relevance to human disease in general. Kornfeld was with NIDDK from 1963 to 1965. He is currently professor of medicine and of biochemistry and

molecular biophysics at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis.

◆ Dr. Robert J. Lefkowitz will speak on "Molecular Approaches to Interdict Signaling or Desensitization of G Protein-Coupled Receptors." He is known for his pioneering research on receptor molecules that couple to guanine nucleotide regulatory proteins, or G proteins. An understanding of G proteins is important in developing therapeutic drugs. He made important contributions toward the understanding of the molecular mechanisms of the drug- and hormone-induced desensitization of epinephrine, and in doing so, discovered a new enzyme known as beta adrenergic receptor kinase. A clinical associate at NIDDK from 1968 to 1970, he is currently James B. Duke professor of medicine and biochemistry at Duke University Medical Center and investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

◆ Dr. Jack Strominger will lecture on "Presentation of Peptides to the Immune System by Class I and Class II Major Histocompatibility Complex Molecules." He discovered the mechanism of action of penicillin. His more recent contributions have led to an understanding of the recognition of foreign antigens in the human immune response, important for studying ways to combat autoimmune diseases. Strominger served as senior assistant surgeon at NIDDK from 1951 to 1954 and is currently a professor of biochemistry at Harvard University and director of basic sciences at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. □

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STEP Program Announces Offerings for 1993-1994

The Staff Training in Extramural Program (STEP) committee recently announced its offerings for 1993-1994. STEP will offer a variety of modules and forums, as well as the popular Science for All series, designed to help staff stay current, sharpen skills, and work together to deal with the changing world of science administration.

The committee has identified several issues of immediate interest to extramural staff. While modules treat topics in depth, forums provide a chance for discussion of current issues in a short format, and the Science for All lectures provide health information on a level easily understood by the nonscientist.

The programs are generally open to all extramural staff regardless of grade or job. Certain sessions are targeted to a specific audience. Advance registration through application is necessary for participation in modules, but no application is needed for the forums or the Science for All lectures. Applications for the first two modules are due by Oct. 8. The deadline for applying for the other two modules is Dec. 10. Application form NIH-2245 should be completed and forwarded to the STEP office (Bldg. 1, Rm. 252) by the deadline dates. The application form is available in the STEP catalog. Be sure to read the instructions carefully as modules with limited space use the application write-up to determine selection of participants.

STEP falls within the auspices of the Office of Extramural Research under Drs. George Galasso, James O'Donnell, and Donald Murphy. The annual program is developed by an NIH-wide committee of approximately 25 experienced extramural staff from a variety of institutes and disciplines. In addition to developing the training sessions, STEP committee members conduct them along with former committee members, senior NIH staff, and faculty drawn from experts within and outside NIH.

Dr. Lynn Amende of the NHLBI Review Branch has been appointed chairperson of the STEP committee this year. Susan Waldrop, chief of the Planning and Analysis Branch, NCI, is vice-chair.

STEP will present four modules, three forums, and two Science for All presentations this year. This year's first module, "Health Research: Who Makes the Decisions?" will be presented Dec. 8 and 9. It will examine the process by which public expectations can be shaped by the media and advocacy groups. These expectations result in new demands on NIH to accelerate research efforts in a number of targeted areas. This module will explore some of the issues of politics and health research with presentations by representatives from the media, advocacy groups, congressional staff, and NIH.

The second module, "Clinical Trials and Tribulations: The Sequel—Trialing for Dollars" will be offered Jan. 19-20, 1994. This module will present examples of current issues



Dr. Lynn Amende is new STEP chair.

that face extramural staff working with clinical trials. The faculty will include representatives from pharmaceutical companies, universities, and federal agencies involved in the design and management of some of these clinical trials.

The third module, "Necessity is the Mother of REinvention" will be presented Mar. 22, 1994. This module will examine various options of research management through discussions with the faculty and participants. They will explore alternate approaches and examine procedures at other organizations with similar research management goals. The faculty will include senior research administrators from NIH, other federal agencies, and private funding organizations.

The fourth module, "Reaching Beyond—Business as Unusual" will be offered Apr. 13 and 14, 1994. This module, presented by an outside trainer skilled in presenting concepts of creativity and innovative thinking, will examine strategies for introducing new approaches and challenging established paradigms.

The STEP Forum Series is a first-come, first-served (no advance registration) opportunity for extramural staff to learn about such subjects as alternative medicine, science education (K-12), and predictions for the office of the future. These will be conducted in 2- or 3-hour sessions in Wilson Hall.

This year's Science for All series will focus on topics of current interest and provide updates on the subjects of alcohol abuse and alcoholism and clinical depression, in layman's terms. Dates, times, faculty, and other details of the forums and the Science for All series will be published here and promoted through flyers. No advance registration is needed.

The STEP catalog contains more information about these programs and the application form and instructions to register for the modules. It is available in personnel offices, the STEP office (1/252), and the following locations: 31/1B44, 38A/604, EPN/635E, 6100/8A17G, Fed/800A, Gateway/2N212, NIEHS/3-301A, Parklawn/9C15, Solar/3A12, Westwood/648, EPS/350. □

'A New Generation'

BIG-YARD Sponsors Second Young People's Forum

The second youth forum sponsored recently by the NIH chapter of Blacks in Government's Young Adult Resources and Development (BIG-YARD) might well have been called "tough love," because that is what keynote speaker Bernie McCain dispensed with his 40-minute presentation.

"Most young people," he said, "regardless of ethnicity, color, or culture, have a common problem—adults...and as adults we have less the answer than the ability to pave roads."

A radio talk show host with Washington, D.C.'s WOL-1450, McCain used frank language to address the mainly high-school-age audience facing him in a filled Wilson Hall. Aimed at providing practical career and employment information to the youngest members of NIH's workforce, the forum, "For Your Information: A New Generation," gathered summer aides, stay-in-schoolers, co-op students and other interested NIH employees for 2 1/2 hours of advice and workshops on KSA preparation, financial planning, proper work attire and attitude, and mentorship cultivation. Workshop coordinators included Jalil Mutakabbir, Dr. Leamon Lee, Ivan Wallace and Dr. Ron King.

"Our [YARD's] responsibility is to be the bridge between the forces of old and new," said Felicia Shingler, BIG-YARD chair, in opening remarks.

McCain, a 30-year veteran of the radio industry and entrepreneur of The Gathering, a 300-member investment company, did not limit his remarks to the young.

"We must allow our children the same opportunities of pain and fear that we had," he said to members of the older generation represented in the audience, "or else they won't grow. Where there is no dialogue, no communication and no desire to grow, our children see where we are warped...You write on the mind of a child. Stand up and be stronger than you have been." Following McCain's speech, Vince Thomas, NIH BIG chapter president, presented the talk-show host with a plaque recognizing his community service and commitment to BIG-YARD. □

Editor's Note

With this issue of the *NIH Record*, we adopt a new format designed to save printing costs. The old tabloid format required cutting sheets of paper to an odd dimension designed, seemingly, to thwart insertion of issues into envelopes. The tidy new size—call it *NIH Record Lite*—saves trimming costs at the printer and spares readers the difficulties of cramming outsize issues into file folders and envelopes designed for 8-by-10-inch documents. While the smaller size means fewer words per page and slightly smaller photos, content should remain substantially the same. We hope that is good news for our readers.

SHALALA

(Continued from Page 1)

to do but because it was the right thing to do. In my view, diversity and inclusion are prerequisites of excellence, especially in scientific institutions, where diseases choose their victims without regard to race or gender.

"I am determined that NIH continue to be viewed not only as the world's premier health research institution, but also as a model workplace where the talents and capabilities of all employees are utilized and no one is denied the opportunity to fully contribute."

Shalala closed with a question posed first by Eleanor Roosevelt: "Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? They begin in the small places, close to home, in schools and colleges, farms and factories, and offices. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without

"NIH is a microcosm of American society, and I say that as a fact, not as an excuse. We can't reach our full potential until we root out every remaining trace of prejudice, discrimination, harassment and injustice."

concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.

"The world continues to look to you and me for leadership," she concluded. "I know that both of us will meet the challenge."

Shalala said that some 55 percent of her appointments at HHS have been women and that 30 percent have been minorities. Though the occasion marked the 73rd anniversary of the 19th amendment, which extended voting rights to women, Shalala said, "The struggle for equality must extend to all people regardless of gender or race or creed or sexual orientation or disability. That is the expansive view we celebrate today."

Shalala called herself the direct beneficiary of the struggles of such heroic women as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Sojourner Truth, observing, "While progress has been too slow, I've always admired the kind of women who challenged



NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (r) first met HHS Secretary Donna Shalala in 1980 at Hunter College in New York City. Shalala was college president then and Kirschstein, director of NIGMS from 1974 to 1993, visited the campus for a Minority Access to Research Careers event.

America to live up to its highest principles...No important human endeavor in American history, from civil rights to women's rights, from cutting-edge scientific research to space exploration, has occurred without the vision and voices of extraordinary American women."

Also on the program, acclaimed for its brevity by many attendees, were Kirschstein, who introduced Shalala as a colleague she has known since they met in 1980 at Hunter College, where Shalala was newly named president and Kirschstein, as NIGMS director, was visiting the NIH-funded MARC program; OEO Director Diane Armstrong, who pledged, "Let us rededicate ourselves as women who are making the way easier for those who will follow us"; Federal Women's Program Manager Lucretia Coffey, who reviewed recent accomplishments of NIH's advisory committee for women; and vocalist Tina Greene of NIDCD, accompanied by pianist Johnny Burns. □

Biomedical Calendar Available

The 1993-1994 Calendar of Biomedical Meetings and Events, which includes meetings sponsored by NIH as well as those of major medical societies and biomedical research associations, is available from the Division of Public Information, OD. To obtain a copy call Betty Riley, 68855. □

Workshop on Obesity Prevention

"Prevention of Obesity: Populations at Risk, Etiologic Factors and Intervention Strategies" will be held Sept. 22-24 at the Stouffer Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore.

