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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

"Still The Second Best Thing About Payday"

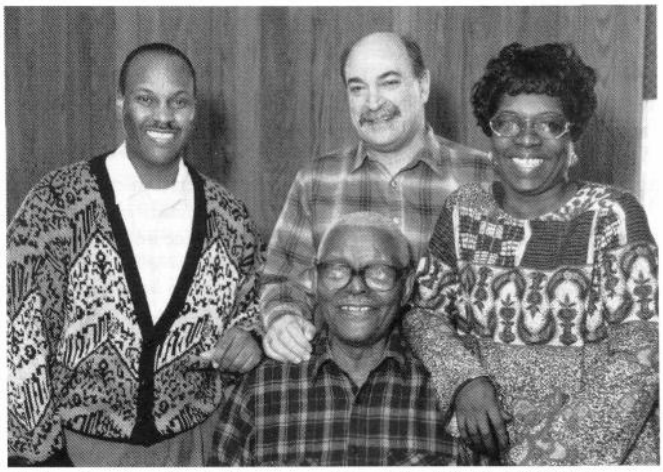
The NIH Record

Breakfast with Roskey

NIH's 'Iron Man' Marks 65th Year of Service

By Carla Garnett

Sitting around a Bldg. 1 cafeteria table at about 7:30 on a recent Friday morning, Roskey Jennings, who'd just finished a week of night shifts, remembered something humorous that former NIH director Dr. James Shannon once said jokingly to him: "He said, 'Roscoe, you go outside and hang over the side of the front rail. And you just stay there. And if anyone says anything to you about it, you tell them, this building is just as much yours as it is mine. Your name ought to go right along side mine.'"



Roskey Jennings (seated), who on Mar. 25 celebrated his 65th year of working at NIH, shares most weekday mornings with other members of Bldg. 1's "Kitchen Cabinet" (from l) Kevin Yeargins, Al Gam and Gerry Carter.

Since Bldg. 1 was renamed in honor of Shannon in 1983, that quote has to be at least 12 years old. It's probably not even remarkable to recall the story, except that Jennings can remember NIH tales lots farther back than that. He can remember when he used to chat frequently with Shannon—when Shannon was director during NIH's golden days from 1955 to 1968, about

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NINDS' Patricia Grady To Lead Nursing Institute

By Linda Cook

Following an extensive nationwide search, NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus found his new director of the National Institute of Nursing Research close to home—at NIH's neurology institute, NINDS. She is Dr. Patricia A. Grady, currently the NINDS deputy director and last year the institute's acting director. Grady, who succeeds Dr. Ada Sue Hinshaw, the first director of NINR, is expected to assume her new role on Apr. 3.

Dr. Patricia Grady

In naming Grady, Varmus said, "We are fortunate that she will head our newest institute during its all-important formative years. Her credentials as a nurse academician, clinician, and researcher, and her experience in conducting and managing

(See GRADY, Page 4)

Switching Hib Vaccines Safe, May Improve Use

By Laurie K. Doepel

Using *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccines made by different companies during an infant's primary series of shots is safe, effective, and may even boost protection against this bacterial cause of meningitis, according to a study reported in the Mar. 15 *Journal of the American Medical Association.*

The multicenter trial was conducted at three Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units (VTEUs) supported by NIAID.

Infants in the study who received two different Hib vaccines had antibody concentrations that equaled or exceeded those produced by using either product alone.

"This study suggests that we may be able to capture the best characteristics of different Hib vaccines by giving them in sequence," comments Dr. John R. La Montagne, director of NIAID's Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. "If other researchers confirm these preliminary findings, doctors may find that sequential combinations of Hib vaccines are preferred."

Interchanging vaccines should prevent Hib immunizations from being delayed or stopped because information about a child's vaccine history is lacking, a problem that can

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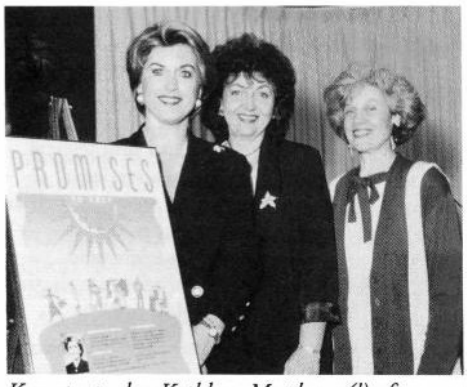
Women's History Observed

Opportunities for Women Equal Choices for Men

By Carla Garnett

Women's history program keynote speaker Kathleen Matthews, Channel 7 news coanchor and host of the syndicated television show *Working Woman*, related a humorous, but telling anecdote on how women may still be perceived by the younger generation.



Keynote speaker Kathleen Matthews (l) of Channel 7 is welcomed to NIH by program cochairs Angela Mease (c) of ACFW and Alberta Sandel of ORWH at "Promises to Keep," NIH's observance of Women's History Month.

She had come home to her family—her husband, 9-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter—one evening last year after celebrating Women's History Month at the Department of Agriculture. Enthusiastically she discussed some recent historic achievements by women—first female attorney general, first woman delegate to the United Nations, female head of the Environmental Protection Agency and, even a traditional male bastion, the Department of Defense, had appointed a woman as secretary of the Air Force. Imagine that, she reiterated, a woman secretary of the Air Force! While Matthews was excitedly sharing these good tidings with the children she said she and her husband were raising to be equality-minded and savvy about the balance between the genders, her son, unimpressed with his mother's fervor, looked up at her and said, "Why are you so excited, Mom? I thought all secretaries were women."

After recovering from her shock that the son of "the Working Woman" could think such a thing, Matthews realized that in most offices, the receptionists, secretaries and clerical workers her son had seen had indeed been mainly female. "As of 1990, 99 percent of all secretaries

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HIB VACCINES

(Continued from Page 1)

arise when families move or change physicians.

"Our findings offer reassurance to pediatricians, primary care physicians and family practitioners that regardless of the child's vaccination history, the provider can finish the vaccination series. The most important thing is for children to be immunized," according to the study's principal investigator, Dr. Edwin L. Anderson, professor of internal medicine and of pediatrics at St. Louis University School of Medicine, one of the VTEU sites.

In the United States, Hib conjugate vaccines were licensed for use in infants in 1990. Prior to the licensure, Hib was the most common cause of bacterial meningitis, an inflammation of the brain, in children younger than 2 years of age. A small percentage of these children died, and approximately 20 to 30 percent of those who survived meningitis suffered permanent brain damage. Hib also can cause pneumonia and other serious infections in children.

Children receive primary Hib vaccinations routinely at 2 and 4 months, or 2, 4, and 6 months, depending on the vaccine product. Guidelines recommend that infants receive the same Hib vaccine throughout the primary immunization series, but the study authors cite reasons why this is not always feasible: public health clinics usually purchase Hib vaccine from a single source that may vary from year to year depending on government contracts, and most private physicians stock just one brand. If a family relocates or changes physicians during the child's course of Hib immunizations, the new provider may not be able to verify or make available the previously used product.

In the study, researchers compared the children's immune responses to two different Hib conjugate vaccines, PRP-OMP (Merck and Co. of West Point, Pa.) and HbOC (Lederle-Praxis Biologicals of Pearl River, N.Y.). The investigators randomly assigned 497 infants to receive a single-product series or one shot of either vaccine followed by two shots of the other. Neither the infants and their parents nor the study investigators knew which product a child received.

The results indicate that sequential combinations of vaccines may be used to obtain both the early antibody response seen with PRP-OMP alone and the high antibody levels seen after complete immunization with the HbOC alone.

The scientists based their findings on data from 211 of 497 infants enrolled in the study. Data on the other infants were not included because an early analysis showed that one lot of vaccine given to these infants failed to stimulate normal levels of antibody. However, these children later responded satisfactorily when boosted with the other Hib vaccine.

In addition to the St. Louis unit, the VTEUs at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, and Vanderbilt University School of Medicine participated in the study. The VTEUs are a network of six university-based clinical research units to study new or improved vaccines for diseases other than AIDS. ❑

Camera Club To Meet, Apr. 11

The monthly meeting of the NIH R&W Camera Club is scheduled for Tuesday, Apr. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Rm. 6C07.

The guest speaker of the evening is Gordon Bell, a freelance architectural photographer. His photos are primarily in color, but he does black and white as well. His pictures have appeared in the *Washington Post* home section, and in many magazines, including *Classic Homes, Colonial Homes, House Beautiful, Southern Accents* and *Veranda.* Bell was the first master of fine arts student at George Washington University. He also completed many workshops, including some with Ansel Adams and Minor White, both of whom influenced him greatly. His seminar will focus on how to do architecture photography.

The subject for the competition of the evening is architecture. Formats include black and white prints (novice and advanced levels), color prints, and color slides (novice and advanced).

