

# THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

## Director's Lecture Features Georgetown's Tannen

Well-known author, speaker and professor Dr. Deborah Tannen, whose book *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in*

*Conversation* was on the *New York Times* bestseller list for nearly 4 years, will present the NIH Director's Cultural Lecture. Her topic will be "Women and Men in Conversation: A Linguistic Approach." The event will take



Dr. Tannen

place on Monday, Oct. 28, at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

Tannen's general audience books are based on her scholarly research, which is well recognized in the academic world. She is one of only three University professors at

SEE TANNEN, PAGE 4

## Diversity Congress II Convenes

NIH's Office of Equal Opportunity will sponsor Diversity Congress II on Oct. 30 and 31. Titled "Learning to Respect Diversity," the congress was developed in response to a recommendation by the 115 delegates who attended last fall's sessions that all employees be educated and trained in managing diversity. The 2-day, five-session 1996 congress



Dr. Betances

begins in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10 at 8:30 a.m. on Oct. 30 with Dr. Samuel Betances presenting "Harness the Rainbow: Diversity and Change in the Workplace." He will reprise his lecture for Session III of the congress at 7:30 p.m., also

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health

October 22, 1996  
Vol. XLVIII, No. 22

## 1997 Budget Boosts NIH, Medical Research Overall

By Carla Garnett

Backing up an oral commitment to medical research with federal funding, Congress passed and the President signed an omnibus appropriations bill that gave NIH \$12.747 billion to spend in fiscal year 1997. The new budget represents a 6.9 percent increase over NIH's 1996 budget of \$11.9 billion. In addition, the spending bill was signed by Sept. 30—before a continuing resolution needed to be crafted in order to keep the government running—and NIH's sister agencies in HHS and others involved in scientific research and health-related pursuits all fared well in the budget finale.

"The Congress and the administration have shown tremendous confidence in NIH with this large funding increase at a time of overall budget stringency," remarked Tony Itteilag, NIH deputy director for management. "We are especially grateful to congressmen [John] Porter [R-Ill.] and [David] Obey [D-Wisc.] and senators [Arlen] Specter [R-Pa.] and [Tom] Harkin [D-Iowa], as

SEE NEW BUDGET, PAGE 8

A Comfy Gathering

## Weather Forces More Intimate CFC Kickoff

By Rich McManus

It got right friendly and cozy during this year's Combined Federal Campaign kickoff, forced indoors to Wilson Hall by uncharitable weather on Oct. 2. Lots of people rubbing elbows, balloon-festooned tables, a jazz band burbling standards in the corner—it was enough to make you wish bad weather would similarly harm next year's extravaganza.

The enhanced atmosphere didn't escape the notice of emcee Tom Flavin, NIH special projects officer, who introduced a small slate of speakers that included a genuine, home-grown CFC success story—Larry Chloupek, an NCI administrative officer who lost his left leg to cancer at age 7 and has since gone on to do remarkable things.

"It's almost more fun to hold [the kickoff] up here, where we can get together and get to know one another a little bit," said CFC-ballcapped host Flavin.



Larry Chloupek

SEE CFC KICKOFF, PAGE 6



Dear Editor,

The recent update on campus construction projects and their impact on parking/navigating around campus was very informative (Sept. 24, "Campus Improvements To Affect Parking..."). The article helped me put some perspective on the purpose for all of the construction trailers, fencing, and equipment around campus.

Nevertheless, you may want to solicit an article explaining efforts by NIH to improve its employee shuttle service. I have recently needed to use our shuttles more frequently than in the past, and I am appalled at how lax the service is. Disregard for established routes, schedules, and the safety of their riders seems to be the *modus operandi* of some of the drivers. As the parking crunch on campus intensifies, improved (i.e., good) shuttle service will be imperative for employees already frazzled by on-campus parking dilemmas. I am sure other readers would agree that a future *Record* article outlining shuttle problems/solutions/standards would be worthwhile.

Matthew Burr, OD

Dear Editor,

I applaud Carl Henn's observations on the lack of recycling at NIH as related in his letter to the *Record* (Sept. 24). Carl is learning first-hand how difficult it is to open our collective mind to thinking past our primary goals of health care and research, to address the more fundamental issues underlying human health.

I can provide an example of one NIH success story: The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences has, through the efforts of our volunteer environmental awareness advisory committee, actually had a pretty comprehensive recycling program for more than 3 years. This past month, we passed the million-pounds-recycled mark. More than 90 percent of the total is accounted for by papers and cardboard. There are markets for other materials, too (glass, cans, aluminum to name only a few); our nonhazardous lab plastics section (both polystyrene culture-ware and polypropylene) is the fastest-growing section of our recycling stream.

You're right, Carl, in pointing out that being "Earth-wise" is not limited to recycling. In conjunction with our Facilities Engineering Branch, we've replaced virtually all the incandescent lamps with quick-start fluorescents, have automatic light switches in many conference rooms, have greatly im-

proved the efficiency of some major machinery in the building, and have a "turn-off-the-lights" program that the security guards help with (so the building is now mostly dark when we come to work). There are lots of other "Nature friendly" initiatives that are ongoing: a bluebird house trail, roadside clean-up, worm-composting of cafeteria kitchen vegetable waste, etc.

You were correct, Carl, that we should be aggressive in procuring recycled-content materials. Unfortunately, government procurement is a complex process that can be, I gather, only slightly influenced at the local level. I urge you to keep trying, for only by buying recycled-content products will there be any market for all the stuff we're trying to recycle.