The workshop will focus on initiatives for future research, with special emphasis on international health implications for women and minority populations. This workshop is cosponsored by the malnutrition panel of the U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program, the National Task Force on the Prevention and Treatment of Obesity, the International Life Sciences Institute, CDC, NIDDK, ORMH, NCI, and NHLBI.

Estimated to affect 34 million adult Americans, obesity reaches 50 percent in some minority populations, particularly American Indian, Black, and Hispanic women. Associated with diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, gallbladder disease, and some forms of cancer, obesity is a serious health problem in the U.S. and is increasingly recognized as an important public health issue in many other countries.

The 3-day workshop will focus on the changing patterns of obesity among different populations worldwide, its health implications, and underlying mechanisms. Sessions will examine the epidemiologic patterns of obesity in various populations, clinical and metabolic factors that predict obesity, and strategies to prevent obesity and weight regain.

Session moderators are Dr. Van S. Hubbard, NIDDK; Dr. James Everhart, NIDDK; Dr. Xavier Pi-Sunyer, St. Luke's Hospital, N.Y.; Dr. Benjamin Caballero, Johns Hopkins; Dr. Judith Stern, University of California, Davis; Dr. Shiriki Kumanyika, Penn State; and Dr. Jay H. Hoofnagle, NIDDK.

"(Studies) on understanding and treating obesity are areas of critical need," said Hubbard, program director of NIDDK's Nutritional Sciences Branch. "Methods must be developed to deal safely and effectively with the rising tide of obesity in at-risk populations."

To register for the workshop, contact Fred Hill, Computer Craft Corp., Rockville, MD 20852; (301) 230-0052. □

Cell Cycle Workshop, Oct. 6

The Division of Research Grants will hold a workshop on cell cycle progression, aging, and cell death at the Cloister, Bldg. 60, on Oct. 6. The multidisciplinary workshop will address the critical need for research in the areas of cell cycle control, cellular senescence, aging and cell death.

Speakers include Drs. Fred Cross, Carol Prives, David Livingston, Woodring Wright, Judith Campisi, Eugenia Wang, Calvin Harley, Gino Cortopassi, Larry Schwartz, Zoltan Oltvai and Yuan Junying.

Due to space limitations, registration is required. For more information call Dr. Ramesh K. Nayak or Linda Thee, 47169 or 47300. □



NIH's advisory committee for women, which cosponsored the Women's Equality Day program with the Office of Equal Opportunity, and Federal Women's Program Manager Lucretia Coffey, greeted Secretary Shalala (front, fourth from l) and Kirschstein (front, c) briefly outside the NIH Library in Bldg. 10.

Dental Students Get a Taste of Research

Student representatives from almost every dental school in the United States and Canada were brought together for the 29th annual ADA Dental Students Research Conference hosted this year by the National Institute of Dental Research.

The conference was jointly sponsored by the American Dental Association (ADA), the Warner-Lambert Oral Products Group, and participating dental schools.

The 58 students, chosen by their dental school deans, were selected because of their involvement or interest in research. The conference acquaints dental students with recent advances in the oral health sciences and opportunities in dental research.

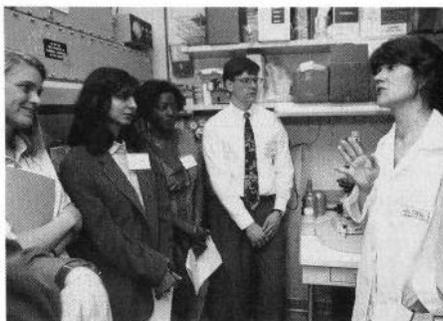
"The conference gave me an idea of what research is all about," said Andrea Campbell, a junior at Howard University College of Dentistry in Washington, D.C. "Before I visited NIDR I had one picture of research—working with white mice. This conference gave me my first real taste of research. It's a wider, much more interesting endeavor than I thought it was."

Shannon Magnuson, a junior at West Virginia University School of Dentistry in Morgantown, W.Va., agreed. "The conference was important to me because it clarified some ideas I had about research and the opportunities available for research training," she said. "It's not always easy to learn about research in dental school."

Intramural scientists talked to the students about the latest research findings in NIDR laboratories and extramural staff explained the opportunities available for research training. The students also visited NIDR clinics and laboratories where they had an opportunity to ask questions.

Although some of the students were in a laboratory setting for the first time, others had been involved in research projects at their schools.

"It was obvious from their comments and questions that some of them were carrying out fairly sophisticated research," said Dr. Jane



NIDR's Dr. Jane Atkinson visits with dental students attending the research conference.

Atkinson, who talked to the students in her laboratory. "A few of their projects were in line with the type of research conducted at NIH."

Many of the students had to be pried away from the laboratories and clinics; they wanted to stay "just a few more minutes" and lined up to ask questions of the researchers. "That was my favorite part," said Magnuson. "I wish we could have stayed in each lab a bit longer."

NIDR staff encouraged students to ask questions and seek information on how they might fit into the future of dental research. "It was so helpful to learn how accessible NIDR staff are. They made it clear that they're available to talk to you about your career or the research project you're working on," said Magnuson.

Other activities included a tour of the National Library of Medicine and ADA's Paffenbarger Research Center at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg. Nightlife included an ADA-sponsored dinner at the National Democratic Club where U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) addressed the group. The students were also treated to an evening bus tour of Washington, D.C.

The future dentists returned to their schools armed with information about what oral health research and NIDR have to offer and will convey the information, through newsletters and talks, to their fellow students. □

Alexander Heads NICHD Branch

Dr. Nancy J. Alexander was recently appointed chief, Contraceptive Development Branch, Center for Population Research, NICHD.

She joined the Contraceptive Development Branch in 1990 as a special assistant. She is also adjunct professor, department of obstetrics and gynecology, Georgetown University Medical Center. Before coming to NICHD, Alexander was professor, department of obstetrics/gynecology, Eastern Virginia Medical School, and director of applied fundamental research at the Contraceptive Research and Development Program, Norfolk, Va.

Alexander received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. She serves as cochair



Dr. Nancy Alexander

of the contraceptive special interest group and the basic science special interest group of the American Fertility Society. She is associate editor of the *American Journal of Reproductive Immunology*. She also is a member of several professional societies and is widely published in the field of contraception and reproduction.

As chief of CDB, Alexander will oversee the development of a wide variety of contraceptive approaches for both the female and male. The CDB is looking into a broad range of activities from the synthesis and evaluation of new chemical entities to the development of new barrier contraceptives. □

Manchester String Quartet Returns

The Manchester String Quartet returns to NIH for a fifth season on Oct. 18 in Bldg. 10's Masur Auditorium from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. These lunchtime concerts are free and posters will be available in the Visitor Information Center, Rm. B1C218, Bldg. 10, prior to the October concert. Dates for the 1993 and 1994 concert season are: Oct. 18, Nov. 22, Dec. 20, Jan. 31, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, and May 23. For more information call Dinah Bertran, 61776. □

Worksite Health Promotion Survey Distributed to NIH Employees

The NIH worksite health promotion action committee will be distributing a survey to more than 2,000 randomly selected NIH employees this month.

The committee is conducting this survey to determine how it can best develop a comprehensive worksite health promotion program that will meet the diverse needs of NIH employees.

"We are anxious to learn what areas of health promotion are of most interest to our employees, as well as factors that can be addressed that will encourage increased participation throughout NIH," states Susanne Strickland, committee chairperson.

Traditionally worksite health promotion programs have encompassed areas such as exercise, nutrition, stress management, and

health screenings; they may also address safety, environmental, as well as other workplace and family issues.

Efforts are being made to make sure that workers both on and off campus and from all levels of employment are adequately represented in this random sample. To assure confidentiality and objectivity, an outside firm has been contracted to oversee distribution and analysis of the survey. In order to avoid bias in sampling, the contractor will follow up on any questionnaires not returned.

The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete and mail. Employees receiving the survey are encouraged to express their opinions about this program.

A summary of survey results will be published in a future issue of the *Record*.

Khachaturian Receives Citation for Alzheimer's Program

Dr. Zaven Khachaturian, NIA associate director for neuroscience and neuropsychology of aging (NNA), recently was awarded the Alzheimer's Association's Presidential Citation at the association's 5th annual Public Policy Forum in Washington, D.C. The association is a national volunteer organization that sponsors education programs and supportive services to patients and families who are coping with Alzheimer's disease (AD).

The award recognizes Khachaturian's contributions in building NIA's scientific program on Alzheimer's disease and his responsibility for its expansion and success. The NNA is concerned with issues surrounding the aging brain and nervous system, but has a dual role in understanding Alzheimer's and developing treatment programs for the disease.

Khachaturian came to NIH in 1977 while on sabbatical from the University of Pittsburgh as part of the Grants Associates Program, which trains health scientist administrators. One assignment was helping the newly established NIA develop plans for a neuroscience and Alzheimer's program. Initially the challenge was building the intellectual resources for the study of the aging brain around the country. Today approximately 70 percent of the federal money spent to combat AD is funded by NIA.

NIA director Dr. Richard Hodes says, "In his 15 years with the NIA, Dr. Khachaturian has been in the vanguard in the development and implementation of our Alzheimer's disease program. His vision and dedication to science have put NIH in the forefront of research, policy, and public awareness of the nature of Alzheimer's, and his leadership continues to move our neuroscience program."

Although pleased with the current success of the program, which includes 28 NIA-funded AD centers and 19 satellite diagnostic and treatment clinics, Khachaturian points out that there are still a number of unfinished tasks ahead.