The club is open to all, but only members can submit for competition. For more information, contact Yuan Liu, 6-8318. ❑

Grateful Bondholders Sought

If you or someone you know has paid for a college education with U.S. Savings Bonds and would be willing to share the story, call Carol Cronin at the NIH Visitor Information Center, 6-1776, or Randy Schools at the R&W, 6-6061. ❑

Janna Wehrle Joins NIGMS as Science Administrator

Dr. Janna Wehrle recently joined the staff of NIGMS as a health scientist administrator in the Division of Cell Biology and Biophysics. Her portfolio of grants focuses on the structure and biophysical properties of proteins as well as protein and nucleic acid studies emphasizing nuclear magnetic resonance techniques. Prior to joining NIH, she served as associate professor in the department of radiology in the division of nuclear magnetic resonance research at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Wehrle had worked in that department since 1985, first as an instructor and later as an assistant professor. Before joining Johns Hopkins, she did postdoctoral research in the Laboratory of Molecular Aging at NIA's Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore.

Janna Wehrle

Prior to coming to NIGMS, Wehrle was the principal investigator on a project that was part of an exploratory grant supported by NINDS. She also served as a coprincipal investigator on two NCI grants. Her research over the last 10 years has focused on the application of physical methods, primarily nuclear magnetic resonance techniques, to problems in oncology. A native of North Dakota, she earned both a B.S. and Ph.D. in biochemistry from Ohio State University. ❑

International Bazaar Set, May 9

An International Bazaar will be held on Tuesday, May 9, from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. on the Bldg. 31 patio. Vendors will have merchandise from all over the world. Lunch will be sold on the patio by Guest Services. Mother's Day is on the way, so come get your shopping done early! Crafts will be featured from China, Russia, Germany, Native Americans, and many more countries. For more information, call R&W, 6-6061.

The NIH Record

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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03
Phone 6-2125
Fax 2-1485

Editor
Richard McManus
rm26q@nih.gov

Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

The NIH Record reserves the right to make corrections, changes, or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with the policies of the paper and HHS.

Correspondents:
CC, Sara Byars
DCRT, Mary Hodges
DRG, Judith Grover
FIC, Irene Edwards
NCI, Patricia A. Newman
NCHGR, Leslie Fink
NCRR, Lori Mulligan
NEI, Linda Huss
NHLBI, Louise Williams
NIA, Vicky Cahan
NIAAA, Ann M. Bradley
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NLM, Roger L. Gilkeson

Researchers Identify Genetic Cause of Disfiguring Congenital Skin Disorder

By Elia Ben-Ari

A team of researchers at NIH, in collaboration with Egyptian researchers, has found that genetic defects in a skin enzyme called transglutaminase 1 (TGM1) are the cause of lamellar ichthyosis—a severely disfiguring congenital skin disorder. TGM1 plays a role in formation of the outermost layer of skin, which develops abnormally in people with this disorder.

This finding provides much-needed insight into normal skin development as well as into what causes development of thickened, scaly skin over the entire body in this hereditary disorder. It also provides tantalizing clues to causes of the large number of other scaling skin disorders.

"This discovery raises the exciting prospect of being able to correct the underlying abnormalities that cause this severe skin disorder," said Dr. Michael D. Lockshin, acting director of NIAMS. "Through their team approach, this interdisciplinary group of researchers is making impressive strides in understanding the genetic basis of a number of inherited skin disorders."

The research group included geneticist Dr. Sherri J. Bale from the NIAMS Laboratory of Skin Biology, who developed a collaboration with Dr. Nemat Hashem and her staff at the Ain-Shams University Medical Genetics Center in Cairo, Egypt. The team also included National Research Council fellow Dr. Laura J. Russell, NIAMS molecular biologist Dr. John G. Compton, and dermatologist Dr. John J. DiGiovanna of the NIAMS Dermatology Clinical Research Unit. Dr. Peter M. Steinert and Dr. Geraldine R. Rogers also contributed to this work. The group's results are reported in the March issue of *Nature Genetics*.

Lamellar ichthyosis (LI) is one of a group of acquired and inherited scaling skin disorders known as the ichthyoses. Babies with LI often are born encased in a thick, shiny membrane. This membrane soon dries and peels off, leaving the baby with bright red underlying skin. Over time patients develop large, brown, platelike scales all over their bodies, representing a thickening and scaling of the outermost layer of skin, known as the stratum corneum, or horny layer. People with LI may not tolerate heat and may have turned-out eyelids or lips due to tautness of facial skin. Some patients also suffer from scarring hair loss involving the scalp and eyebrows.

The stratum corneum consists of dry, flattened, dead cells that serve as a barrier, keeping the rest of the skin from drying out and protecting it against the environment. Normally, these cells continuously and invisibly flake off from the skin's surface to make room for new cells that come from layers deeper in the top layer of skin, or epidermis. This is part of the process by which the epidermis constantly renews itself. In ichthyosis, researchers believe the thickening and scaling are due either to runaway production of new stratum corneum cells or a defect in the process by which these cells slough off from the skin's surface.

"Dermatologists think of LI as the most typical type of ichthyosis," says DiGiovanna. "It's dramatic in appearance and common enough that it's the one thing dermatologists think of when they think of severe ichthyosis." LI is nevertheless a relatively rare disorder, occurring in about 1 of every 250,000 births. People with this scaling skin disease are often subjected to societal pressures that lead to isolation, ridicule, and misunderstanding.

In visits to the Ain-Shams clinic in Cairo, Bale, Compton and DiGiovanna tapped into one of the largest genetic databases in the world. The database was assembled over the past 25 years by Hashem, director of the medical genetics center. It contains epidemiologic and demographic information on close to 4,000 families (more than 16,000 individuals) with inherited disorders, including several rare forms of ichthyosis.

Hashem used her database to locate several families with congenital ichthyosis and asked them to come to her clinic during the NIH team's visits. Compton set up a laboratory at the clinic to isolate genetic material (DNA) from blood samples from affected and unaffected individuals from these Egyptian families. The researchers also obtained DNA samples from U.S. families in which two or more members had LI, located with the aid of the Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types.

"The Egyptian families were important for these studies because of the high rate of intermarriage in Egypt," explained Bale. "This results in increased prevalence of autosomal recessive diseases such as LI." Having DNA samples from these inbred families greatly facilitated the team's initial genetic analyses, which provided strong evidence that defects in the TGM1 gene were responsible for LI.

The researchers first used DNA from U.S. and Egyptian patients' blood samples to narrow down the location of the LI disease gene to a specific region of chromosome 14 that contains the gene encoding the TGM1 protein. They examined this region of the chromosome because they knew that TGM1 was one of a number of proteins involved in formation of the stratum corneum. TGM1 was the eighth such "candidate gene" that the researchers screened for a possible connection to the disease gene.

The researchers identified specific mutations in both copies of the TGM1 gene in U.S. and Egyptian patients with LI. "In each case, the same mutation was also seen in one of two copies of the gene in carrier members of these patients' families but not in any of more than 200 unrelated healthy individuals who were tested," said Russell. Carriers for the disease, who have a single defective copy of the TGM1 gene, do not themselves have LI. This is because both copies of a gene (one inherited from each parent) must be defective to cause an autosomal recessive disorder.

TGM1 serves to crosslink cellular proteins to form a rigid scaffold within the lifeless cells that form the stratum corneum. This molecular scaffold is an integral part of the cornified cell envelope, a specialized structure that replaces the cell membrane in cells of this outermost layer of the epidermis. The stratum corneum is formed as epidermal cells (keratinocytes) generated in the lowest layer of the epidermis move up toward the skin's surface, pushing older cells ahead of them. As these cells move upwards, they undergo a series of structural and functional changes. In the final stages of this maturation process, known as terminal differentiation, the keratinocytes become more flattened, the cornified cell envelope forms, and the cells eventually die and slough off.

"The terminal differentiation process is somehow abnormal in people with LI," Compton said. "But how the production of scaling skin occurs is poorly understood and very important to study." This finding provides some insight into what goes wrong in this disease, Compton said, because "we now know a major cause of scaling is failure of this one component of the process. We know that the function of TGM1 is to produce crosslinks, and the importance of these crosslinks is now obvious." However, he added, "any particular specifics as to exactly what role these crosslinks play in producing a normal stratum corneum is still a mystery."

The research team plans to continue identifying and cataloging the different mutations that occur in the TGM1 gene in their patients. They also will work to understand what these mutations do to the TGM1 enzyme molecule itself and how this affects the normal formation of stratum corneum.

According to DiGiovanna, "the most important function of the skin is to make a normal stratum corneum, and we know very little about that process. Knowing more about this will increase our understanding not only of lamellar ichthyosis but also of many other skin diseases." ❑

Day Care Space Available

Childkind, Inc., a day care center located in Bldg. T-46, has spaces available in its 18-24-months group. For more information, call Lee, 6-8357. ❑

GRADY
(Continued from Page 1)

neurological research make her the ideal leader to carry out the NINR mission that includes linking biological and behavioral research programs to benefit people's health." Varmus also referred to NINR's impressive record of collaborative efforts with other NIH institutes and Public Health Service agencies, and added that "the breadth of Dr. Grady's scientific and management expertise meshes well with the leadership requirements of an institute that has a broad mandate."