The key to making all this happen is a solid commitment from management, and a group of employees willing to make it work. NIEHS is lucky to have both. One also needs money: recycling costs about \$30,000/year for our 800-person institute. And I must point out that it's considerably easier to get something started for one institute than it is for the entire main campus. I do know that the Bethesda campus of NIH definitely has the employee dedication, and various folks up to and including Drs. Gottesman and Varmus have expressed their support for the idea. Perhaps your best contact to get involved is Dr. Kira Lueders (Bldg. 37, Rm. 4C03, phone: 6-6855, email: luedersk@dc37a.nci.nih.gov). What's preventing a recycling program at the main campus is still a mystery to many of us. Keep pushing, I'm sure it can be done.

Dr. Robert E. Chapin, Head, NIEHS Environmental Awareness Advisory Committee

Dear Editor,

It seems a small solution to the parking problems would be to paint lines in street parking areas (e.g., Convent Drive) so that people are forced to park correctly.

Shelley Hoogstraten-Miller, VRRS/NEI

### Get Ready for Pumpkin Chase

The 5th annual Great Pumpkin Chase is set for Sunday, Oct. 27 and will benefit the Friends of the Clinical Center (FOCC). The 5K run and 1-mile walk will be sponsored by the NIH Federal Credit Union and radio station WKYS. Individuals and teams can sign up for the races. There will be T-shirts, prizes and refreshments. For more information call Wendy Ladas, 230-4817. To sign up as an FOCC volunteer to help with the event, call Pat Turner, 6-9271. ■

### Overweight Kids, Parents Sought

Healthy overweight children and normal weight children with two overweight parents are needed for NICHD study of body composition and causes of overweight. African American and Caucasian boys and girls ages 6-10 are sought. There will be two visits—one during the day and one overnight. Participants receive a thorough evaluation for medical causes of overweight, including a physical exam, blood tests, metabolism tests, and x-rays. This is not a treatment study. Participants will be paid. Call 6-4168 for more information. ■

## NIH RECORD

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 The Record is recyclable as office white paper.

## OER Launches Web Page

Creating a World Wide Web page is no small feat, particularly one that is designed to meet the information needs of scientists browsing the Internet in search of money to fund research.

The Office of Extramural Research recently reinvented its home page ([www.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm](http://www.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm)), complete with a new look and the latest information on grants, including funding opportunities, award data and important policy changes.

What is involved in the genesis of a Web site? Following is an interview with Dr. Wendy Baldwin, director of NIH's Office of Extramural Research, on how the site came to be.

*Why did you decide to use the web to disseminate grant info?*

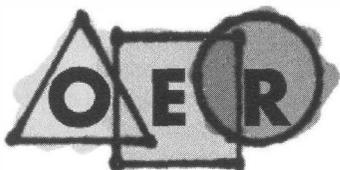
Several reasons, actually, and curiously enough they turn out to be the same ones which are driving many federal agencies into electronic research administration initiatives. First, more and more of our clients—universities, research organizations and scientists—are doing business on the web. Web-based information can be more timely, more accurate and more quickly disseminated than printed information. And finally, it costs us less to publish our materials on the web than to print and distribute them.

*How does your new page differ from the previous incarnation?*

The new site is not only filled with current information and useful background materials, it is visually appealing and easy to navigate. We keep tinkering with it and improving it, week by week, not only adding information, but responding to direct and indirect suggestions for improvement. For example, a user complaint about the visual style of the page was really a hint to us to get a link to the NIH Guide out front earlier than we'd had it. We're adding an alphabetical list of information sources on the page and a search engine, too.

*What is involved with creating a home page?*

Well, there are so many pages out there these days that it seems all that is required is a kid at home with a PC and a spare hour—like my son. Seriously though, a home page has to have a clear vision of the intended users of the page, straightforward organization of the materials to be presented, visual appeal and ergonomic design—which includes attention to how people use computers, how they track concepts and design consideration for speedy computer response time—current material and constant improvement. Maybe the most important ingredient is to have a good reason to post a page.



Pages must be timely and remain timely to get repeat business, so daily attention to content is a critical requirement, as is a dedicated, competent staff supporting the page. We're lucky to have all the right ingredients.

*How do you determine what goes on the page?*

Each of our offices is responsible for an area of extramural research at NIH and each determines what needs to be disseminated to our clients. We post trans-ICD items like the Report on Rating of Grant Applications, the agenda of the peer review oversight group and a wealth of information about human subject and animal welfare issues, too. I formed a web coordinating committee to oversee management of our web site and it reviews all documents posted to the OER page.

*Does this really save trees or do you find that people still are dealing in paper?*

There will always be people who don't trust anything but a crowded file cabinet. But remarkably few people still insist on paper where a viable web alternative is available. Our problem—if it is a problem—is demand. We don't have enough paper documents converted and posted, especially forms. Of course, we're working hard to rectify that.

*Are there scientists who don't have the computer power to access the Internet? If so, does this negatively affect their ability to get funding and award information?*

Fewer and fewer scientists lack access to the Internet; it has been a way of life for researchers for years now. Those scientists without Internet access have difficulty staying connected and current with their fields, not just aware of funding opportunities. So yes, they are negatively affected by their inability to communicate electronically, but not just by their inability to obtain information about NIH. More and more scientists use the Internet to participate fully in the scientific community as a whole.