"Now that we have begun to identify some of the genetic mutations for Alzheimer's disease, we need to focus on finding the consequences of these mutations on the structure and

functioning of proteins. Another major challenge is to sort the problem of heterogeneity in Alzheimer's disease patients by recruiting people from diverse cultures, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds, and rural communities. The infrastructure is there in our AD centers to enroll large numbers of multicultural patients for diagnostic classification and to serve as a national resource for clinical studies."

In moving forward with the program, the NNA has adopted a long-range program development plan entitled the "Five-Five Ten-Ten Plan to Defeat Alzheimer's Disease." The objective is to slow the rate of deterioration due to Alzheimer's by 5 years during the next 5 years and by 10 years within the next 10 years.

Khachaturian is inevitably asked about a possible cure for AD. "If we can suspend the onset of the symptoms by 5 or 10 years after initial diagnosis, the full spectrum of Alzheimer's disease won't show up in most

people before death. Thus, the family burden of caring for AD victims will be greatly reduced as well as the cost of institutionalization. The overriding aim of this enterprise is to discover treatments that allow Alzheimer's disease patients to continue functioning independently. It is not unrealistic to dream about a complete cure, and that's when the real reward will come."

During his career, Khachaturian has been the recipient of many honors including the NIH Director's Award in recognition of continued and successful service in developing the NNA program, and for leadership in NIA's initiative on Alzheimer's disease. He was named "Scientist of the Year" by Maturity News Service in 1991 and is the coeditor of two recent publications, *Alzheimer's Disease, New Treatment Strategies, and Calcium, Membranes, Aging and Alzheimer's Disease*. He received his B.A. from Yale University and a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University.



Dr. Zaven Khachaturian (l) is congratulated by actress Shelley Fabares and Stuart Roth, chairman of the board, Alzheimer's Association.

Workshop on Computers Featured at Research Festival

DCRT and NLM's National Center for Biotechnology Information will cosponsor an all-day workshop titled "Computer Databases and Software for Molecular Biomedical Research" in Bldg. 12A on Wednesday, Sept. 22, as part of NIH Research Festival 1993 activities.

Whether you're a scientist already steeped in information technology or a relative neophyte when it comes to biomedical computer applications, this special offering is for you. Exhibits and demonstrations, featuring such attractions as sequence databases and analysis software, highly parallel computing, image processing, molecular modeling, and DCRT's Scientific Computing Resource Center, will be presented throughout the day.

In addition, a series of informative talks will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Bldg. 12A's classroom B51. A brief subject sampling: GenBank, sequence analysis, drug design, and structure prediction.

Come and see how information technology can help your research. A complete schedule of workshop activities appears in the NIH Research Festival program booklet, which is available at the Visitor Information Center in Bldg. 10 and on the NIH Gopher (under "NIH Campus Info"). For more information, contact DCRT's Dr. Adrian Parsegian (66561), NCBI/NLM's Dr. John Wootton (62475), or the DCRT Information Office (66203).

Male Subjects Needed at USUHS

Earn up to \$260 for participating in a study of commonly prescribed drugs. Requires 10 to 15 minutes in the morning between 8:30 and 10 over a 3-week period. Must be male, right-handed, between 21 and 40 years old, in good health, and not active-duty military. Call 295-3672 for more information. □

James Says Thanks

Cathy James in the Office of Intramural Research in Bldg. 1 offers "my sincerest thanks to all the wonderful people at NIH who sent me their best wishes and prayers while I was recuperating from a broken ankle. It was greatly appreciated and I know that it helped me to get through this very difficult time." □

NIDDK Scientist Takes Old Philosophy to New Heights

By Mark T. Sampson

In the promising field of gene research, young scientists like Dr. Betty Peters are attempting to unlock the secrets of those stretches of DNA that stand between health and sickness.

In a paper published recently in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, Peters, a fellow in NIDDK's Laboratory of Chemical Biology, and her coworkers identified a protein that may block expression of the gene that controls the production of embryonic hemoglobin, which is found in fetal blood soon after conception. The research has implications for the treatment of sickle cell disease, an inherited disorder in which red blood cells "sickle" or clump inside their vessels, causing pain and sometimes death, and in the treatment of thalassemia syndromes caused by inadequate production of adult hemoglobin. Scientists believe that by increasing the production of embryonic or fetal hemoglobins, the conditions of patients with these two disorders may be improved.

Identifying a gene that may control this process is an important approach to combating these incurable disorders. Still, Peters insists that she is not so much excited about the discovery itself as the scientific trekking that went into it.

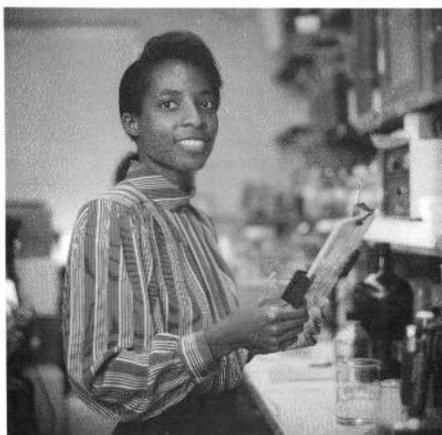
After graduating with a degree in biology from Princeton in 1982, she earned a medical degree at the University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, in 1986. Three years later, having developed an interest in gastrointestinal diseases, she completed a residency in internal medicine at Northwestern University Hospital in Chicago.

Peters came to NIH in 1989 as an Intramural Research Training Award fellow, becoming a research associate a year later. Since 1991, she has been a research fellow supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She is the fourth NIH physician to receive this highly competitive and prestigious fellowship.

During this period, she has worked closely with her mentor, Dr. Constance Tom Noguchi of the Laboratory of Chemical Biology, pursuing basic research as a molecular biologist.

Peters has made fitting choices. She believes that the mechanisms that control expression for the genes that she is studying are similar to those that control the production of proteins of the gastrointestinal system and hopes eventually to apply such research to the treatment of digestive problems.

The 33-year-old researcher will begin a gastroenterology fellowship with the Digestive Diseases Branch of NIDDK next year. Further down the road, she plans to set up her own laboratory studying the control of genes in various tissues from the digestive system. Although she acknowledges benefiting from numerous role models, Peters, a native of Ann Arbor, Mich., insists that her strongest influences are her parents. She says that she inherited her Protestant work ethic from her father and mother, respectively an electrical engineer and a nurse, who overcame their own



Dr. Betty Peters

difficult circumstances to reach their career goals.

Peters wants to be a role model to others. She loves to teach, having supervised the research of several students and having presented her own research at a number of scientific meetings. She also enjoys practicing medicine, working twice a week at a Montgomery County clinic for the indigent.

One of her future goals is to become a professor of gastroenterology, where she can influence tomorrow's scientists by sharing the latest knowledge of her field. □

NIEHS' \$10 Million Award Aids Nation's Nuclear Waste Cleanup

The cleanup of the United States' nuclear weapons complex will be the largest and most costly environmental remediation effort ever undertaken. Estimates are that cleanup in 13 states will take more than 30 years and cost more than \$100 billion. To train workers who will be doing the cleanup so they can do the work safely for themselves, for their communities, and for the environment, NIEHS has made seven supplemental awards totaling \$10 million to current awardees of the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program.

These awardees are already engaged in training hazardous waste site workers, and they will now broaden their curricula to train those who clean up nuclear waste sites.

The awards are the product of an NIEHS and U.S. Department of Energy interagency agreement to develop model worker safety and health training programs for workers who are involved in waste cleanup activities at facilities in the nuclear weapons complex.

This new NIEHS training initiative "will improve efforts to prevent work-related illnesses and injuries, increase the effectiveness of environmental restoration efforts, and complement other programs to protect communities which surround the facilities which make up the nation's nuclear weapons complex," said Dr. Kenneth Olden, NIEHS director. □



NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (above, third from l) recently joined students, mentors and coordinators of D.C.'s Metropolitan Consortium of Minorities in Engineering (METCON) for its 1993 NIH Biomedical Science Career Orientation for Minority Students awards program. NIH's Office of Equal Opportunity, the NIH Office of Research on Minority Health and the NIH Office of Education have coordinated the Howard University METCON program at NIH for the past 2 years. Also attending the ceremony were (above, from l) LaWanda Peace, Howard University METCON coordinator; Joan Brogan of OEO; keynote speaker Dr. Charles Egwuagu of NEI; Diane Armstrong, OEO director; and Dr. Michael Fordis, OE director. This year 23 students, shown below with program officials, were selected to do research on campus under NIH preceptors.



SUMMER

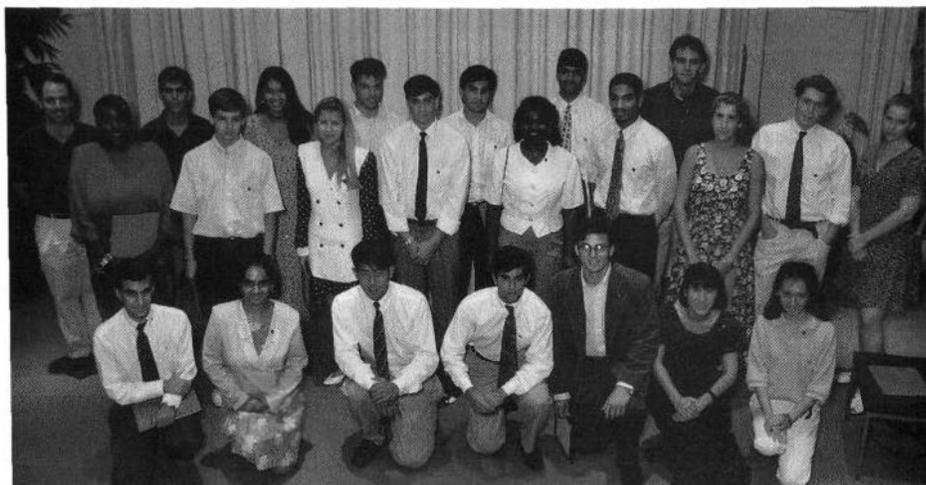
(Continued from Page 1)

doctors were eager to teach. They saw the program not only as part of their job, but also as a learning opportunity for me."