NINR is the lead federal agency for nursing research and research training to reduce the burden of illness and disability; improve health-related quality of life; and establish better approaches to promote health and prevent disease.

Commenting on her new role, Grady said, "My career began with clinical neurological and neurosurgical nursing, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to help expand the scientific base for nursing and related health fields in numerous, varied endeavors." She also noted that her appointment comes at the time of a new evolution of the nation's health care system. "That is why scientific research to bolster care provided by nurses and others is more crucial than ever before," she said. "I look forward to meeting this challenge."

Grady is internationally known in the field of stroke research and has served as an NINDS extramural program administrator in the Division of Stroke and Trauma, where her research grant portfolio focused on stroke and high technology imaging techniques. Her own area of research interest centers on cerebral blood flow, metabolism and function. Important aspects of this work include the study of fluid transport in the brain, computer modeling of animal systems, and cardiovascular and respiratory responses to alterations in intracranial pressure, all relevant to the clinical problem of stroke.

"I am a great believer in the importance of ongoing communication among researchers in both basic and clinical settings," Grady said. "That's an exciting aspect of the nursing institute's work. Nursing has a clinical base, but the questions that are being generated really must be answered with a combination of knowledge bases that include basic and clinical science perspectives," she said. She also pointed out as an example the important role of nursing research in her own specialty area of stroke.

"When I was starting out, I was attracted to research because my clinical expertise told me research was the best hope for stroke patients. There was little else we could do in the way of treatment," Grady said. "Today we are closing in on being able to contain stroke's damage and manage its symptoms. But there is much to achieve in finding better ways to prevent initial or recurrent strokes through modifying risk factors, rehabilitating lost function, and enhancing quality of life for stroke patients. These are some examples of the areas where nursing research can really make a major contribution," she emphasized.

Earning her nursing diploma at St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Hartford, Conn., Grady received her bachelor's degree in nursing at Georgetown University and her master's degree in nursing and doctoral degree in physiology at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. She joined the faculty at the University of Maryland's School of Medicine upon completion of her postdoctoral fellowship in neuropathology. Her teaching experience included medical, graduate, and nursing students at diploma, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels, and she served as their advisor for master's and doctoral-level thesis work.

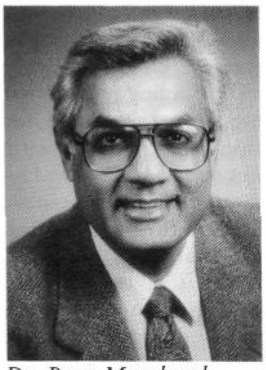
Grady is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the nursing national honor society, and the American Nurses Association, and has been active in the Council of Nurse Researchers. Her other professional memberships include the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Neurology, the Society for Neuroscience, and the American Heart Association stroke council as an elected member of its executive committee. She has received numerous awards and fellowships and is in demand as a speaker in the neurological sciences and in the area of federal research opportunities for women, minorities and people with disabilities. ❑

Recent retiree Shirley Hopkins (l) greets one of dozens of well-wishers at a farewell reception held in her honor in the Visitor Information Center, Bldg. 10. Fondly known as the "recruitment lady," she worked in the Office of Human Resource Management in NIH's Division of Career Resources and ushered many students and young adults through the channels of federal employment. Herb Casey, DCR director, said, "Ms. Hopkins will be remembered for her outstanding work in helping many people get jobs here at NIH." She retired with 25 years of government service. In her remarks, Hopkins said she still gets up "between 5 and 6 in the mornings" even though she doesn't have to come to work. "I'm really enjoying this retirement," she said, smiling.

Percy Manchand Joins NIGMS

Dr. Percy Manchand recently joined NIGMS as a health scientist administrator in the Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry. His portfolio of grants will focus on synthetic and medicinal chemistry.

Manchand comes to NIGMS from Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc. in Nutley, N.J., where he served as the head of synthesis research. He had worked at Hoffmann-La Roche since 1970, focusing mainly on the design and implementation of technically feasible syntheses of pharmaceuticals.



Dr. Percy Manchand

He also directed the synthesis of drug metabolites, degradation products, and related substances necessary to support the drug development program. He has 65 publications and holds 14 patents that relate to organic and medicinal chemistry, including one for the synthesis of the anti-AIDS drug ddC.

Before joining the staff of Hoffmann-La Roche, Manchand did postdoctoral research on natural products chemistry at Harvard University (1968-70). From 1977-1994, he also served as an adjunct professor of organic chemistry at Montclair State College in Montclair, N.J.

A native of Kingston, Jamaica, he earned a B.Sc. in chemistry and a Ph.D. in synthetic organic chemistry at the University of London in England. ❑

NIAMS Grantees Honored

Several NIAMS grantees were recipients of Kappa Delta Awards presented at the joint ceremonies of the Orthopaedic Research Society and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in Orlando recently. The Young Investigator Award went to Dr. Steven M. Horowitz of the University of Pennsylvania for in vitro research on "The Biology of Aseptic Loosening of the Cemented Arthroplasty." Drs. Randy N. Rosier and J. Edward Puzas of the University of Rochester were part of a team that received the Elizabeth Winston Lanier Award for research on the "Autocrine Regulation of Cartilage." Dr. John Cavanaugh of Wayne State University was part of a team that received the Ann Doner Vaughan Award for neurophysiological and neuroanatomical research on mechanisms of low back pain. ❑

Grantees Develop Mouse Model for Ailments

A research team has developed a strain of mice that produces excessively high levels of luteinizing hormone (LH), a key reproductive hormone. Female mice in the strain are sterile and develop reproductive tract abnormalities similar to those of women who also produce too much of the hormone.

Using the mouse model, scientists may be able to shed light on two conditions affecting American women—polycystic ovarian syndrome and granulosa cell tumors.

The research team, which included scientists funded by NICHD and NIDDK, published their findings in the Feb. 28 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

"What we've been able to do is use tools of basic science to address a clinically relevant problem in reproduction," said the study's senior investigator, Dr. John H. Nilson of the department of pharmacology in the School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

Kimberly Risma, the lead author of the study and a member of Nilson's laboratory, constructed a new gene that encodes an altered component of LH. This gene was introduced into mice that also continue to produce their own LH. Expression of the new gene gives rise to an altered form of LH that takes longer to break down in the bloodstream than does the natural form of the hormone. Nilson and colleagues accomplished this by constructing a fusion gene that combines the bovine form of LH with the terminal segment from human chorionic gonadotropin, a related hormone.

The female mice from the newly produced strain have elevated levels of LH and a group of conditions also found in women who have high levels of LH. Many of the mice had a condition resembling polycystic ovary syndrome, also known as Stein Leventhal Syndrome.

As is the case with women experiencing this condition, the mice had enlarged, cyst-filled ovaries. And like their human counterparts, the mice also ovulated infrequently. Although estimates vary, as many as 22 percent of women of childbearing age may have undiagnosed polycystic ovary syndrome. Among samples of reproductive age women who have ceased menstruating, as many as 87 percent have been found to have polycystic ovary syndrome.

In addition, many of the mice developed another, less common condition found in women, granulosa cell tumors. These tumors arise in granulosa cells, a highly specialized cell found in the ovary.

"This research shows that there has to be a very controlled regulation of cell growth and proliferation in the ovary," said Dr. Michael E. McClure, chief of NICHD's Reproductive Sciences Branch. "If something perturbs that fine balance, the initial effect on fertility forewarns of a risk for more advanced morbidity."

Nilson explained that development of the new mouse strain provides several new avenues for studying how LH regulates fertility. One promising avenue of research is to examine how the pituitary releases the altered form of LH into the bloodstream, as compared to how it releases the natural form of the hormone. Another possibility is to examine how chemical signaling pathways taking place inside the cells of the ovary may change, once the altered form of the hormone binds to these cells.

Nilson also noted that although LH plays key roles in the reproductive physiology of both males and females, the male mice producing the altered form of the hormone displayed normal levels of LH and only minor reproductive abnormalities. For example, male mice that express the altered form of LH have smaller testes and are less fertile than normal. Thus, they may also provide a new model for studying idiopathic male infertility. Just why the altered gene would affect the males and females so differently is intriguing and also a topic for future research, Nilson said.—**Robert Bock** ❑

R&W Sponsors Clinics on Running, Walking, Apr. 10

All NIH'ers are invited on Monday, Apr. 10 to a running and walking clinic led by Jeff Galloway, author of *Galloway's Book on Running* and a former member of the U.S. Olympic team.