*How many hits do you get in a month?*

It varies. During this past summer—and summer is the slow season—we averaged between 1,000 and 2,000 hits a day.

*Who should people contact for advice on setting up a page like yours?*

Charlene Osborn and Peter Fitzgerald at DCRT have been invaluable to us as we've progressed. DCRT sponsors a Web Interest Group that's got a page on the DCRT web server ([mantis.dcrn.nih.gov/WIG/](http://mantis.dcrn.nih.gov/WIG/)), so that's a good place to go to look for experts. Also, OIRM is home to the NIH Web Guidelines ([www.nih.gov/od/oirm/guideli2.html](http://www.nih.gov/od/oirm/guideli2.html)), so it's important to check in with them to get a list of general directions. Just go down the list on the NIH Home Page ([www.nih.gov/icd/](http://www.nih.gov/icd/)) and look at some of them, and get in touch with the people who run them. ■



*Dr. Allen J. Wilcox, chief of the Epidemiology Branch, NIEHS, has been elected president of the 3,000-member Society for Epidemiologic Research. The society is the primary organization of epidemiologists in the United States and the largest such organization in the world. Wilcox will become president in June 1997, after a year as president-elect.*

## Symposium

### Honors NICHD's Levine

"Scientific Excellence at NICHD," a symposium in honor of Dr. Arthur S. Levine, scientific director for the institute since 1982, will take place on Nov. 1, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in Lister Hill Auditorium. Presentations will include: Regulation of GCN4: A Window on Translation Initiation Factors, The Nucleosome—A Small, Yet Powerful Component of Transcription, and Growth Regulation in Mice and Men. Speakers will include NCI director Dr. Richard Klausner, NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander and NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus.

### Depression Study Needs Volunteers

NIMH is looking for adults, 18-65, currently experiencing depression to participate in a short-term study offering comprehensive evaluation and consultation. For more information call Julie Dearing or Dr. Cora-Locatelli, 6-3421.

TANNEN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Georgetown University. She has been on the linguistics department faculty since 1979, after receiving her Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley.

She served as a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study at Princeton, N.J., in 1992-1993. She has also been the McGraw distinguished lecturer at Princeton University. She is associate editor of several journals and serves on the editorial boards of many others.

With 15 books and more than 70 articles to her credit, Tannen has received fellowships and grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies. Her most recent book, *Talking From 9 to 5: Women and Men in the Workplace: language, sex and power*, is newly out in paperback and has been adapted as a business training video.

The lecture is part of the Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series. All NIH employees are invited to attend. For more information, contact Hilda Madine, 4-5595. ■



The final program for the 1995-1996 ORWH Women's Health Seminar Series focused on "Women and the Mystique of Smoking." Guest speakers discussed the current status of smoking for women, health effects, changes in demographics, marketing, and what people can do to help decrease the incidence of smoking. Speakers included (from l) Dr. Robert Klesges, University of Memphis; Charyn Sutton, the Onyx Group; Dr. Corinne Husten, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Dr. John Pierce, University of California-San Diego; and Dr. Karen Emmons, Harvard School of Public Health, who was moderator. The 1996-1997 series kicks off at 2 p.m. on Dec. 5 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10 with a look at women and aging. For more information, call 2-1770.

### Asian Heritage Program Planning Starts

The first planning meeting for the 25th annual Asian/Pacific American Heritage Program at NIH is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 24 at noon in the Little Theater, Visitor Information Center, Bldg. 10. The program will be held in May 1997. All interested parties are invited to attend the planning session. For more information, call Victor Fung, 6-1625. ■

DIVERSITY CONGRESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in Masur. Session II features Dr. Joan Reede of Harvard Medical School, who will discuss "Mentoring and Career Development in a Scientific Environment," from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 10. All three sessions on Oct. 30 are open to all employees.



Dr. Joan Reede

On Oct. 31, session IV will be an executive briefing for ICD directors, deputy directors, scientific directors, Office of the Director senior staff and executive officers. Featuring guest speaker Dr. R. Roosevelt Thomas, Jr., as well as a panel

discussion, the session begins at 8:30 a.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

The congress concludes in Natcher Auditorium from 1 to 4 p.m. on Oct. 31 with a session for managers, supervisors, laboratory and branch chiefs, and EEO, personnel and administrative officers. Thomas will conduct the session.

For more information, call John Medina III, 6-9281. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For reasonable accommodation requests, call Carlton Coleman, 6-2906 (v/tty). ■

### Awards Honor Fellows' Research

The Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE) this year will again recognize outstanding scientific research. One hundred and twenty basic science and clinical fellows will be awarded \$1,000 each for domestic travel and costs associated with a scientific meeting. Applications, including abstracts, may be electronically submitted to the NIH fellows committee website Felcom (<ftp://helix.nih.gov/felcom/index.html>), mailed or hand-delivered to the Office of Education, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1C129, Attn. Shirley Forehand, before Nov. 15. Winners will be announced next January. Questions should be emailed to [award@atlas.niaid.nih.gov](mailto:award@atlas.niaid.nih.gov) or your institute's fellows committee representative. The application form and instructions can be accessed at Felcom. ■