Porter, who plans to become a primary-care physician, especially enjoyed being involved in a clinical research project. "I've seen how important [our research] is to the patients [in the protocols]. And, I've been able to see how what's being done here in the lab has the potential to benefit the many people with MS," said Porter, who returned for a second year in the program to continue her MS research. "I think I've gotten a well-rounded view of what research is like."

The summer students, coming from as far away as California and Puerto Rico, represent many of the country's leading academic institutions, including NINDS grantee institutions.

Lisa Thompson, a sophomore at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, worked in the Laboratory of Neurochemistry helping to screen a mouse genomic library for the hepatic nuclear factor 3 beta gene, a transcription factor found in the liver and the brain. "I've learned lots of things. This was my first time working in a laboratory, so everything I did this summer was a completely new experience for me," said Thompson, whose hometown is Washington, D.C.



At the 9th NINDS Summer Student Awards Ceremony, 16 young scientists received the Exceptional Student Award and 15 students received letters of commendation. Awardees are (bottom row, from l) Elias Aliprandis, Priti Kaur, Daniel Chung, Ali Al-Attar, G. Anthony Reina, Seong-Hee Pak, and Giang Bach. At top are (from l) James Moore, Carolyn Lewis, Dionisio Rubi-Villa, Randall Sharp, Angie Le, Victoria Lubierman, Michael Hepfer, Steven Goldberg, Christian Romero, Lisa Thompson, Omar Khan, Michael Penn, Michael Day, Kristen Pettrone, John Carton, and Kristen Prentice.

To be included in the summer program, students are first selected by NINDS laboratory and branch chiefs who review applications, letters of recommendation and academic records. The students are then assigned to a mentor and given a project in one of the institute's laboratories or clinical branches.

Randall Sharp, a freshman at Texas A&M University, spent the summer in the NINDS Laboratory of Central Nervous System Studies studying viruses that cause equine motor neuron disease. To do this he used *in situ* polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

"This has been the most challenging project

Victoria Lubierman Studies Alzheimer's Disease

When 24-year-old Victoria Lubierman was a high school senior, she developed an interest in biology. This interest gave her the "curiosity," as she calls it, for biology-related studies. "And little by little I channeled my efforts toward medicine," she said.

Perhaps it was her curiosity about biology that brought her to NIH this summer as a participant in NINDS's Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences. One could even say that biology is what brought her to the United States in the first place. Lubierman is a native of Lima, Peru. She came to the United States almost 3 1/2 years ago to study biology at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

"This summer has been the best experience that I've ever had in my life. This is just so rich. First, just to know the city, Washington, D.C., was great," said Lubierman, who has done a lot of sightseeing, including visiting some of the area's Latin American dance clubs. "And my mind has matured on the logical level. I've learned things that I'd never heard of. Before I came here I'd never heard of patch clamping. It's just amazing for me to see that in 2 months I've learned every single step of the technique and I've already applied it and I've gotten lots of data," she said.

Lubierman's summer project was titled "Multiple Potassium Channels in Human Olfactory Neuroblasts." Potassium channels play a fundamental role in memory storage.



Working with Dr. Daniel Alkon of the NINDS neural systems section, Victoria Lubierman of the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point participated in research on a possible skin test for Alzheimer's disease.

Since memory impairment is one of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease (AD), she studied potassium channel function in cells from AD patients using the patch-clamp technique.

"The project required the knowledge of technique, data analysis, observation, and use of the computer," said Lubierman.

She spent the first 2 weeks of the program getting an introduction to the neural systems section by reading. "I think it's the best way to prepare students. You get to know the projects that are going on in the lab and what the scientists are looking for," said Lubierman.

"I think it would be bad if the scientists took a student and said 'Here is the lab and this is the technique' [without prior training]. So I think it's best to do a lot of reading first. I'm very satisfied with the way I was trained."

A senior in college who will graduate with a degree in biology in December, Lubierman has big plans for her future. "I will try to get an M.D./Ph.D. degree just because I think more doctors should be trained scientists. More doctors should be informed about the sciences at the molecular level. They should know what's going on in every cell of their patient's body," said Lubierman, who has hopes of becoming a surgeon. "But if I don't get into an M.D./Ph.D. program, I'm definitely doing research along with my M.D. That's a must!"

Although she enjoyed every aspect of her summer experience, from the people she met to the seminars she attended, Lubierman had the best time, she said, in the lab. "Being in the lab, sitting in front of the patch-clamp setup and gathering data, it was the best!"

Lubierman left most of her family in South America. Her parents now live in Venezuela and her three brothers live in Peru. She also has two sisters who live in Germany. "I have such a long career here [in the U.S.]. Most likely I will stay in the U.S. because of the technology and the political problems in my country. I'm lucky to be here."

that I've ever been associated with. I started from the ground [and went] up," said Sharp, a native of Oklahoma City, Okla. "I didn't know anything about PCR before. This has been a very good experience."

Morehouse College senior Michael Penn agrees. "I got extensive experience and I was able to work independently," said Penn, a biology major. His project this summer in the neurogenetics section involved characterization of the SCA 1 gene of Siberian kindred affected with spino-cerebellar ataxia (SCA).

SCA is a degenerative neurological disorder linked to a gene on chromosome 6. "We got a lot of DNA samples from a family in Siberia [afflicted with SCA], but not in enough quantity to sequence. So we had to amplify the DNA samples using PCR to get more DNA fragments," said Penn. He then prepared the samples for automatic DNA sequencing.

"One of the best aspects [of the program] was gaining research experience from a clinical standpoint. It makes it a lot more real when you examine a clinical problem and try to understand it from a scientific basis," said Penn, who plans to get his M.D./Ph.D. in either molecular biology or biochemistry. "It serves as the motivation factor in research for me."

Recently, NIH held the 3rd annual Poster Day, a scientific exhibition that allows students an opportunity to discuss their projects informally with peers and members of the NIH community, and to gain experience in presenting scientific results. This year, NINDS had the largest number (60) of students participating, including Porter, whose poster was titled "Lesion Evolution in MS: Tracking with MRI," and Sharp, who presented "Characterization of Cytokine Messenger RNA Expression in Equine Motor Neuron Disease."

As a part of the summer program, NINDS sponsors student lectures, seminars and workshops concerning everything from the latest in research to applying for medical school.

"NINDS's summer program not only provides the students with a summer full of research opportunity and experience, it also encourages them to pursue careers in scientific research and medicine," said Levon O. Parker, director of the program.

Although Baucum is undecided as to what his career will be, "being at NIH has helped me to realize that I prefer working with people in a clinical setting," he said. He is particularly interested in incorporating alternative medicine and holistic healing into mainstream medicine. Unlike Baucum, however, Sharp has already mapped out his future. When he graduates from Texas A&M, he is certain that he will go to graduate school and get his Ph.D. in immunology. Thompson, who is currently seeking a double degree in biology and chemistry from MIT, plans to get her M.D./Ph.D. after she graduates.

Such goals would seem overzealous for average students, but not for students partici-



Twin sisters from the Groton School were both involved in research in the NINDS summer program, but they didn't pair up on the same project. Jennifer Lipkowitz (l) worked with Dr. Evelyn Ralston to look at the lifetime of the mRNA molecules that serve as go-betweens in the process of making iron-transporting molecules. Her sister, Michelle, studied how the artificial sweetener aspartame affects the release of the neurotransmitter dopamine.

pating in the NINDS program. These goal-oriented students are seriously pursuing careers in every facet of science and medicine. Their dedication is obvious from their decisions to spend this summer molding their futures in science.

"The greatest part [of being at NIH] has been the networking. You meet people who are on the forefront of science. You can't beat the reputation of NIH," said Sharp. "The experience has been wonderful. I want to do research for the rest of my life!"

Jennifer Lipkowitz Feeds Passion for Science

Ever since she can remember, Jennifer Lipkowitz has had a passion for science.

"I've always thought that nature was really fascinating. When I was about 5 years old, I'd ask my mom questions about trees and bugs and animals," said the Harvard-bound twin whose sister also participated in the NINDS summer program. "Then in third grade, my science teacher had the class go to the pond and do little scientific experiments, which now I'm sure were nothing, but at the time I thought they were the most fantastic things in the world. And that's when I said, 'I'm going to be a scientist.'"

Lipkowitz, a College Park resident, recently graduated from Groton School, a college preparatory boarding school in Massachusetts. At Harvard, she plans to do a joint-concentration in psychology and biology. Upon graduating from Harvard, she hopes to enter an M.D./Ph.D. program.

Although she is sure she will be a scientist, her mind, she says, "changes every day," as to what kind of scientist she will be. "There are so many things in biology to concentrate on." Her latest interest is developmental biology, which she chose after viewing a movie on cell division and differentiation. "The idea that all cells have the DNA to be anything, but that they only turn into one thing is the most fascinating thing in the world," she said with enough energy and excitement to entice even a nonscientist into cell biology.

"I fear that I'm going to go to college and that there will be so many interesting things to study, like psychobiology or cell biology or even something else, like organic chemistry, that I haven't even experienced yet," she said.

"But I'm not going to keep switching majors like one of those crazy people your parents warn you about, who never graduate. I'm just very excited to go to college."

Lipkowitz was equally excited to come to NIH as part of NINDS's Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences this year and be able to do "real" experiments, as she described.