Clinic #1 at 11:30 a.m. is called "Fat-Burning in Your Spare Time." It will be conducted on the lawn in front of Bldg. 1. Come ready to jog. It will be a great session for beginning runners and walkers, offering the benefits and best activities for a running program.

Clinic #2 at 12:30 p.m. is on "Running Without Training," also on the lawn in front of Bldg. 1. Galloway will run with you, critique you, and get you ready for this year's 5K, 10K and marathon races. Local runners may want to prep for the R&W-sponsored 5K Office Depot Race (which also includes a walk and party) on Wednesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. on the campus. ❑

Jeff Galloway, a former Olympic runner, will conduct two clinics at NIH on Apr. 10.

NIH Environmental Reading Room Opens

The NIH Office of Community Liaison and the Office of Communications, both in the Office of the Director, have opened an Environmental Reading Room for members of the NIH and neighboring communities. The room is located in Bldg. 31, Rm. 2B04 and will be open every weekday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is staffed by Dinah Bertran from the Office of Communications.

Users are invited to read a variety of materials regarding the environment around NIH and nearby neighborhoods. Included are official documents on medical pathological waste, radiation safety, incineration, campus development, traffic management, noise control, and construction and renovation projects. These documents are used in the planning, construction, renovation, and maintenance of the NIH facilities housed on and off campus.

The materials were submitted to the reading room by the Division of Safety, ORS, and the Division of Engineering Services, ORS, which plan, administer, and oversee agency activities that have an impact on the environment and on the well-being of employees and nearby residents. A high-speed copier is available for duplicating any of the documents, and related services are available upon request.

Contact Bertran, 6-8740, for more information.

Browsing through materials in the new Environmental Reading Room in Bldg. 31 are Bernie Moore (l) of the Office of Communications and Jan Hedetniemi of the Office of Community Liaison.

IRON MAN

(Continued from Page 1)

30 years back. In fact, Jennings can remember hearing a kind word from almost every NIH director since Monday, Mar. 25, 1930. That's the day Roskey Jennings first reported for work at NIH's precursor, the Hygienic Laboratory on 25th and E Sts., in Northwest Washington, D.C.

"Sure, Dr. Shannon, Dr. [William] Sebrell [NIH director, 1950-1955], Dr. [Thomas] Parran [U.S. surgeon general, 1936-1948], all of them talked to me, treated me like a human being," said Jennings, recently holding court as the most senior and longest surviving member of Bldg. 1's unofficial breakfast club, the "Kitchen Cabinet." Most of the other dozen or so faithful Cabinet members have long since begun breaking their fasts at home—in the sweet Land of the Retired. Only Jennings, who last week marked his 65th year working here, and two or three others still gather every weekday to start the morning with casual camaraderie and a hot meal. On Aug. 11, he'll turn 86 years old; do thoughts of retirement ever cross Jennings' mind?

At the utterance of the R-word, an expectant hush fell over the table. The 'Iron Man' looked up immediately from his plate of steaming grits and sausage, peered earnestly at the questioner, and said in a deadpan manner, "I want to wear out, not rust out." Then, he and his breakfast companions broke out in smiles and laughter.

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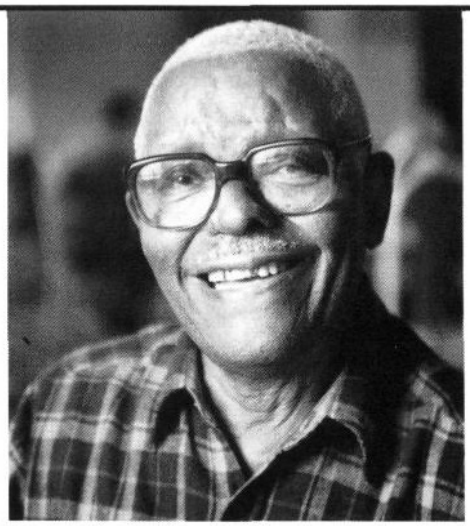
"Oh, let's see, they started calling me the Iron Man in around 1950," recalled Jennings, an NIAID biological laboratory technician whose steel-trap mind can remember exact dates like well-learned history lessons. "The people in Bldg. 13 started calling me that 'cause they'd see me around there working every day."

In fact there are several reasons for comparing the spry Jennings to the durable metal: He uses sick leave only once about every 43 years. He uses annual leave only at the end of every year when he takes some 2 1/2 months off in pure use-or-lose leave.

"Tell them about your leave," coaxed fellow breakfast clubber Kevin Yeargins of NIH's Office of the Director. "He's got amazing leave."

"Oh, I've got about 10,000 hours of sick leave," he jokes, winking his eye, "and I've gone through about a hundred supervisors." In truth, Jennings' sick leave balance once reportedly topped 4,100 hours.

Another of the breakfast crew, NIAID's Al Gam, told a Roskey endurance story: It seems that once, following one of the area's bittercold snowstorms, the pavement around campus was covered in ice. Gam, concerned about Jennings' mobility in such slick conditions, asked him how he managed to stay upright when those around him slip and slide. "He said, 'Oh, I never fall on the ice—I don't walk fast enough.' We really laughed and laughed about that one."



Roskey Jennings

In fact, Jennings has not used a day of sick leave since a 6-week stay in the hospital in 1986, when his family tricked him into seeing a doctor, having long overdue surgery and recuperating. Before that, he said, he had a streak of 43 years without using any sick leave. Even a 1964 on-the-job accident, documented in a 1970 *NIH Record* article, couldn't sideline Jennings, who reportedly returned to work from the hospital later with his injured hand in a sling.

Once, when because of a clerical mistake Jennings was cheated out of some annual leave, he took off some time in protest. His supervisor hired two people to replace him. Both fell ill—one with a serious fever and one with polio—and were unable to work. The supervisor called Jennings at home and begged him to come back to work, promising to fix the leave error. Jennings still remembers the boss's frantic phone call: "He said, 'Seems like you're the only guinea pig that's left. You're the only one that can stay healthy enough to work around here. Come on back and I'll get everything straightened out.'

"I went back that next week, but he never did straighten out my leave," Jennings said, grinning ruefully.

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Jennings was one of four children born to a farmer and his wife in Danville, Va., in 1909. At the age of 12, he said, he asked his father to allow him to work his way through Hampton College. His father refused, saying the boy was too young and was needed to help work on the farm. Later that year, after consulting with his teacher, Miss Hattie, Jennings collected what he had been saving of his allowance for weeks, snuck off his father's farm, and paid his train fare to a Pennsylvania town where an aunt lived. Immediately he went in search of work, despite his aunt's pleas for him to return home. At the first place of business he came to, he asked for a job and in turn was asked his age. "I said I was 16," Jennings said, smiling at the memory. "And the man, laughing, said, 'You're a 16 lie. You should be in school, boy.' I had to laugh then, too." Eventually, after persuading his aunt to vouch for him, Jennings landed that job, which was as a waterboy, toting icy pailfuls for thirsty manual laborers. The job was tough and the workers initially antagonized Jennings, enjoying the plight of the young boy struggling to and fro under the weight of the buckets. But then, payday came.

"I didn't know it, but the supervisor had been watching me all the time," Jennings said. "He told me I was a hard worker and he liked that. He threatened to fire any of the workers that gave me a hard time.

"I remember when I got my first ten-dollar bill, too. They used to be gold certificates in those days, you know. I stared at that gold and ran all the way to my aunt's house."

Eighteen months later, Jennings returned to his family's farm and gave them $270 he had saved up from his wages.

"My father was real happy to have the money. He looked me over real good and said, 'You've got a lot of my blood in you. When you get your mind fixed on something, there's no stopping you.' My father lived to be 103. He stopped working at 102. He knew what he was talking about."

Interested in science since coming to work here, Jennings started his NIH career on a 3-month temporary assignment. He worked as an animal caretaker for several years and in NIH's library for 16 years until a position nearer to scientific work—washing glassware—opened in NIH's Laboratory of the Biology of Viruses. Currently his duties include sterilizing glassware used in experiments and providing technical support to scientists in NIAID's Laboratory of Viral Diseases in Bldg. 4.

"I've never been without a job since I was 12 years old," Jennings continued proudly. "All through the Depression, I had a job. I've been lucky."

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If a person can be known by the company he keeps, then Roskey Jennings is NIH director, institute researcher, secretary, surgeon general, administrative assistant as well as campus chief cook and bottle washer. On any given morning, any one of these folks can be seen stopping by to chat with an NIH institution.

"You're looking beautiful this morning," Jennings said, smiling slyly as he greeted a well-wisher.

"God bless him," said Janet Pritts of ORS and the most recent in a long series of that Friday's Roskey admirers. "Is he smooth or what? That's why I come in here. He knows just what to say."

"Oh, he's real smooth all right," agreed breakfast club member Gerry Carter of NIAID. "You should see him around the holidays. Women line up to bring him things for Christmas and Thanksgiving."