### Alzheimer's Disease Family Study

If you are over age 50 and have a first-degree relative (parent or sibling) with confirmed Alzheimer's disease (AD), you may be wondering if you have an increased risk of developing AD yourself. NIMH is doing a long-term study of potential risk factors in first-degree relatives of AD patients. Evaluation includes memory testing as well as thorough medical screening, which will be repeated yearly. To learn more, come to an information meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 2:30 p.m. in the 4th floor clinic conference room, Bldg. 10. Call Judy Friz, 6-0948, to reserve a place. ■

First Person

## A Violent Waltz with Fran

By Jerry Phelps

The destruction wrought by Hurricane Fran had to be witnessed first hand. Having lived in North Carolina all my life, I had seen the results of powerful storms. I had helped friends clear trees from their yards after a tornado struck Raleigh in 1987. In 1989, Hugo cleared a path from the South Carolina coast, through Charlotte. And last year, when my home was under construction, two trees fell on it during a thunderstorm. So when forecasters said Fran would pass through the Triangle, I knew there would be serious damage, but Fran exceeded my expectations in her fury.

I was alone at home Thursday, Sept. 5. My wife was in Seattle and I was on the phone with her at 8:30 that evening when the power and the phone went out. We live in a rural section of the Triangle area on 5 acres of heavily wooded land. I called my parents on my cellular phone to find out how they were. They were concerned about me being alone, so they asked me to come spend the night with them. After a minute of consideration, I locked all the doors, put the dog in the basement, and climbed into my old, battered pickup truck to make the 30 minute drive to their house. The wind was already howling, but I made the trip without any problems. My parents' home still had power when I arrived, but at about 11:30, their lights went out. I slept in my old bed not knowing what I would find in the morning, and as usual, I slept like a rock.

At 6:45 Friday morning, we awoke to a surprisingly still powerful wind. My parents had three trees down, but had no structural damage. Their neighbors were not so lucky. They had two trees on their house and another at a precarious lean. I decided to try to go home, but I hardly made it out of the driveway when I had to turn around because the road was blocked. Within a mile, a main road was blocked in three places, but by driving through ditches and over limbs and branches, I was able to make progress. Every road seemed to be a blind alley—I would drive for miles through undamaged areas only to round a corner and find the road flooded or trees down with power lines tangled in them.

In the 2 hours it took me to get home, my emotions were in turmoil. I saw undamaged areas that gave me hope followed by devastation that almost made me cry. Finally, as I turned onto my gravel road, I had resigned myself to just being happy that I was alive and well, and that the people I cared most about were safe—anything else could be fixed. I couldn't drive all the way to my house because a tree had taken out a power pole and the line. As I walked the last 2,000 feet to the top of my driveway,

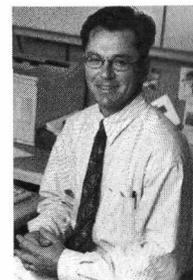
I was relieved to see the intact roof of my house. However, my relief was undercut by the sheer number of trees that had been uprooted. After looking around for a few minutes, I realized that I was witnessing the result of a miracle. All of the trees that fell were pointed to the southwest, however, two trees northeast of the house were still standing. Had they been uprooted, our home would have been split in half. Within seconds of this realization, I saw a hummingbird visiting a feeder. How did that tiny creature survive winds up to 80 mph? Where did it find shelter? Another miracle?

The first hours and days after the storm were about survival. I spent Friday morning visiting all my neighbors to make sure they were safe. All of my neighbors, some I am ashamed to say I had never met, pitched in to clear the road and the blocked driveways. Saturday was a day for finding water, canned food, batteries, and gasoline for the chain saw, cleaning out the refrigerator, trying to get in touch with friends, and trying to figure out how I was going to deal with all those trees.

Sunday morning, we bought a generator. After a lesson in electrical wiring at Home Depot, we took it home, hooked it up to the fuse box and had hot and cold running water, a working refrigerator, and we even watched a movie on the VCR that evening.

Tree clearing began in earnest Sunday afternoon. The trees were so tangled and piled on one another that at some points I was 10 feet in the air standing on limbs so that I could reach higher branches. I quickly realized what a thing of beauty a sharp chain saw is and how good it felt to be doing something.

Going to work on Monday was a pleasure; my muscles had a chance to rest. Normalcy was returning and trading stories with friends was helpful in getting over Fran. Tuesday night, when the power came back on and all the generators in our neighborhood went off, we could enjoy the sounds of our creek, screech owls, and the air-conditioning compressor. Life has returned to normal now, except that my weekends for the next 2 years are booked. For the foreseeable future, my answering machine will play, "Come on over with your chain saw, we'd love to see you." ■



*Jerry Phelps is a program analyst in NIEHS' Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation. A former management intern, he has been at NIH since 1985.*



*As Phelps was making the last cut on a tree trunk, this 12-foot high root ball fell back into the hole, snatching a chain saw out of his hands. Luckily he was uninjured.*

**CFC KICKOFF**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"NIH now has overall responsibility for the entire HHS campaign," he noted, adding that Cheryl Seamon of NIH's Office of Administration was chosen to coordinate the departmental effort. Last year, HHS contributed \$2.25 million of a total \$36 million federal CFC collection.

Here on campus, the National Center for Research Resources is this year's lead ICD in an annual charity campaign for which some 2,500 nonprofit agencies are eligible. NCCR director Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis reminded the crowd that NIH'ers need only recall as far back as last winter, when federal furloughs and snowy weather shut down the government and threw many into financial straits, to be reminded how close all of us are to needing a helping hand.