"There are a lot of different variables in an experiment which I knew already," she said. "However, in school when you're given an experiment to do from a lab book, it's totally spelled out for you, it's been done a million times and there aren't any variables that haven't been planned into the experiment, so it's basically done for you. But in doing a real experiment, I didn't realize how much goes into actually perfecting the techniques before you can get any results. It takes a lot of time. The attention to detail in even the simplest procedure is staggering."

Her summer project was titled "Measuring mRNA Lifetime by PCR." Although she enjoyed working on the actual project, according to Lipkowitz, she gained the most knowledge from talking with other scientists.

"You feel like a pest," she admitted, "but the scientists don't think you're a pest. The scientists I found loved to talk about their work, which is really exciting. I found out about things that I'd never thought were imaginable."

Lipkowitz's fraternal twin sister, Michelle, worked this summer in the Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology. She will also be a Harvard freshman and plans to go to medical school with an interest in the field of neurology.

NEI's Cogan Honored for Lifetime Achievements

Dr. David Cogan, senior medical officer at the National Eye Institute, was honored recently by the Frank B. Walsh Society for his lifelong contributions and accomplishments in neuro-ophthalmology, a medical subspecialty that he helped to popularize in the United States.

The Frank B. Walsh Society sponsors an annual symposium for neuro-ophthalmologists devoted to the presentation of unusual clinical cases with pathologic disease confirmation.

Cogan received his A.B. from Dartmouth College in 1928 and his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1932. After serving a residency at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, he was named an associate professor at Harvard Medical School in 1943.

He remained for the next 30 years in Boston as director at the Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology, a laboratory that he helped to make famous. During this time, Cogan was named a professor of ophthalmology and served as head of the department of ophthalmology at Harvard (1962-1968).

While there, he earned a reputation as one of the nation's most prolific and influential vision researchers. Today, scientists still cite his seminal investigations on the physiology of the cornea, the histopathology of diabetic retinopathy, and the neurobiology of vision.

In 1973, when Cogan came to NEI to serve as chief of its neuro-ophthalmology section, he stood as one of the world's premier scientists in the burgeoning field of neuro-ophthalmology.



Dr. David Cogan

Indeed, his textbooks *Neurology of the Visual System* and *Neurology of Eye Movement* remain classic reference works.

"In our age, it is unusual to have such a gifted scientist as Dr. Cogan," said Dr. David L. Knox, cofounder of the Frank B. Walsh Society and associate professor of ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins. "He possesses detailed knowledge of many disciplines, and is considered an authority in all of them."

As a token of their appreciation, the organizers of the Walsh Society presented Cogan with a glass apple (signifying the group's 1993 New York meeting site), which bears the inscription: "To David G. Cogan, M.D., Mentor, Friend." □

Chow Named to Council On Foreign Relations

Dr. Jack C. Chow, assistant director for international relations and chief of the International Coordination and Liaison Branch, FIC, was recently elected to a 5-year term as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Based in New York, the council is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting better understanding of United States foreign policy. Its membership is comprised of foreign policy professionals as well as major public and industry leaders, including President Clinton and Secretary Shalala.

Chow was elected under a special program identifying young professionals whose background and achievements hold "exceptional promise in contributing towards American foreign policy." He was co-nominated by Dr. Allan Bromley, former presidential science advisor, and by Ambassador Samuel Lewis, director of policy planning at the U.S. Department of State.

"I am honored to be elected to membership at the council," Chow said. "It is a unique opportunity to advance medicine and biomedical research as an important element of American foreign policy." He added, "With the end of the cold war, health is fast becoming a defining issue in international security. Averting global health threats such as cholera, tuberculosis and AIDS will be a major role for me at both FIC and the council."

Chow, 32, joined FIC in April after serving as deputy assistant secretary for public health policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health, HHS. He previously served as deputy assistant secretary for health legislation at HHS and was a senior policy analyst at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He was also a staff member of the House appropriations committee, subcommittee on labor, HHS and education.

He received his B.A. in political science from the University of Pennsylvania, his M.S. in health policy from the University of California at Berkeley, and his M.D. from the University of California at San Francisco. Chow was a resident in diagnostic radiology at Stanford University Hospital. □

Symposium on Development, Oct. 15 in Frederick, Md.

A mini-symposium entitled "From *Arabidopsis* to Zebrafish: Molecular Approaches to Development," will be held at Hood College in Frederick, Md., on Friday, Oct. 15, sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Cancer Studies, Inc.

Speakers include Judith S. Eisen, Elliot Meyerowitz, Austin Newton, Janet Rossant, Paul Sternberg, Kai Zinn and Jim Smith. Registration is \$35, which includes lunch and refreshments. Deadline is Oct. 1. For more information call symposium coordinator Patti Hall, (410) 658-2882. □



The most recent "class" of interns from the second-year NIAID/Dunbar High School Partnership "graduated" this summer after working in laboratories in NIAID's Division of Intramural Research and in extramural offices. As the students enter colleges and universities throughout the nation, NIAID will track their progress as they pursue careers in science, engineering, computer science and business. During the past year, NIAID has offered students of Dunbar High in Washington, D.C., lectures, tours of NIH, tutorial matching, library resources and faculty enrichment. In the future, these students will be eligible for NIAID's Introduction to Biomedical Research, a program designed to acquaint academically talented college minority students with career opportunities in this broad field. Pictured with Vincent A. Thomas, Jr. (r), acting NIAID EEO manager, are: (front row, from l) Yvonne Hefley, NIAID EEO specialist, and Tashika Smith; second row (from l): Jancelynne McCombs, Lakeisha Johnson, and Sharae Davis; and top row (from l): Ladrian Ingram, EEO office secretary, Reggie Beason, Robyn Williams, and Donna Polite. Not pictured are Ann Poge and Robert Young.

NCI Plans Innovative Linkage of AIDS, Cancer Registries

By Natalie Larsen

Vital studies of the relationship between AIDS and cancer have long been impeded by patient confidentiality issues and the practice of keeping data about the diseases in separate registries. To solve these problems, NCI's Viral Epidemiology Branch is now planning an innovative system for cross-matching AIDS and cancer registries in a way that will extract valuable registry information without endangering patient privacy.

The new plan calls for using a computer system to compare information collected by AIDS surveillance registries and cancer registries in 15 states and metropolitan areas with a high incidence of the AIDS virus. Taken together, these areas account for about 75 percent of nationally reported AIDS cases. The researchers plan two full-scale registry

linkages, to be conducted in 1994 and 1999.

The project will, for the first time, allow a large amount of clinical information from AIDS and cancer registries to be linked, said Dr. William Blattner, chief of the Viral Epidemiology



Dr. William Blattner

Branch. Given a substantial amount of information, scientists should be able to better define the impact of the AIDS epidemic on cancer occurrence.

The linked data will help determine exactly which tumors are related to AIDS, and how AIDS influences cancer incidence. At the current time, Kaposi's sarcoma and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma are widely recognized as AIDS-associated cancers.

Some investigators have postulated that AIDS may also be related to Hodgkin's disease, cervical cancer, and a range of other malignancies, but study of these associations has been limited in the past by a small number of patients. By linking large numbers of cases, the new match registry will help determine the strength of the associations between AIDS and these cancers.

The problem is that, given the large number of people with AIDS, a certain number of cancers are expected, explained Dr. Tim Coté of NCI's viral studies section, who is the primary investigator for the project. The critical question to answer is which cancers occur in excess among AIDS patients. "The only way to assess that is to look at a large number of cases," he noted.

Security of the data was the most difficult element of planning the linkage activity, Coté said. Obtaining permission to match the registries "required a lot of negotiating with state and local health departments, a lot of trust on their part, and a lot of innovative mecha-

nisms to ensure that the data would remain confidential."

To overcome the security concerns, Coté and his colleagues designed a double-blind matching technique to be conducted entirely at the state or local level. Activities will be carried out in accordance with all regional data management policies, after approval from NCI and a regional institutional review board. All personal identification information will continue to reside at the local registries and will not be part of the national registry.

The double-blind protocol relies on officials from the AIDS and the cancer registries at each site, who separately prepare match-compatible files with the information needed for linking. A stand-alone personal computer then matches the information.

One potential complication is that the personal computer used in the project can handle only a small amount of information, just enough to link the registry data. This means that, after the matched lists are generated,

officials must go back to their registries to retrieve other information about the people who matched.

To prevent these officials from finding out who's in the other registry, the computer is designed to spike the list with a number of incorrect "dummy" matches from the officials' own registry. After all the necessary information is compiled, and the registry officials are no longer involved, the computer can strip off the false matches, leaving only the true information. This process gives the system a high degree of precision for matching, but also a fail-safe mechanism to protect the confidentiality of all parties.

Another complication came from first names that are frequently abbreviated or nicknamed, such as Robert and William. While a human might know that Robert is the same person as Bob, a computer won't recognize them as the same without a name thesaurus, explained Coté.

To overcome this problem, the researchers eventually found a baby-naming program which had full names as well as related nicknames together in a database. The program was marketed by Cliff-Notes, Inc., which agreed to let the researchers use it.

The strength of the collected data is expected to grow in direct proportion to the AIDS epidemic. "The number of person-years of observation by the registry will dramatically increase as we go out in time," said Coté. "There should be a lot of new information on the interaction of the two diseases as we go

along."

The linking activities will only be conducted twice under the current plan, but the project will require a great deal of analysis and data-cleaning in the interim, said Coté. He added that a system to connect data more regularly is not possible at present.

Finding out if AIDS patients are at increased risk of specific cancers will be useful in several ways, said Coté. Because people with AIDS are missing a specific part of their immune system, this knowledge can help scientists understand the immune system's role in cancer etiology and prevention. It will also improve monitoring and treatment of people with AIDS, because physicians will know when to suspect cancer and will be prepared to treat it in the early stages.