Yet another group interrupted Jennings' stroll down memory lane to josh him about

treating them to breakfast. "He's a real big spender," one of them said, laughing as she passed through.

"I lined up many a day outside this building," Jennings said, sobering. "They wouldn't let us eat in here then. I remember when there were Colored and White toilets here. I was with the first group that broke that down. I think it was Dr. Parran and some others writing and calling on our behalf. They didn't believe it was right. It finally got changed. I was glad to be here when it changed."

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In 1957, Jennings went on the night shift, working through the early morning hours. Over his 65-year career, he has seen nearly every building on campus rise from just a big hole in the ground. He can recall the dates that most of them were built and about how much construction cost at the time. "Bldg. 7," he said, "that's about the toughest building on campus. Truman dedicated that building. It cost over a million dollars to build and it's solid, probably the most solid ever built. There's not a window in it that you can raise."

Jennings once went on a stretch of 32 years without a grade change. Most of his former supervisors he has not only outworked, but also outlived. He still hears from one, however—Dr. Victor Haas, who retired in 1957 from the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases.

"His wife writes me a card every Christmas," Jennings said. "She said Dr. Haas doesn't get around as well as I do. I'm real lucky. I'm glad to have as many friends as I do and I'm glad to have a job.

"The only advice I can offer to young people is to start now by changing your attitude. Get a job and stay with it. Don't ever give up. A person that gives up is beat before he starts. The life you live is the life you die. Working never hurt anybody. I have a lot of faith and when I die I want the Lord to say your job has been well done."

On June 13, Jennings will be honored as part of the NIH Director's Awards Ceremony. ❑

Golf League Plans 1995 Season

The NIH R&W 9-Hole Golf League is preparing for its 1995 season. Play is once a week with tee times reserved after work at the Falls Rd. Golf Course. League accommodates all levels of golfers through competitive and noncompetitive play. To play competitively, score cards for 27 holes of golf must be submitted in order to determine a handicap. The season begins in early May, with play on either Tuesdays or Thursdays through Labor Day. For more information or to obtain a registration form, contact Gene Major, 6-1635 for the B Team (11-20 nine hole handicap), Larry Butler, 6-0192 for A Team (0-10 handicap) or Larry Pinkus, president, 4-7315. Registration closes on Apr. 18. ❑

STEP Plans Forum on Science Policy, Apr. 20 in Wilson Hall

The Staff Training in Extramural Programs (STEP) committee will present the forum "Federal Science Policy: Reports from the Field," on Apr. 20 in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. No advanced registration is required. Attendance will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Speakers will focus on the economic and political forces that shape science policy and will provide specific examples of how science policy has influenced or radically altered the programs of a number of science-based federal agencies such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Energy, and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Christopher T. Hill from the Institute of Public Policy and Technology, George Mason University, will be the moderator. Hill, who has more than 25 years of experience in the public policy arena, is a regular lecturer in the Center for Public Policy Education at the Brookings Institution.

Among the speakers will be: Dr. M.R.C. Greenwood, associate director for science, Office of Science and Technology Policy. She will present the view from the White House. Dr. Donald E. Kash, Hazel chair, Institute of Public Policy and Technology, George Mason University, will discuss the interconnection of science, technology, and the economy. Pamela W. Smith, analyst in life sciences, Congressional Research Services, will focus on the view from Congress. Dr. Kenneth E. Pedersen, research professor of international affairs, Georgetown University, will discuss NASA and the space station. Kathleen Ream, director of government relations and science policy, American Chemical Society, will talk about the ongoing debate over the mission of NSF. Dr. Brian Balanger will focus on the Advanced Technology Program at NIST, and Dr. William Happer from Princeton University will discuss DOE and the superconducting super collider.

A question and answer period will follow each presentation. For more information, call the STEP office, 6-1493. ❑

PEF Auction Set, May 23

Mark your calendars now—the annual Patient Emergency Fund Auction will be held Tuesday, May 23. This lively event takes place in the Visitor Information Center, Bldg. 10, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The silent auction features many gift certificates for dining, weekends, shopping and services. There are also many treasures, large and small.

There is also a White Elephant Sale in the Little Theater. Lunch will be served on the Nobel Terrace.

The highlight of the event is the live auction, which takes place at noon and includes something for everyone.

The PEF provides emergency financial assistance to patients at NIH. It is not too late to get your office together to donate something extra special. If you need help buying tickets or an item, call Jodi, 6-6061; R&W staff can help employees buy tickets to a big game or popular show to donate to the auction. Don't forget to attend this big event!

Former NIAMS Director Lawrence Shulman Lauded

The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) and the Orthopaedic Research Society (ORS) recently honored Dr. Lawrence E. Shulman at their annual national meetings in New Orleans and Orlando, respectively. Shulman recently retired as director of NIAMS and has been appointed director emeritus. He is now serving as the NIH director's emissary to the clinical research community.

The AAD organized a symposium titled "What's New and Hot in Clinical Research? A Tribute to Lawrence E. Shulman, M.D." where accolades were presented by representatives of medical centers and major dermatology organizations. Dr. Irwin M. Freedberg, on behalf of the academic leaders of dermatology, thanked Shulman for his foresight and leadership in advancing dermatology research. Dr. Peyton Weary, outgoing AAD president, said that as director of NIAMS, Shulman was always "approachable and responsive. He was aware of the importance of training young investigators and AAD owes him a tremendous debt of gratitude for keeping Congress informed of opportunities for research in dermatology."

Dr. Lowell Goldsmith, speaking for the Society for Investigative Dermatology, said that Shulman was the "right man in the right place at the right time." Representing the Coalition of Patient Advocates for Skin Disease Research, Barbara Butler praised Shulman for establishing registries for epidermolysis bullosa and for ichthyosis and related skin diseases and for forming the task force on lupus in high risk populations, a health education effort in which federal and nonfederal organizations collaborate.

The Orthopaedic Research Society dedicated the transactions of its 41st annual meeting to Shulman and to Ileen Stewart, who recently retired from her position as scientific review administrator in DRG. ORS's dedication to Shulman stated that "during his tenure as NIAMS Director, Dr. Shulman successfully guided the development of the Institute through its formative years. He played a pivotal role in facilitating the growth of both the intramural and extramural research areas of the Institute by developing new programs, encouraging innovation, and seizing scientific opportunities." ❑

WOMEN'S HISTORY PROGRAM FEATURES KATHLEEN MATTHEWS

(Continued from Page 1)

were women," she said, citing a recent survey. "So we still see some of that gender segregation in the workforce, that clustering of women in the lower positions."

If women were offered more opportunities at comparable wages, then men—the traditional family breadwinners—would have more options for employment open to them as well, asserted Matthews, who, as host of a show that chronicles women tearing down old gender stereotypes and perceptions, has what she called "a ringside seat at the making of women's history."

Cosponsored by NIH's Office of Research on Women's Health, Office of Equal Opportunity, Federal Women's Program and the advisory committee for women (ACFW), the 1995 program themed "Promises to Keep" was held Mar. 9 in Masur Auditorium. KK Productions, featuring singer/songwriter Karen Ann, provided original folk music for the annual observance.

"Here at NIH we are working to fulfill a promise that was made to the American woman," said Dr. Vivian Pinn, NIH associate director for research on women's health, in opening remarks. "That promise to the American people was to provide the scientific knowledge necessary to improve the health, prolong the lives and enhance the quality of life for all Americans regardless of race, creed, age or gender.

"At this moment in women's history we perceive the light of a new dawn," she continued, acknowledging progress on ORWH's specific mandate to close health information gaps between men and women. "Never before have the biomedical and behavioral science communities held such tremendous promise toward alleviating human suffering."

Citing the catalytic effect that ORWH's 1991 establishment has had on the nation's biomedical community, Pinn said, "Just as our society begins now to fully understand that the role of women goes far beyond our reproductive functions, so too does society begin to recognize that women's health encompasses far more than just our reproductive organs."

National Women's History Month began in 1977 in the Sonoma County, Calif., school system as a local celebration week that spread across the country in 3 years, according to program cochair Angela Mease of ACFW. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter recognized the observance by issuing a national proclamation, which only increased the event's popularity throughout the United States. By 1986, interest in Women's History Week had grown so widespread that Congress decided to extend the celebration, proclaiming March as National Women's History Month.

"We're still overcoming hurdles," began Matthews. "Even as we celebrate these achievements, there's still a lot that we have yet to achieve. There are still opportunities out there that we need to take advantage of, that we need to be allowed to take advantage of. Women's History Month gives us each a chance to reflect on our own personal women's history."

Today's woman is 5 times more likely than her mother to become a doctor, 15 times more likely to be a lawyer and 30 times more likely to be an engineer, noted Matthews, acknowledging how far women in the workforce have advanced. Twenty years ago, she continued, only 5 percent of small businesses were owned by women, but today that number has multiplied tenfold. Unfortunately, Matthews said, little progress has been made on the pay equity gap—women still make only 71 cents for every dollar that men earn for comparable work.