"It went beyond personal inconvenience," she said. "Many were worried about when the next paycheck was coming. What if we had to worry about our next meal? What if there was a shutdown of hope?" she asked, playing on the CFC theme "Help Hope Take Shape."

"We must make sure that such a shutdown never occurs," she declared.

Vaitukaitis is contributing not only her center's managerial might to the effort, but also the skill of artist Margaret Georgiann, late of NCCR's Medical Arts and Photography Branch (she recently launched her own business), who designed special posters and T-shirts for the campaign that were unveiled at the kickoff. The artwork will be submitted to a government-wide contest to determine which agency best promoted the CFC.

"I think it's going to win," quipped Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIH deputy director, who called upon the crowd to remember its long tradition of generous giving and welcomed the honor of leading the charge for all of HHS. "It's a mission we take seriously," she remarked. "With your help there will



*The indoor location of this year's kickoff prompted near-effortless schmoozing conditions for those in attendance.*



*Unveiling NIH's new CFC poster are NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein and Albert Marra, NCCR executive officer.*

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON

### Cafe Verde 'Green' with Envy

The Cafe Verde operated by Guest Services, Inc. (GSI), located above the Visitor Information Center in Bldg. 10, will be receiving a new look starting this month. GSI's makeover plans include installing new carpeting, tables and chairs, cushioned benches, and a high bar. For patrons who cannot miss a day without their favorite cup of brewed coffee, GSI will continue services at this location as usual during the renovation of the ACRF cafeteria. The grand reopening is set for Nov. 4.

**Reminder: Only 85 days left until the Bldg. 31 cafeteria renovation begins.**

be plenty of hope on hand."

Kirschstein urged NIH'ers to take a few moments and consider that their donations help other federal workers, some close by. Fitting that description was Chloupek, an energetic administrator (see *NIH Record*, Mar. 12, 1996,

p. 1) who recently participated in the Paralympic Games that followed the Olympics in Atlanta, helped bear the Olympic torch during its 15,000-mile journey from Los Angeles to Atlanta, and who coaches baseball after work at Potomac's Churchill High School.

A wheelchair athlete who competed for the United States in seated volleyball at the Paralympics—but whose team did not win a medal—Chloupek enumerated CFC-related help at important junctures in his life: funding for the Paralympics and training sites and equipment came from CFC sources, and for the past 7 years, Chloupek has been associated with Special Love, Inc., which sponsors Camp Fantastic for children with cancer each summer.

"The Combined Federal Campaign has personally touched my heart and given me hope to pursue some of my goals that I did not even think possible 28 years ago when I lost my leg to cancer," he said. "But more importantly, it provides assistance to others who are in dire need of hope. Thank you for your love, support, and hope in making someone's dream become a reality."

The kickoff closed with a raffle, whose winners and prizes are as follows: Chuck Sherman—color TV set (donated by Geico); Nancy Wirth—DSW Shoe Warehouse gift certificate; Olga Tjurmina—\$25 R&W gift certificate; Jon Retzlaff, Kevin McShane, Theresa Raymer, Joan Eaton—Cineplex Odeon movie passes. **R**



*Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis*

## NIDDK Installs New Spectrometer

"It wasn't your typical office move," says Dr. Angela Gronenborn, about the 10-foot-tall 3,527-pound 750 megaHertz nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer recently installed in Bldg. 5.

To lower the giant magnet into the subbasement, more than a foot of brick was removed from the top of the rear entrance, ceiling beams were dislodged, and the freight elevator was pulled out of the way.

"It wasn't easy, but everything went smoothly," says Gronenborn, who is chief of the structural biology section in NIDDK's Laboratory of Chemical Physics.

The biggest and most powerful spectrometer at NIH was purchased by NIDDK's LCP, NIDR, and the Intramural AIDS Targeted Antiviral Program. It has the capacity to analyze the structure of AIDS proteins, reveal the three-dimensional structures of large cancer molecules and ultimately open new avenues of research at NIDDK.

"It brings our equipment up to speed with that of the other major NMR laboratories, including one at the Department of Energy," Gronenborn says. The magnet will be used by four NIDDK research groups, headed by Drs. Adriaan Bax, Marius Clore, Gronenborn, and Robert Tycko, and one NIDR research group led by Dr. Dennis Torchia.

The NIDDK lab, in collaboration with others in NIAMS, recently found an unexpected fold in the solution structure of HIV-1 Nef using a 600 MHz

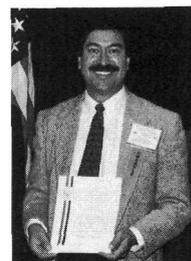
spectrometer. The fold suggests a target for anti-HIV drug design. "Our findings are promising," says Gronenborn. "But the 750 MHz would have eliminated problems we experienced with aggregation and allowed us to work with protein solutions at reduced concentrations."

The larger magnet also has a higher spectral resolution to analyze larger and more complicated proteins such as HIV-1 protease-drug complexes. It provides more detailed pictures of the dynamics of proteins and protein-ligand complexes, helping researchers understand how large, complex molecules cause disease and identify options for preventing or altering the disease process.

NIDDK's first NMR spectrometer, purchased in the summer of 1957, was 40 MHz. "It was marvelous to have an NMR spectrometer at that time," says Dr. Edwin Becker, chief of the NMR section.