Linking the registries will also help monitor trends and project the number of cancer cases expected among persons with AIDS. By detecting cancer cases and AIDS cases currently known to only one kind of registry, the project can also help state and local health departments, which maintain the AIDS and cancer registries, improve their surveillance.

"From a local perspective, it's useful to link these two things together and get a handle on how complete their databases are," Coté said.

A pilot study of the project has been completed and results will be published soon. □



Dr. Tim Coté

Chen Joins DRG as SRA

Dr. Priscilla Chen has joined the Division of Research Grants' Referral and Review Branch as the new scientific review administrator of the oral biology and medicine 2 study section.

Before coming to NIH, she was a clinical associate professor in the department of oral biology at the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Chen received her B.Sc. from Haile Selassie I University in Ethiopia in 1964, and her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1972. She was then a National Research Council postdoctoral research associate at the Naval Medical Research Institute from 1972 to 1974, conducting research on cell-mediated immunity and parasitology.

After completing her postdoctoral training, she was an immunologist at Litton Bionetics in Kensington, Md. From 1976 to 1992, she continued her career at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Chen, a past recipient of NIH research grant support, served as a member of the NIDR special grants review committee from 1988 to 1992. She is a member of the American Society for Microbiology, the American Association of Immunologists, the Society for Leukocyte Biology, the New York Academy of Sciences, and the International and American Association for Dental Research. She has written and published more than 50 scientific articles and abstracts on immunology and dental research. □

The NIH Life Sciences Education Connection

Anyone (scientists, adopt-a-school coordinators) who plans to conduct DNA and bacterial manipulation in precollege classrooms may want to check out a new publication by the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT). *Working with DNA & Bacteria in Precollege Classrooms*, designed to assist the teacher who already has training in working with microbes, DNA and associated chemicals, provides a practical set of classroom guidelines that allows students to gain an appreciation of how scientists work with DNA in the laboratory. The colorful 22-page guidelines are similar to the Good Laboratory Safety Practices used by research scientists and are in accordance with NIH's Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules.

Author Dr. Toby Mogollon Horn, a former staff fellow at NIH, has worked with safety experts from across the nation, lab researchers and science supervisors to develop this practical safety guide for teachers and



students who work with DNA and host organisms. The guidelines include information on: permitted DNA molecules, vectors and recommended host organisms for constructing recombinant DNA; procedures for preparing materials and assuring a safe classroom work area; proper storage requirements for DNA and related materials; standard microbiological practices and aseptic techniques; proper handling of hazardous chemicals and DNA stains; and discussion of cleanup and disposal of lab

materials.

The publication can be purchased by calling NABT, (703) 471-1134, or by writing them at 11250 Roger Bacon Dr. #19, Reston, VA 22090. The publication costs \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Other publications are also available from NABT. Anyone wishing to see this new publication before making a purchase can contact the Office of Science Education Policy, 22469.



Dorrette Worrell was recently named chief, research documentation section, Information Systems Branch, DRG. Previously, she served as head of the statistical analysis unit in the same branch. Worrell manages the Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects (CRISP) system, which contains information on the research programs supported by PHS. The CRISP system is used to conduct information searches and to generate the Biomedical Index to PHS-Supported Research, the Intramural Research Index to NIH and FDA Projects, and the CRISP Thesaurus.

OD EEO Committee Marks Progress in 1993

1993 was a banner year for the Office of the Director equal employment opportunity advisory committee under the leadership of Sue Ohata, OER, who has chaired the committee for the last 2 years. Dr. Jay Moskowitz, senior staff advisor to the committee, attended a recent meeting where the committee presented an award to Ohata in appreciation for her leadership efforts.

Among the committee's achievements was the organization of a series of focus group sessions for managers and supervisors to discuss concerns about the mandatory EEO critical element in their performance plans. A report generated from these sessions identified seven recommendations aimed at reducing apprehensions in fulfilling the EEO element, providing

training, and implementing an annual recruitment plan.

The committee also arranged lunch-time information sessions using topics identified through a survey sent to OD staff. The sessions dealt with issues ranging from personnel information (KSAs and getting the most out of a performance appraisal), to time management, to communication and team work, to dealing with difficult people.

Another highlight of the committee's activities was the establishment of a Career Opportunities Training Agreement (COTA) position within the Division of Financial Management.

Later this year, a focus group of OD staff will be organized to discuss the special needs of



Sue Ohata

disabled employees. The group will identify workplace problems of disabled employees that need to be addressed by both employees and supervisors.

Under the direction of the new chair—Molly Eng, DP—and cochair—Joyce Rogers, DFM—the committee will develop and implement a new work plan to respond to some of the pressing EEO issues. □

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Program Holds Planning Meeting

The first planning meeting of the NIH Asian/Pacific Islander American cultural committee will be held in October 1993 to plan for next year's Heritage Month activities to be held on May 13, 1994. All interested NIH staff are welcome to participate as members. Call Delia Flores Mahjoob, 66301, for more information. □



Members of the OD EEO advisory committee for 1993-1994 include (front, from l) Prahlad Mathur, Ellen Schildkamp, Molly Eng, Michael Fordis, Hilda Dixon. In middle row are (from l) Mary Okwaro, Irene Peyton, Wanda Faux, Joyce Rogers, Jay Moskowitz, Carmen Holmes, Ana Kennedy. At top are (from l) Cecelia Morales, Peggy Kinsella, Jane Daye, Brian Harper, Randy Burke, Jean Makle, Kristin Kiser, David Hubbard II, Kevin Yeargins.

NIA Survey Sketches Portrait of Aging America

By Vicky Cahan

Millions of Americans in their fifties face an uncertain future, lacking health insurance or pensions, or fearing that they will lose the benefits they do have. Almost half of the people nearing retirement believe there is some likelihood that they could be laid off permanently during the next year, and that their chances of landing a new job are 50-50 or less. There is general frustration with the retirement process as well. Nearly three-quarters of older workers would prefer to retire gradually, phasing down from full-time to part-time work instead of retiring abruptly as many are now forced to do. About 20 percent have a health condition that limits their ability to work.

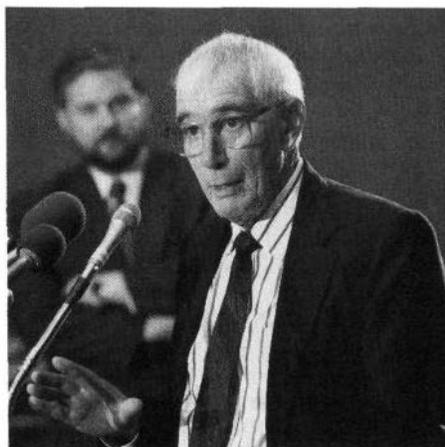
These issues of work flexibility, disability, and job and benefits security are important to Americans nearing retirement, according to initial findings from a new and sweeping national survey supported by NIA. Preliminary results from the study were presented recently at a press conference on Capitol Hill by NIA and the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research (ISR), which is conducting the research. The event was hosted by the Alliance for Aging Research and featured remarks by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), chairman of the Senate appropriations subcommittee for the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services and other agencies.

This emerging portrait of Americans ages 51 through 61 and their spouses comes from NIA's Health and Retirement Study (HRS), one of the largest and most innovative longitudinal studies ever undertaken to better understand how people fare as they age. The HRS was started in 1990 to address two critical social phenomena—the retirement of the “baby boom” generation and the aging of society generally. Data from the survey are expected to be widely used by researchers and policymakers looking at health care and pension reform.

“People nearing retirement are mostly in pretty good shape physically, mentally, and economically,” according to study director Dr. F. Thomas Juster, a senior research scientist with ISR's Survey Research Center and professor of economics at Michigan. “But behind the averages are large proportions of people—ill or disabled, without pensions, insurance, or assets, or lacking family support—who may be robbed of a satisfying and successful retirement.”

Key findings from the survey show:

- About two-thirds of HRS respondents report themselves to be in excellent or very good health; but significant numbers are disabled. Among people who are not working, the most common reason for leaving the last job was poor health or disability. This group cites twice as many serious health problems as people staying at work, and at least four times the prevalence of a heart condition, chronic lung disease, or stroke. About 26 percent of currently disabled workers say employers accommodate their disability.



Dr. F. Thomas Juster, senior research scientist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, outlines results of NIA's Health and Retirement Study at a recent media briefing on Capitol Hill.

- About one in seven HRS respondents is not covered by any kind of health insurance. Noncoverage is substantially higher among Black and especially Hispanic households.
- Job flexibility and security are critical. Almost three-quarters of the people surveyed would prefer to phase down from full-time work to part-time work when they retire, in sharp contrast to what actually happens, where most people leave the workforce entirely. About one-third of the people who are staying put wouldn't look for another job, saying they are unable to leave because they might have to give up valuable pensions and health insurance benefits if they switched employers.

“These early results paint a picture of Americans who are concerned and busy today, and who want to stay active and engaged,” says Dr. Gene D. Cohen, deputy NIA director. “As they enter late life, people are telling us they want to participate fully for as long as they can. We may want to look at expanding opportunities for them as the entire society ages.”

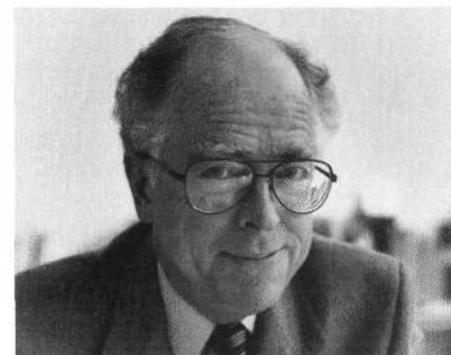
In addition to financial and health factors, the HRS also looks at how family needs and obligations affect the decision to retire. About 70 percent of married couples are part of four-generation families, and many people in the survey help out both children and parents. For example, many grandparents, mostly grandmothers, provide more than 100 hours of child care per year. About one-third of those with parents have older, frail parents requiring personal care or supervision, and people in their fifties are often joined by their brothers and sisters in providing money and time to parents in need.