An honors graduate of Stanford University who was recently invited to her 20-year college reunion, Matthews said in retrospect she was probably a victim of subtle gender discrimination when she was steered toward liberal arts instead of the sciences at her all-girls high school.

"If you had told me that there were so few women in medical schools at that time, I would have been surprised," she said, explaining that although she initially entered college as a premed major, she found herself unprepared for the chemistry and calculus courses necessary for the physician's career she had envisioned for herself. Her high school had gently nudged her into liberal arts, which she eventually chose for her career.

"I didn't see the closed doors at that point," she continued. "I don't think I saw this narrow road of a career path in front of me. I think I saw this four-lane highway—I expected smooth sailing and that I could go even faster than the speed limit."

In reality, she noted, that road was a small country lane with many potholes to navigate. "And while that road has been repaved and repaved and made a little wider and a little wider," she said, "I think we're still moving toward that four-lane or eight-lane highway that we all ought to be on."

Matthews said flexibility in auxiliary issues—worksite childcare, job sharing, alternative work schedules, and telecommuting—have been as important to advancing women in the workplace as have changed perceptions of women's roles.

"The fact of the matter is that these changes have been good not only for the women, but also for the men in our society," she said. "When you have women as breadwinners and you offer this kind of flexibility in the work environment, you also give choices to men about the kinds of jobs they can have." The pressure is no longer on men who are unhappy or unsatisfied with their jobs to stay in them simply because they are the sole means of supporting the family, she explained.

"Just as our society begins now to fully understand that the role of women goes far beyond our reproductive functions, so too does society begin to recognize that women's health encompasses far more than just our reproductive organs."

—Dr. Vivian Pinn

NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (l) joined Jean Harris (r), chair of NIH's advisory committee for women, in honoring Lucretia Coffer, who recently retired after nearly 5 years as NIH's Federal Women's Program manager.

Singer/songwriter Karen Ann of KK Productions performed several original folk music selections at NIH's annual salute to Women's History Month held recently in the Clinical Center's Masur Auditorium.

Matthews said that if there is a champion of her career, it is her husband, Chris, who has supported her in all of her professional efforts. Women can be each other's support systems as well, she added.

"The ties between women—at work, in our churches, in our neighborhoods, as parents of children in the same schools—are so important because we all are learning from each other," she concluded. "That's one thing that I think women are especially good at—we realize that there's so much strength in the company of our sisters."

In addition to Pinn and Matthews, NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, who as the first woman appointed director of an NIH institute (NIGMS, in 1974) is a pioneer in NIH's women's history, offered encouraging words for women.

"I know that the road is not as long as it was a generation or two ago nor is it as lonely as it used to be," she said, following Matthews' analogy, "because we have so many good traveling companions—both women and men—who believe in equality and justice. But, we are not finished. We have a long way to go and I want to urge you all to keep moving."

Concluding the program, Lucretia Coffer, recently retired Federal Women's Program manager who for nearly 5 years planned OEO's women's history salutes and carried the banner for advancing women in NIH's workplace, was honored with a framed program poster. "It is great to be on the other side of the poster for a change," she said, smiling. "And as for retirement, I highly recommend it." ❑

Nutrition Lecture Series Resumes

NIDDK's fourth Clinical Nutrition and Obesity Lecture Series features three more talks in coming months.

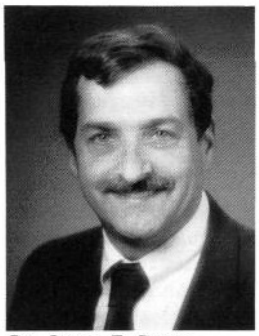
"Reducing the rise of nutrition-related diseases such as obesity and binge eating disorder begins with research, and we are fortunate to have lecturers from the fields of nutrition and obesity who are committed to improving clinical practices through basic and clinical research," says Dr. Van S. Hubbard, director, Division of Nutrition Research Coordination, NIH, and director, Nutrition Sciences Branch, NIDDK.

Upcoming lecturers and topics include: Dr. Jean-Pierre Depres, Laval University Medical Research Center, Quebec, Canada, "Visceral Obesity: More than a Weight Problem," Apr. 27; Dr. Michael D. Sitrin, University of Chicago, "Nutrition and Inflammatory Bowel Disease," May 25; and Dr. Marsha D. Marcus, University of Pittsburgh, "Eating Disorders: Prevention and Treatment," June 22.

All lectures will be held in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10, at 7 p.m. Continuing education credits will be offered for both physicians and dietitians. For more information, call 4-8880. ❑

James Battey To Head NIDCD Intramural Program

Dr. James F. Battey has been named director of intramural research for the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. In making the announcement, Dr. James B. Snow, Jr., NIDCD director, noted that Battey has "made substantial contributions to understanding of biological responses through molecular genetic analysis. He will bring distinguished expertise and leadership to research opportunities in human communication. We are delighted that he has accepted."



Dr. James F. Battey

Battey earned a B.S. with honors in physics at the California Institute of Technology. He earned his M.D. and Ph.D. in biophysics at Stanford University, where he had residency training in pediatrics. His postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School was under the direction of Dr. Philip Leder.

Battey has served NIH since 1983, first on the staff of the National Cancer Institute, where he rose from senior staff fellow to senior investigator. In 1988, he moved to NINDS as chief of the molecular neuroscience section in the Laboratory of Neurochemistry. In 1992, he returned to NCI to head the molecular structure section of the Laboratory of Biological Chemistry.

While working with Leder, Battey was part of a team that cloned the genes encoding the IgE immunoglobulin constant region domains. In addition, he isolated and characterized the human c-myc gene, a key growth regulatory nuclear proto-oncogene, a gene that contributes to cancer formation when inappropriately expressed.

In his work at the NCI-Navy Medical Oncology Branch, he collaborated in the isolation and characterization of human N-myc and L-myc, two additional members of the human myc gene family important in human neoplasms. He became interested in neuropeptides and their receptors at this time, because of their dual function as growth factors and regulatory peptides. His group isolated cDNA and genomic clones for mammalian bombesin-like peptides, key regulators of secretion, growth and neuronal firing.

Battey continued this work at NINDS, where his laboratory cloned and characterized the genes for three subtypes of mammalian receptors for bombesin-like peptides. His team at NCI's Laboratory of Biological Chemistry was among the first to clone the gene encoding cdk5, a member of the cyclin-dependent kinase family, which are important proteins involved in cell cycle control. Battey will bring his extraordinary expertise in molecular biology to research in hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech and language.

Battey has won the Public Health Service Commendation Medal in 1990 and the Outstanding Service Medal in 1994. He also serves as an adjunct professor at George Washington University School of Medicine. He is author or coauthor of more than 90 articles on his research and is coauthor with Davis and Kuehl of *Basic Methods in Molecular Biology*, which is now in its second edition. ❑

Street-Lighting Project Begins

In order to make NIH's campus a safer place for employees, the Office of Research Services is beginning to implement the NIH Campus Street Lighting Project.

The project, originally suggested by the ORS advisory committee, addresses concerns that existing campus lighting is insufficient, and that employees who walk to their cars or the Metro in the late afternoon and evening would feel safer with more and better lighting.

In response, a survey of the entire campus, focusing on parking lots and sidewalks, identified areas that were dark or needed additional lighting. The end result is that approximately 110 additional street, sidewalk, and bus shelter lights will be installed around campus beginning in late March. Phases one and two will include fixtures in the Bldg. 31 parking lot, in the parking lot adjacent to Bldg. 1, and on the street in front of Bldg. 1. The entire project should be completed by August.

NIH'ers may notice the work because some of the installations will require closure of campus streets for short periods. In order to minimize disruption as much as possible, John Morris, project officer, says that some of the work will be done after hours and on weekends, "especially for certain streets that need to remain open for emergency vehicle access. We are working closely with the police to ensure that disruption to traffic flow is limited." ❑

Female Volunteers Needed

The Biological Psychiatry Branch, NIMH, seeks female volunteers ages 18-45 to participate in a 5-month study investigating the effects of reproductive hormones on brain and behavior. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles with no changes in mood in relationship to menses, be free of medical illnesses and not taking any hormones or medication on a regular basis. They will complete daily rating forms and will be asked to participate in one of several protocols. Payment will be in accordance with the duration of each visit and the type of protocol. For more information, call Dr. Peter Schmidt, 6-9675. ❑

Spann Named NLM Division Director

Dr. Melvin L. Spann has been chosen to direct NLM's Specialized Information Services Division (SIS). He has been head of SIS's Biomedical Information Services Branch since 1978.

A chemist, Spann came to NLM in 1976 to manage NLM's CHEMLINE file. Prior to his appointment, he had spent 10 years with the Food and Drug Administration, first as a chemical information specialist and then as chief of FDA's Scientific Information Systems Design Branch.