"Organic chemists came to see whether that big machine would tell them what compound they had isolated or synthesized, and often it did!" Since then the field of NMR has increased dramatically. NIDDK graduated to the 60 MHz, then the 220, and then the 270, which was the only superconducting NMR system in the southeastern part of the country for almost a decade, says Becker. Today, NIH researchers hope the 750's ability to image complex molecules will boost chemical and biochemical research both in and outside of NIH.—

Sharon Ricks ■



*Dr. Carlos G. Gutierrez was recently presented with a Presidential mentoring award. A member of the National Advisory General Medical Sciences Council and a director of NIGMS' minority programs at California State University, Los Angeles, he was among the recipients of the first annual Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. He is a professor of chemistry at Cal State-LA. During the past 20 years, he is credited with mentoring more than 180 students.*

## New Uses for Employee Express

Did you know that Employee Express, the automated system that allows federal employees to manage many aspects of their own payroll/personnel information, now permits changes to health benefits (FEHB) and Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)?



Yes, it's true. Using a touchtone phone or touch-screen kiosk, employees may make changes beginning this

open season, the first pay period in November 1996. All employees need is their Social Security number and personal identification number to start, change or stop their FEHB or start, change or allocate funds in their TSP.

If you have lost or forgotten your PIN, contact the Employee Express help desk, (912) 757-3030. ■

## Treatment for Panic Attacks

People currently experiencing panic attacks may be eligible for a free treatment outcome study evaluating nondrug treatments for panic and anxiety. For more information call Matt Wineman at USUHS, (301) 295-3651. ■

## Pay Slips Undergo Changes

Beginning with the pay slip for pay date Oct. 8, all Social Security numbers and home addresses have been deleted from the pay slip. This step was taken to reduce the amount of personal information on the pay slip that could be used for fraudulent purposes, said the Office of Human Resources Management. This change may cause some minor inconvenience for some timekeepers and for those employees designated to distribute pay slips. Care must be taken in the distribution process if a timekeeper has employees with identical or similar names.

Employees who may be concerned that their address is incorrect in their personnel records can easily verify their address through the use of Employee Express (EE). Also, whenever employees make any personnel changes using EE, they can also use EE to verify that the change has been made to their personnel record. Usually, when changes are made using EE, the change can be verified by the employee the next day.

If you are interested in using EE to make your personnel changes, call the Customer Support Group at 6-5072 or 6-4556 for information. EE is fast, secure and the most efficient way to make changes to your record. ■

**Camera Club Meets, Nov. 12**

The NIH R&W Camera Club will meet Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Rm. 6C08. Guest speakers will be Pat Hansen and Mollie Issacs of F2 Photography Design Studio who will talk about portrait photography. The subject for the evening's competition is "Abstract." All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Dr. Yuan Liu, 4-6382.

**Anxious Drinkers Needed**

Adults ages 18-65 who have significant social anxiety and high alcohol consumption are needed for a psychology study. Social anxiety includes feeling anxious in social and performance situations, e.g., parties, dates, work, public speaking. Eligible participants will receive \$40 for 4-5 hours of interviews and testing. For more information, call Gao Tran, (202) 885-1743.

**NEW BUDGET, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

well as [HHS] Secretary Donna Shalala and Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, for their efforts on behalf of NIH. The budget increase—nearly 7 percent—means that we will be able to support additional high quality research leading, in the future, to improved health care outcomes for the American people. Moreover, we will be able to begin construction of the new Clinical Research Center (CRC), which will keep us in the forefront in conducting first rate clinical research for years to come. With the provision of annual funding at the beginning of the fiscal year, we can assure the most efficient stewardship of these appropriations."

The centerpiece of NIH's 1997 budget is the \$90 million down payment on the CRC, which according to the new budget law, will bear the name "Mark O. Hatfield Clinical Research Center," in honor of the retiring Republican senator from Oregon who has chaired the Senate appropriations committee and has been a medical research supporter in the Senate since 1967. CRC construction carries a \$310 million price tag, with funding phases spread over several years, and is slated to begin in this fiscal year. The current budget signed into law by President Clinton contains precise language allowing NIH to contract for the full scope of the new project even though future year appropriations will be needed to complete funding.

Other highlights of the spending law include a resolution of the differences between the House and the Senate regarding funding for NIH AIDS research. The final agreement appropriates all funds to the institutes, but directs that "the funding for AIDS research as determined by the directors of NIH and OAR be allocated directly to OAR for distribution to the institutes consistent with the AIDS research plan." The conference report states that the "directors of NIH and OAR have indicated that within the total provided in the conference agreement for NIH, they expect to allocate \$1,501,720,000 for AIDS research," a 6.8 percent increase over last year. The agreement also includes transfer authority, permitting the directors of NIH and OAR to shift up to 3 percent of AIDS research funding between institutes and centers throughout the year if needs change or unanticipated scientific opportunities arise.

Special emphasis areas—research priorities such as the biology of brain disorders, new approaches to pathogenesis, new preventive strategies against disease, genetics of medicine, and advanced instrumentation and computers in medicine and research that NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus has designated to stress this year—were provided \$240 million.

NIH's Office of Alternative Medicine received \$12 million, which more than doubles OAM's budget of a year ago. The new funds will provide support to the ICDs through collaborative research projects.

Although NIH's total budget increased over last year's, administrative costs will be held at fiscal year 1996's level. Overall, the intramural research

program's spending will increase at a somewhat lower rate than the overall budget, probably in the range of 3 to 4 percent.

The National Foundation for Biomedical Research, authorized by Congress in 1990 legislation, received \$200,000 in seed money.