These and other findings are from the first wave of the HRS, in which nearly 13,000 randomly sampled people were interviewed over the past year. Almost 70,000 households were screened to identify the HRS sample. The interviews averaged more than 90 minutes with principal participants, somewhat less with their

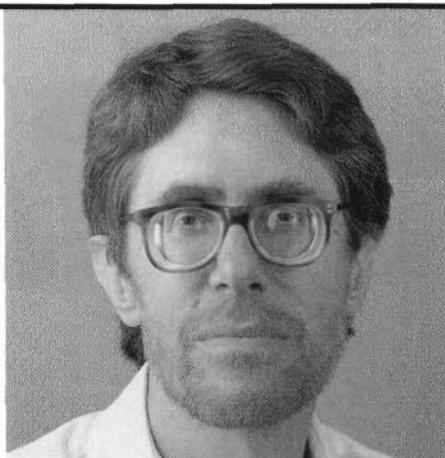
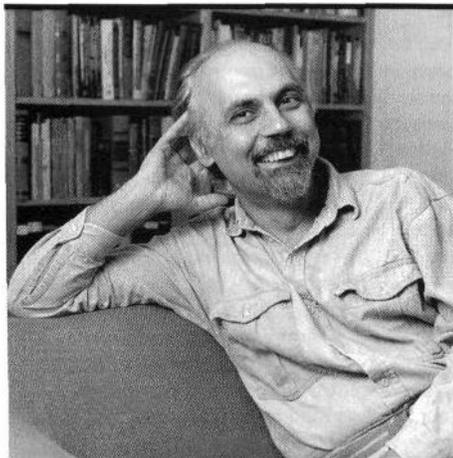
spouses. People were asked questions about their current job and earnings; work history; assets and debts; pension programs; health conditions, including mental health and alcohol-related problems; health insurance; disability; family structure and family responsibilities; housing; and expectations about the future. The study has many innovative features, including cognitive and physical performance tests, experimental units, and detailed mapping of family structure and flows of time and money between generations. In order to get critical information on minorities, the survey oversampled Blacks and Hispanics. A special sample also was taken in Florida because of its high concentration of older people.

NIA plans to continue the study for the next 12 years. “These early results are just the tip of the iceberg, and we are now beginning to move into more sophisticated analyses and modeling,” says Dr. Richard Suzman, chief of demography and population epidemiology at NIA. “As we follow people into retirement, we will generate an astounding amount of high-quality data that researchers and policymakers have needed for years, since the last national retirement survey ended in 1979.”

A new study piggy-backing on the HRS screening effort will be launched next month. The study, called AHEAD, will look at the lives of the oldest Americans, especially those over age 85. Even though the “oldest old” represent the fastest growing segment of the population, there is very little information about them. □



Dr. John E. Casida, an NIEHS grantee since its establishment in 1966 and 30-year faculty member at the University of California at Berkeley, recently received the international Wolf Foundation Prize for Agriculture. In presenting the award, the foundation noted that Casida's research serves as the basis for evaluation of established pesticides and for rational design and use of safer and more effective replacements. He has pioneered research on almost all the major insecticides and synergists and is responsible for much of the basic knowledge on their mode of action and metabolism. Casida is professor of entomology and director of UCB's pesticide chemistry and toxicology laboratory. The Wolf Foundation was established by inventor, philanthropist, and diplomat Ricardo Wolf to promote science and art for the benefit of mankind, and the first prizes were awarded in 1978.



Two NIGMS grantees were among 146 artists, scholars, and scientists who received the Guggenheim Award from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Dr. Olke Uhlenbeck (r), a professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of Colorado at Boulder, was honored for his work focusing on RNA splicing. Dr. Fotis Kafatos, a professor of biology at Harvard University and the University of Crete, was honored for his research on regulatory genes. The Guggenheim awards are given to those who exhibit "unusually distinguished achievement in the past, and exceptional promise for future accomplishment."

NIDA Opens New ARC Clinic In Baltimore; Adds Space

Illustrating its commitment to improving the effectiveness of drug abuse treatment, NIDA has opened a new clinical treatment research facility in a remodeled wing of the institute's Addiction Research Center (ARC) in Baltimore. With a capacity of 80 outpatients, the Archway Clinic greatly expands NIDA's ability to conduct clinical research on promising new therapies for cocaine and opioid abuse.

"The step that is being taken here today is very important in terms of NIDA fulfilling its mission," said Dr. Roy Pickens, ARC scientific director, at the opening of the clinic. With a focus on cocaine and opioid abuse, the modern treatment facility "will provide new knowledge that will help us to develop better treatments for drug abuse," he said.

In addition to enhancing ARC's treatment research capability, the new clinic will be a valuable resource for Baltimore treatment programs, added Pickens. At any one time, Archway will provide free medical and drug abuse treatment for 80 patients from the surrounding area who take part in the clinic's studies. In addition, area treatment practitioners will be able to come to the clinic and learn the latest treatment approaches to take back to their own treatment programs.

"The clinic will study both behavioral and pharmacological approaches to treating heroin- and cocaine-addicted patients," said Dr. Kenzie Preston of the Treatment Research Branch, who is in charge of expanding ARC's outpatient treatment research program. Under Preston's direction, the clinic has already started enrolling patients in several studies.

"The studies conducted at the clinic should shorten the lag that often exists between the discovery of promising treatment techniques and their application in standard clinical practice," said Dr. Robert Brooner of the Francis Scott Key Medical Center in Baltimore, which operates a large methadone maintenance program adjacent to Archway. □

Chinese Delegation Visits Division of Research Grants

The Division of Research Grants recently hosted scientists and administrators from the Chinese Ministry of Public Health and top medical universities of the People's Republic of China. Visiting DRG as well as other NIH components recently, the delegation came for an orientation program on American health science administration.

In their intensive 8-week study, the Chinese delegation received detailed information on the Public Health Service grants and contracts process, NIH information management and peer review systems (including the receipt, referral, and review of grant applications), technology transfer programs, program planning and evaluation, and strategic planning. The orientation program was designed by Dr. Jerome Green, DRG director, with assistance from Dr. Clark Lum, scientific review administrator with DRG's Referral and Review Branch. Tours of NIH research and administrative facilities were conducted, and more than 45 NIH experts in health science administration gave presentations. Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, acting NIH director, opened the program with an overview presentation on NIH and PHS.

The visitors were from several cities in the People's Republic of China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Hunan, Shenyang, and Changsha. They hope to use the knowledge gained here to improve their own biomedical research grant review system when they return to their country.

Dr. Zhifu Xue, director, division of science and technology planning, Ministry of Public Health, said, "NIH is seen as the top [forerunner] of medical research by the international biomedical research community," and that the Chinese hope to model some of their biomedical research system on the one used at NIH. As the administrator for grants management in

clinical sciences in the Chinese Ministry of Public Health (roughly equivalent to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), Xue will undoubtedly be influential in instituting changes.

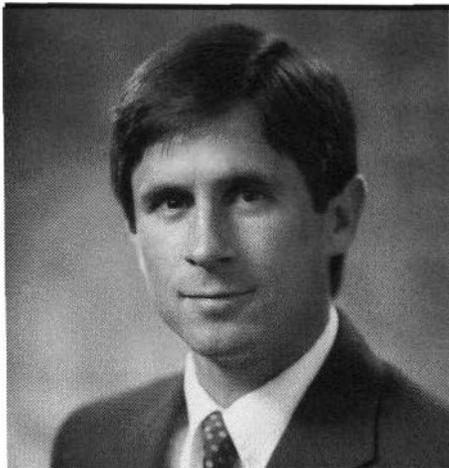
Many of the visitors voiced particular interest in the computer systems and data processing techniques used at NIH. The Chinese have limited technological resources, and their computer systems lack the networking capabilities available here.

While in the area, the group also visited the National Science Foundation and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

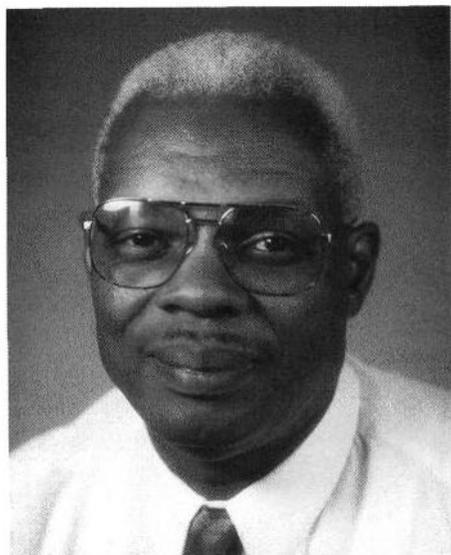
The visitors enthusiastically suggested the possibility of negotiating a program for communication and information exchange between the People's Republic of China and NIH in the near future. They hope to continue sending representatives to the U.S., and would welcome visitors from NIH to their country.



Visitors from the People's Republic of China are shown here with some of their NIH hosts: Dr. Jerome Green, DRG director (seated, 3rd from l); Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (seated, second from r), acting NIH director; and Dr. Clark Lum, DRG (standing, far r).



Dr. John C. Donovan, director of the Office of Laboratory Animal Science, NCI, has been elected president-elect of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. He recently assumed office and will become president of the organization next year. The American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine is a specialty board recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Membership consists of more than 450 specialists in the field of laboratory animal medicine. Donovan received his D.V.M. degree from Ohio State University in 1977. He was certified as a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine in 1983.