Dr. Melvin Spann

A graduate of Howard University with a B.S. in chemistry, Spann was appointed to head the Biomedical Information Services Branch of SIS in 1978, where he has been responsible for managing a variety of information products and services concerning toxic substances and their effects on health. These include computer-based files (e.g., TOXLINE and the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances) and both conventional and microcomputer-based user training aids.

He has also been responsible for directing a toxicology information outreach project to strengthen the capacity of historically Black colleges and universities to train medical and other health professionals in the use of toxicological, environmental, occupational, and hazardous waste information resources developed by NLM.

Spann received his Ph.D. in chemistry and computer systems in 1979 from American University, where he is presently an adjunct professor in the chemistry department.

SIS is the library component responsible for the Toxicology and Environmental Health Information Program—with its family of databases and databanks on toxicology and environmental health—and other NLM information services such as the Directory of Information Resources Online (DIRLINE) and services related to HIV/AIDS. It currently includes a staff of 34. In addition to the Biomedical Information Services Branch, the division includes the Hazardous Substances Information Office and the Biomedical Files Implementation Branch.

Spann has been active in the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Chemical Society of Washington. His many honors include the NIH Director's Award; Blacks in Government, NIH chapter, Outstanding Manager's Award; and several NLM EEO awards. ❑

NIH Fellows Win 1995 Research Excellence Awards

Some 32 NIH fellows have received the 1995 Fellows Award for Research Excellence; 406 applied for the distinction, and 58 scientists served as reviewers. The winners and their affiliations are:

NHLBI
Zaiad Abassi, Visiting Associate
Anna Zolkiewska, Visiting Associate
Sandra Lewisch, IRTA

DCRT
Amir H. Gandjbakhche, Visiting Fellow

NIMH
Jeffrey Disbrow Erickson, IRTA
Terrence Sills, Visiting Fellow

NINDS
Norhiro Sadato, Visiting Fellow
Michael Twery, Staff Fellow
Tanya Lehky, Clinical Associate
Michael Levin, MS Fellow

NCI/DCE
Allan Hildesheim, Staff Fellow

NCI/DCT
Mehmet Sitki Copur, Clinical Associate
Richard Gontarek, IRTA (Frederick, Md.)
Leslie B. King, NRSA

NCI/DCBDC
Nanping Weng, IRTA
Tosio Tsukiyama, Visiting Fellow

NIAAA
Benjamin Roberts, Visiting Fellow
Robert Pawlosky, Staff Fellow

NCHGR
Bruce A. Bunnell, Staff Fellow

NICHD
Gianmaria Maccaferri, Visiting Fellow
Forbes Porter, Staff Fellow
Michael Marks, IRTA
Ruben Baler, NRC Fellow

NIAID
David Dorwood, SSF (Rocky Mountain Labs)
Lin Yuan, Visiting Fellow
Sharon H. Jackson, Clinical Associate

NEI
Qian Li, Visiting Associate

NIDDK
Richard Benya, Clinical Associate
Michael Yu Degtyarev, IRTA

NIA
Boyu Zhao, Visiting Fellow (Baltimore campus)
Chavali Balagopalakrishna, Visiting Fellow (Baltimore)

NIEHS
Asad Umar, Visiting Fellow (Research Triangle, N.C.)

Bjorkman To Give Rose Lieberman Lecture, Apr. 12

Dr. Pamela J. Bjorkman, assistant professor in the division of biology and assistant investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, California Institute of Technology, will deliver the Rose Lieberman Lecture on Wednesday, Apr. 12, at 4 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. The presentation is titled "Crystal Structure of the Rat Neonatal Fc Receptor Reveals a New Function for the MHC Fold."

NIAID's Laboratory of Immunology established the lectureship to communicate innovations in the field that Rose Lieberman, a distinguished NIAID staff member, helped pioneer: the genetics of the immune response.

Bjorkman exemplifies the type of scientist Lieberman was and admired. During her 1984 to 1986 postdoctoral work with Dr. Don C. Wiley at Harvard, Bjorkman solved the structure of HLA-A2, a class I major histocompatibility complex molecule. She later worked with Dr. Mark Davis at Stanford to learn recombinant DNA techniques, which she applied to examine the expression of proteins for crystallization and determination of three-dimensional structures. At present, she is working on the structure and function of the cell surface molecules involved in the recognition events that modulate immune and nervous system responses.

A reception for Bjorkman in the amphitheater lobby will follow the lecture. ❑

DCRT Training Classes

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PC Viruses	4/6
Resource Access Control Facility (RACF) for the IBM 370 Data Security	4/6
QMF: DB2's Query Management Facility	4/10-4/12
Using Gopher on the Macintosh	4/11
Using Gopher on the PC	4/11
Developing Data Entry Applications w/ SAS/FSP	4/13
Getting Started with Windows	4/13
Distributed Computing Environment (DCE) Facilities for Users	4/13
KINEMAGES: Desktop Interactive Molecular Graphics for Publication, Teaching and Research	4/14
Relational Database Design	4/19

Country Western Dance Club Forms, First Meeting, Mar. 30

The NIH R&W Country Western Dance Club is now forming. Beginners on up are welcome. The club will meet on campus at lunch time or after work. Bring your ideas and your lunch to an organizational meeting on Thursday, Mar. 30 from noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 2A52. Free soft drinks provided. For more information, call Dennis Askwith, 6-5031. ❑

TRAINING TIPS

The Division of Workforce Development, OHRM, offers the following courses:

Courses and Programs	*Starting Dates*
Management and Supervisory, 6-6211	
Preventing Sexual Harassment at NIH	4/18
Effective Presentation Skills	4/5
Practical Management Approaches	4/19
Interacting with Difficult Employees	5/4
Effective Listening & Memory	5/15
EEO Training, 6-6211	
Preventing Sexual Harassment at NIH for All Employees	4/18
Special Courses, 6-6211	
NIH Retirement Seminar	4/19, 5/8, 6/14
Administrative Systems, 6-6211	
Delegated Acquisition Training Program	5/8
Basic Time and Attendance (Manual Process)	5/17
Administrative & Skills Development, 6-6211	
Improving Telephone Skills	5/16
Creating and Maintaining Filing Systems	4/18
Professional Development for Secretaries	4/5
Valuing Diversity in the Workplace	4/19
Scientific & Medical Editing	5/1
Personal Computing, 6-6211	
Excel 4.0 for Windows	4/11
Intro to Windows	4/28
Advanced Windows	4/24
Desktop Publishing With 5.2 Windows	4/6
Intro to Personal Computing for New Users	4/12
WordPerfect 5.2 for Windows	4/18
Intro to WordPerfect 6.0	4/18
Intro to Paradox 4.5 for Windows	5/8
MS:Mail for Windows	5/8
Macintosh Courses:	
Welcome to Macintosh	5/4
Introduction to Pagemaker 5.0	4/13
Kaleidagraph 3.0	4/18
Intro to PowerPoint 3.0	4/5
Intro to Filemaker 2.0	4/11

Personal computer training is available through User Resources Center self-study courses. There is no cost to NIH employees for these hands-on sessions. Additional courses are available by completing the "Training By Request" form in the back of the DWD catalog. For more information, call DWD, 6-6211 or consult the catalog. ❑

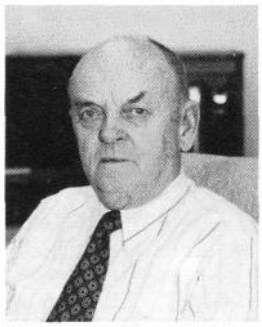
NIMH Hormone Study Recruits

The Biological Psychiatry Branch, NIMH, seeks female volunteers ages 18-40 who have had at least one episode of postpartum depression or other parturition-related mood disorders following a full-term pregnancy. Volunteers must be free of medical illnesses and not taking any medication on a regular basis. Volunteers may be asked to participate in a 6-month protocol investigating the effects of ovarian hormones on brain and behavior in an endocrine model of pregnancy. All volunteers will be paid for their participation. For more information, call Dr. Miki Bloch, 6-9675. ❑

Arthur Hoversland Retires from DRG

After 17 years at NIH, Dr. Arthur Hoversland, scientific review administrator of the human embryology and development study section, Referral and Review Branch, retired from the Division of Research Grants.

He came to NIH in 1978 on a temporary assignment from the University of California, Fresno, where he was chairman of the animal sciences department. He found NIH to be a great place to work and loved it so much that he asked to stay another year. He later decided to give up his chairmanship and joined DRG as an executive secretary.



Dr. Arthur Hoversland

Prior to his position at UC Fresno, Hoversland held faculty positions with Montana State University, University of Oregon Medical School, and California State University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in animal sciences from Montana State College and his doctorate in animal physiology from Oregon State University.