The NIH director's authority to transfer 1 percent of the total budget among ICDs to meet unforeseen research opportunities was continued.

As part of reaching final agreement on funding levels, congressional conferees agreed to an additional \$5 million for a pediatric research initiative; an additional \$8 million for neurodegenerative disease research; and \$14.75 million for the National Action Plan on Breast Cancer.

Medical research in other agencies received 1997 budget boons in the omnibus law as well: The Department of Defense, for instance, will be able to launch a new prostate cancer research effort.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
FY 1997 Budget  
(Dollars in Thousands)**

ICD	FY 1996* Estimate	FY 1997 Budget
NCI	\$2,248,000	\$2,382,532
NHLBI	1,354,946	1,433,001
NIDR	182,923	195,997
NIDDK	770,582	815,982
NINDS	680,902	726,746
NIAID	1,168,483	1,257,234
NIGMS	946,896	998,470
NICHD	594,547	631,703
NEI	313,933	332,735
NIHES	288,378	308,819
NIA	453,541	486,047
NIAMS	242,655	257,111
NIDCD	176,383	188,422
NIMH	660,514	701,585
NIDA	458,112	489,375
NIAAA	198,401	212,004
NINR	55,814	59,743
NCRR	390,298	415,145
NCHGR	169,768	189,657
FIC	25,327	26,586
NLM	140,936	151,103
OD	260,072	287,206
Subtotal	11,781,411	12,547,203
Buildings & Facilities (Clinical Research Center)	146,151 (23,000)	200,000 (90,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,927,562</b>	<b>12,747,203</b>

*NIH will spend \$1.502 billion—a 6.8 percent increase over last year—of its total 1997 budget on AIDS.*

\*Adjusted for rescissions.

## Baltimore Students Help with NIEHS Air Pollution Research

Passengers on the city buses in Baltimore weren't too sure what to make of the high school students they saw this summer, each wearing a strange and noisy electronic "blue box" device, plastic hoses slung over their shoulders.

Some of their fellow riders backed away, seeming to fear the students were suffering from a dread disease.

In fact, the students were participating in research to find out what contaminants they encountered in the air on their daily rides to school.

The 2-week portable monitoring phase of the study ended in July, but the students continued working with professional scientists to analyze the samples they collected.

The work is part of a 4-year, \$600,000 grant to the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Environmental Health Education Center from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, under its environmental justice program, to encourage communities to take an active role in research on, and prevention of environmental pollution and related disease.

Six students in all, such as Gia Grier and Joseph Jenkins V, both 16-year-olds recommended by their teachers and principals, were paid \$5 an hour to participate for 6 weeks in the program, which

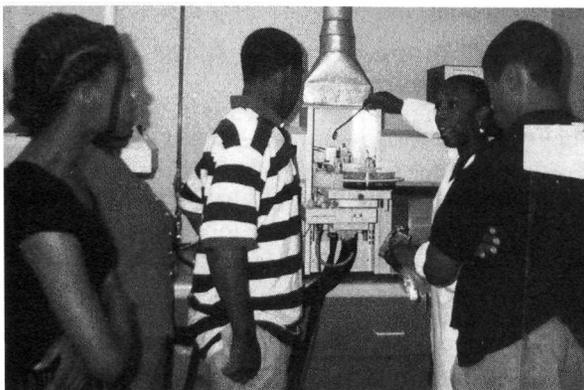
## NINDS, Baylor College of Medicine Hook Up on 'BrainLink'

For 2 years NINDS has participated in BrainLink, a collaborative program created to bring the excitement of brain and nervous system science into classrooms, homes and communities nationwide.

Funded by NIH, BrainLink is designed to teach elementary and early middle school students about the brain and nervous system, while promoting safe and healthy behaviors, advancing awareness of science and health careers, and allowing teachers, students and families to explore science concepts using hands-on, discovery-oriented approaches.

The program was developed by researchers, clinicians, and educators at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, in partnership with the Harris County (Tex.) Medical Society and the Houston Independent School District.

BrainLink consists of four teaching units, each focusing on a central neuroscience topic. The topics are Brain Comparisons, Motor Highways, Sensory Signals, and Learning and Memory. Within each unit, the main topic is developed and maintained throughout three interrelated components including Adventures in Neuroscience, a series of stories about a group of children called the NeuroExplorers; Explorations in Neuroscience, a mini-magazine filled with information, health and safety tips, and fun activities that encourage children and their families to do neuroscience projects together; and Activities



*Students test for lead in soil collected from a Baltimore public city garden. Demonstrating use of spectrometer is University of Maryland toxicologist Linda Watson, who was students' mentor.*

introduces them to careers in science and the environment as well as providing what amounts to a summer job.

A fringe benefit was that the group was the subject of a *Baltimore Sun* newspaper feature article and photos.

Two major sources of pollution, especially on the street, are the city's fleet of diesel sanitation trucks and city buses. With transfers, it is not unusual for a student who commutes to spend 2 hours or more each day traveling to and from school or work. ■

in Neuroscience, a teacher's guide that provides lessons for the classroom and background information for educators. Activities include making "brain dough" to create a model brain and using water balloons to learn about the size and the delicate nature of the brain.