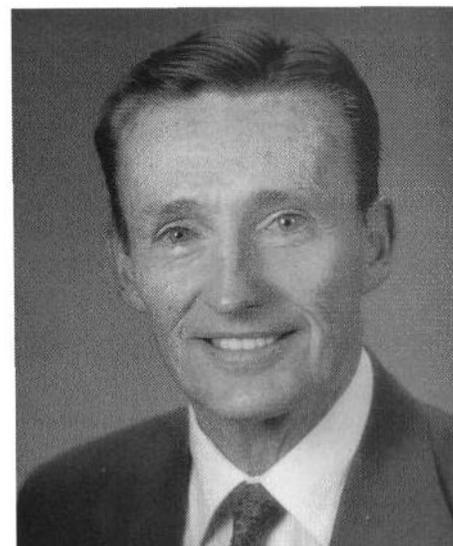


Levon O. Parker, NINDS EEO officer, was recently the keynote speaker at the 11th annual Hinton-Wright Lecture. The lecture, titled, "Diversity in Clinical and Basic Research," was sponsored by the Hinton-Wright Society of Harvard Medical School in Boston. The society was created in 1983 to foster greater scientific discourse among minority faculty and students at the school. Parker was chosen as this year's lecturer in recognition of his extraordinary efforts to increase the number of African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans in basic and clinical neurological science research. In addition to his duties as EEO officer, Parker is also nationally recognized as director of the NINDS Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences.



Minister Seiichiro Noboru (front row, r) of the Embassy of Japan and Ambassador Elinor Constable (front row, c) of the U.S. Department of State welcome delegates to the NIAID-sponsored 29th annual meeting of the U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program held recently at NIH: (front row, from l) Dr. Wataru Mori, Dr. Charles Carpenter (U.S. delegation chair), Ambassador Constable, Dr. Tadao Shimao (Japanese delegation chair), Minister Noboru; (second row, from l) Dr. Edward Hook, Jr., Dr. Richard Krause, Dr. Theodore Woodward, Dr. Yoshifumi Takeda, Dr. Hiroo Imura, Dr. Fumimaro Takaku, Dr. Akira Oya, (top row, from l) Dr. Barry Bloom, Dr. Robert Shope, Dr. Donald Whedon, Dr. David Rall. The program, organized in 1965 as a joint venture between the United States and Japan, provides an opportunity for scientists from the two countries to cooperate in studying 10 disease-related areas important to the health of the peoples of Southeast Asia.

During the recent annual conference of the National Grants Management Association, Leo F. Buscher, Jr., NCI grants management officer, was presented with the association's highest award, the Robert Newton Lifetime Achievement Award for his "strong record of achievements in grants management." The award was established in 1990 to recognize exceptional and sustained contributions and initiatives leading to lasting improvements in the practices or understanding of grants management. The NGMA is an organization of professionals responsible for the administration of assistance programs. This includes federal, state, and local government officials, representatives of colleges and universities, private foundations and others.



NIGMS recently held its annual awards ceremony honoring employees for their outstanding contributions throughout the year. This year's Award of Merit recipients are (from l) Toni Holland, grants management; Lucy Clarke, grants management; and Johnnie Smith, Pharmacology and Biorelated Chemistry Program Branch. Dr. Marvin Cassman, NIGMS acting director (r), presented the awards.

Test Your Cholesterol During National Cholesterol Education Month

To celebrate September as National Cholesterol Education Month, NHLBI and the Occupational Medical Service, in cooperation with the R&W and Guest Services, Inc., are once again sponsoring cholesterol screenings.

However, this year for the first time, the test will be a fasting lipoprotein profile. Requested by NIH employees, this test gives more information than the measurement offered in prior years. The lipoprotein profile provides information on the levels of total, HDL-, and LDL-cholesterol, and triglycerides. To be accurate, the profile requires that you have nothing to eat or drink (except water) for at least 9 hours before having the test.

The test costs \$11.50, which will be collected at the testing site. The test schedule and locations are given below.

What do the measurements mean? The National Cholesterol Education Program recently issued new guidelines, the Second Report of the Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults, which tells how total, HDL-, and LDL-cholesterol levels can help assess your risk of coronary heart disease (CHD).

According to the guidelines, your total cholesterol is desirable if < 200 mg/dL, borderline-high at 200-239 mg/dL, and high at ≥ 240 mg/dL.

The guidelines also identify a low HDL-cholesterol (<35 mg/dL) as a major risk factor for CHD. Conversely, a high HDL-cholesterol (≥60 mg/dL) appears to offer some protection against CHD.

LDL-cholesterol provides key information about your risk of heart disease and can help your doctor decide on any necessary treatment.

If you haven't yet checked your cholesterol levels, this could be a great way to do so. If you already know your total and HDL-cholesterol levels, you should find out your LDL-cholesterol if you:

- 1) HDL is less than 35 mg/dL, or
- 2) Total cholesterol is 200-239 mg/dL AND you have two or more of the following risk factors for heart disease—
 - are a male ≥ 45 years or a female ≥ 55 years or have premature menopause without estrogen replacement therapy
 - a family history of early heart disease
 - currently smoke cigarettes
 - have high blood pressure

- have diabetes

(As noted, a high HDL-cholesterol level gives some protection against CHD, so if you have an HDL ≥ 60 mg/dL, subtract a risk factor from your total number of risk factors.)

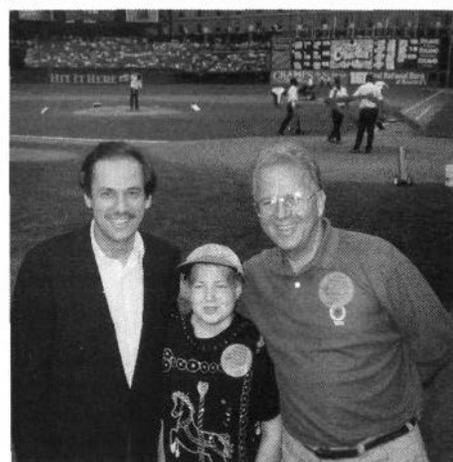
OR

- 3) Total cholesterol is 240 mg/dL or above.

So roll up your sleeve, get your cholesterol levels checked, and don't forget to stop by the NIH cafeterias to try some of the new heart-healthy menu items that will be offered throughout the month. By eating foods lower in saturated fat and cholesterol, you'll help lower your blood cholesterol level—reducing your risk of CHD.

Cholesterol Screening Schedule

Day/Date	Location	Time
September		
Tuesday, 14	Bldg. 10/Rm. 6C306	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 15	Bldg. 13/Rm. G904	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, 16	EPN/Rm. 103	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Friday, 17	WW/Rm. 11	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 21	Bldg. 10/Rm. 6C306	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 22	Bldg. 31/Rm. B2B57	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, 23	Fed/Rm. 10B08	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Friday, 24	Bldg. 38/Rm. B1E08 Billings Auditorium	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Monday, 27	Fitness Center/Bldg. 31 C wing B4 level	7-9 a.m.
Tuesday, 28	Bldg. 10/Rm. 6C306	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 29	Bldg. 13/Rm. G904	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, 30	EPN/Rm. 103	8:30-11:30 a.m.
October		
Friday, 1	WW/Rm. 11	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 5	Bldg. 10/Rm. 6C306	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 6	Bldg. 31/Rm. B2B57	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, 7	Fed/Rm. 10B08	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Friday, 8	Bldg. 38/Rm. B1E08 Billings Auditorium	8:30-11:30 a.m.



Larry Lucchino (l), president of the Baltimore Orioles, greets Jamie Peoples, a Camp Fantastic participant, and Randy Schools, NIH-NOAA R&W general manager, at the recent Camp Fantastic Night at Camden Yards. Some 1,200 NIH'ers and representatives of camp sponsor Special Love, Inc., were on hand for a pregame bullpen party. Peoples received a "Heavy Hitter" award from the Orioles and threw out the game's first ball.

Chamber Players Concerts Set

The Rock Creek Chamber Players, under the direction of pianist Carl Banner, an NIA scientist, will perform a series of free Sunday afternoon concerts in the 14th floor assembly hall in Bldg. 10. All concerts begin at 3 p.m. and are open to the public.

The first performance will be on Sept. 26 and includes a Mozart quartet for oboe and strings, Prokofiev quintet, Loeffler rhapsodies and Brahms sonata #2.

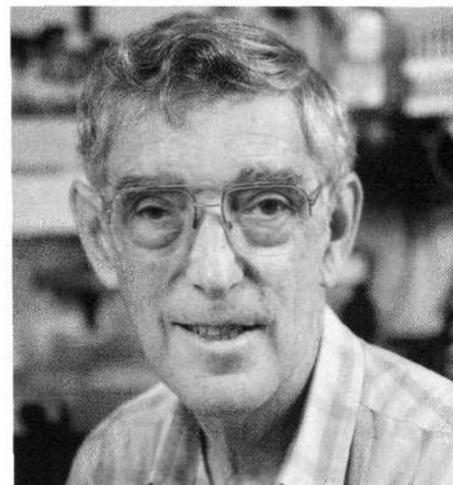
On Oct. 17, the players will perform a Mozart quintet, Copland duo and Hummel piano quintet.

The Nov. 21 concert features Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #4, Boykan's "Echoes of Petrarch" trio, and a Dvorak piano quintet.

On Dec. 19, the lineup includes C.P.E. Bach quartet, Harbison duo, Schoenberg quintet, and Schumann piano quartet.

The final performance, on Jan. 23, 1994, includes Bach trio sonata, Martinu sonata and Schubert "Trout" quintet.

The series is sponsored by the CC recreation therapy section. For more information call Banner, 69350. □



Well-known biochemist Dr. Bruce Ames, from the University of California, Berkeley, will present the Florence Mahoney Lecture on Aging for 1993 entitled "Oxidants, Antioxidants and the Degenerative Diseases of Aging." Sponsored by NIA, the lecture will take place Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 3:30 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. NIH employees are invited to attend.