He was a member of the Society for the Study of Reproduction, Society for the Study of Fertility and Sterility, the American Society of Animal Sciences, and the Association of Registered Professional Animal Scientists. A recipient of the Merit Award, he was honored for "superior resourcefulness in fostering improved interactions between and within the extramural research community and NIH staff."

Hoversland's goal has been "for everyone to get a fair peer evaluation in the review process, which at times meant doing a little more than the ordinary."

His supervisor, Dr. Donna J. Dean, chief, biological and physiological sciences review section, noted, "I will miss his clever wit and original expressions, in addition to losing someone with an invaluable background in endocrinology and reproductive sciences."

"Dr. Hoversland has been a very important member of the team," said Nona Hamilton, grants technical assistant. "He was very pleasant with a good personality—very calm, very reasonable, and had a great sense of humor."

In retirement, he will continue to live in the Frederick, Md., area, and has plans to travel, including visits with his children in Indiana, Oregon, and Hawaii. ❑

DRG's Ketchel Bids Farewell to Federal Service

Dr. Melvin Ketchel of the Referral and Review Branch, Division of Research Grants, has retired after 13 years of federal service. Since 1981, he was scientific review administrator of a special study section that reviewed rehabilitation and vision Small Business Innovation Research applications.

Dr. Melvin Ketchel

Prior to his NIH service, Ketchel worked in research at Harvard University. From 1959 to 1965, at the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology in Shrewsbury, Mass., he worked with Dr. Gregory Pinkus, developer of oral contraceptives. Ketchel continued his science career as a professor at Tufts Medical School, Boston, from 1965 to 1971. From 1972 to 1975, he became the first director of the new Population Research Institute in Oak Ridge, Tenn. In 1975, he went on to the World Health Organization in Geneva, working in the human reproduction unit.

Ketchel received his bachelor's degree in biology and chemical sciences from Olivet College in Michigan, his master's degree from Case Western Reserve University, and his doctorate in physiology from Harvard University in 1954.

In 1992, he received the NIH Director's Award in "recognition of organizing the reviews of grant applications for a major trans-NIH program for the construction of biomedical research laboratories and animal breeding facilities." For Ketchel, "the NIH peer review process is really head and shoulders above any other in its fairness, in its lack of political incursion. It's a model system for doing what it does."

His colleagues at DRG describe him as a thoughtful and thorough individual. "Dr. Ketchel has been a big help to other SRA's in special study sections and has brought a sense of calmness and confidence to the science," said Dr. Donald Schneider, SRA, special study section-2. Krishna Jain, grants technical assistant, added that "he is extremely patient, calm, charming, and a pleasant person to work for."

After a rewarding and stimulating professional career, Ketchel plans to do a fair amount of travel. He also intends to spend time in the library, catching up on important developments in science that his job has not allowed time for him to follow. ❑

Fencing Club Plans Spring Class

The NIH Fencing Club continues to meet on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the assembly hall on the 14th floor of the Clinical Center. Fencers of all levels are invited. A new series of group classes for beginner/intermediate fencers will be starting on Apr. 10. Six group classes cost $30. Equipment is provided. Contact Larry Pinkus, 4-7315, or Bettie Graham, 6-7531, for more information. ❑

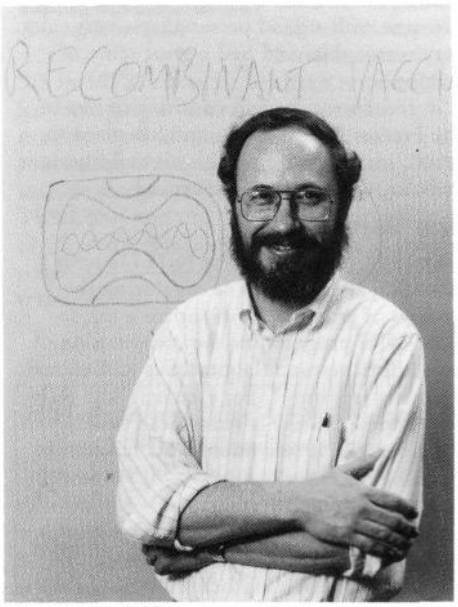
NIAID's Moss Wins Major Virology Prize, Lectures Apr. 12

Dr. Bernard Moss, chief of NIAID's Laboratory of Viral Diseases, will receive the 1994 ICN International Prize in Virology, consisting of an award and $50,000.

The prize recognizes Moss's many fundamental contributions to knowledge of vaccinia virus—well-known for its role as the vaccine that eradicated smallpox—and for the worldwide impact of his research.

"Dr. Moss is one of the most outstanding scientists in the field of virology in the world today," commented NIAID director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci. "He is totally deserving of such an important honor, and the NIAID is very proud of him."

In conjunction with the award, Moss will lecture on "Learning Molecular Biology and Immunology from a Virus" in the Natcher Conference Center main auditorium on Wednesday, Apr. 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. He will describe how vaccinia virus regulates expression of its genes, assembles infectious particles and defends itself against the immune system. In addition, he will consider novel uses of vaccinia virus as an expression vector for designing vaccines and therapeutics.



Dr. Bernard Moss

An independent committee of distinguished international scientists selects the honoree for ICN, an international pharmaceuticals company. Moss is the sixth scientist, and the second from NIAID, to win the annual award. Dr. Robert Chanock, chief of the institute's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, received the ICN Prize in 1991.

Moss and his research associates investigated almost all aspects of the complex vaccinia virus. Moss learned how to gently disrupt infectious vaccinia virus particles so that he and his colleagues could release and purify numerous important enzymes. These ongoing studies provide important insights into the mechanisms of gene regulation.

Moss was the first to apply sequencing and recombinant DNA technology to determine the organization and structure of the vaccinia genome. He also was one of the first to recognize that viruses might have specific defense molecules to protect themselves from the immune systems of their hosts.

His discoveries also led Moss to rationally construct vaccinia vector systems, since provided to hundreds of laboratories. He and others have used vaccinia expression systems to study the immunologic regulation of other microorganisms, such as HIV, as well as to develop live recombinant vaccines.

After receiving a medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and a doctorate in biochemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Moss joined NIAID in 1966 as an investigator at the Laboratory of Biology of Viruses. For the last 10 years he has headed LVD. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1987, and has received several other awards. ❑

Normal Subjects Needed

An NIMH neuroimaging study requires female subjects ages 18-45. Involves limited radiation exposure as part of single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) procedures. Study involves screening evaluation, SPECT scan, and MRI scan as well as opportunities for participation in other studies. Intravenous access needed and no arterial line necessary. Ample payment provided for participation. Located on the campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington, D.C. Free parking available in monitored lot, also accessible by Metro. If interested, Call Dr. Eric Watsky, (202) 373-6112. ❑

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The spring schedule of the Wednesday Afternoon Lectures opens Apr. 5 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, with a talk by Dr. Richard O. Hynes of the department of biology, Center for Cancer Research, MIT/HHMI. His talk, "Murine Mutations Affecting Cell Adhesion," is hosted by the Cell Biology Interest Group.

On Apr. 12 at 3 p.m. in Masur, Dr. Stuart Kornfeld, professor of medicine, division of hematology-oncology, Washington University School of Medicine, will address "Signals that Mediate the Cellular Trafficking of the Mannose 6-phosphate Receptors." This lecture is sponsored by the Glycobiology Interest Group.

For more information, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595. ❑

NIH R&W and Health's Angels To Hold Relay, Picnic

On Wednesday, May 17, the NIH Health's Angels Running Club will hold the 18th Annual NIH Institute Relay. All NIH employees and Parklawn Bldg. employees are invited to participate in the relay race. This year, in conjunction with the race, the NIH R&W Association is sponsoring a spring picnic on the grass in front of Bldg. 1. Picnic festivities begin at 11 a.m. with the race starting at noon.

The relay race will include team competition in five divisions: open (runners age 39 and under), master (runners over age 40), all male, all female, and mixed (teams with at least two female runners). The names of the winning teams in each division will be inscribed on the Allen Lewis Memorial Trophy, and all participants will receive commemorative ribbons. Each relay team is comprised of five runners, each of whom runs a half-mile loop around Bldg. 1. The picnic will include a lunch, a tug-of-war, and three-legged races with fun and lots of prizes for everyone.

There is a $5 team entry fee for the relay race that will be used to help defray the cost of the race. Entry forms for the relay race and instructions will be available at the R&W activities desk located in Bldg. 31, Rm. B1W30, beginning on Monday, Apr. 10. Teams entering the relay must return their completed entry forms with the entry fee to the R&W activities desk by 4 p.m. on Friday, May 12.

Picnic lunch tickets are available at all R&W locations. Those interested in finding out more about the race or in volunteering their help should call either Dr. Peter Pentchev, 6-3285, or Jerry Moore, 6-4606. For more information about the picnic and lunch tickets, call R&W, 6-4600. ❑