In 1995 and 1996 NINDS sent BrainLink kits to the winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching at the elementary level. The award is the nation's highest honor for math and science teachers in grades kindergarten through 12. NINDS also sent kits to 85 teachers in the Atlanta, Ga., Public School System as part of the Elementary Science Education Partnership Program, a program designed to aid elementary school teachers in science and mathematics instruction. For more information on BrainLink, contact Judy Dresden, Baylor College of Medicine, (713) 798-8205. ■

## Postmenopausal Vols Needed

The Cardiology Branch, NHLBI, needs postmenopausal volunteers for an outpatient study comparing estrogen and lipid-lowering therapies. Participants must not be taking any medications, hormone replacements or vitamins or be willing to stop medications for 2 months. Volunteers will be paid. Call Rita Mincemoyer, 6-3666. ■

## Use or Lose Annual Leave

Annual leave in excess of the maximum carryover balance (in most cases 240 hours) is normally forfeited if not used by the end of the current leave year. Employees who have not already planned to take those excess hours should discuss leave plans with their supervisors now, while there is still time to schedule leave. Bi-weekly Earnings and Leave Statements (pay slip) tell how much annual leave must be used or lost when the leave year ends on Saturday, Jan. 4.

Despite planning, circumstances arise that prevent taking scheduled and approved leave. In such cases, employees and supervisors are jointly responsible for ensuring that "use or lose" leave is scheduled in writing. This year, use or lose leave must be scheduled in writing no later than Saturday, Nov. 23.

Questions on use or lose leave policy should be directed to ICD personnel offices.

Furlough Seals His Fate

## NLM's Gilkeson Retires After 30 Years in Government

By Carla Garnett

For years Roger Gilkeson had wished he could pursue his love of the arts full time. Only one thing stood in his way—his full-time job as assistant chief of the National Library of Medicine's public information office. During last year's federal furlough, however, the 30-year NIH veteran got a taste of freedom that convinced him to put his time where his heart is. He retired on Sept. 27.

A 1966 English literature graduate of Oberlin College, Gilkeson began work at NLM in 1967 as a GS-2 temporary clerk-typist, intending to pursue a Ph.D. at Boston University. While awaiting the results of his federal entrance exam, he was

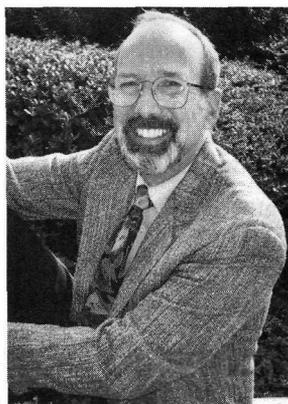
assigned to the library's search section. Soon after, he was classified as a writer-editor and was interviewed and hired in what once was called the Office of Inquiries and Publications Management, where he would spend his entire professional career.

"I came to NLM thinking I was taking a short break in my education," he recalled, smiling. "Actually, I ended up staying for some 30 years."

While in the information office, Gilkeson handled publications duties that included seeing that the library's best known *Index Medicus* was printed every month, as well as writing for and producing various brochures and pamphlets about NLM's offerings.

"The publication program grew and grew as the computer system allowed us to publish more specific bibliographies and as the library's outreach to other libraries and physicians grew," he said.

In 1977, Gilkeson took over editorship of the *National Library of Medicine News*, the newsletter that informs thousands of medical libraries and individuals involved in biomedical communications about NLM programs and staff. Editing the newsletter introduced him to all the other aspects of NLM—including the Lister Hill Center (the library's research and development component), the Bibliographic Services Division (which manages its searching tools and databases), and the History of Medicine Division (which stores collectibles and prepares exhibits). In the last few years, he assumed several other duties such as playing host to NIH groups using the Lister Hill Center auditorium



Roger Gilkeson

for scientific meetings and managing the Visitors Center where tours of NLM are given daily at 1 p.m. "Showing people around the library and introducing them to Grateful Med are probably the things I'll miss most," he remarked, describing how the computer age transformed the work at the library and, incidentally, helped him get over his attachment to his IBM Selectric typewriter, which is rapidly becoming obsolete.

Gilkeson said one of the highlights of his career was a special event he arranged in 1993 as a member of NIH's public affairs forum committee. Dr. Steve Allen, Jr., son of the famous comedian, came to NIH to give a presentation on the relationship of humor to health. The event generated attendance of more than 700, requiring an overflow room to accommodate the crowd. "That was probably my most satisfying project," he said, "because it involved a topic I'd always been interested in personally as well as professionally."

The son of a chicken farmer and a third grade teacher, Gilkeson, who'll turn 53 in October, grew up in the Fairfax County, Va., area. An accomplished amateur classical pianist who has recorded and distributed a tape, "From Roger, With Love," he also paints, writes and publishes stories for children, and occasionally entertains as a clown for his congregation at Dumbarton United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. Aside from a summer stint as a clerk-typist for the Agency for International Development, Gilkeson's only job has been as an NIH'er at NLM.

"It took me about 2 years to decide to retire," he concluded, adding that it was hard to leave the comfort and security of a career he enjoyed. He intends to remain in the metro area and can be reached now via email at [dcjollyrog@aol.com](mailto:dcjollyrog@aol.com). "The furlough really crystallized my decision. It was something I couldn't control, so I determined that I would use the time energetically, practicing piano, reading the books I'd never had time for and doing some creative writing. I think my whole career at NLM has been a continuing education that has prepared me for this time in my life." ■

### Female Volunteers Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking female volunteers ages 18-45 to participate in a 5-month study of the effects of reproductive hormones on brain and behavior. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles with no changes in mood in relation 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 be asked to participate in one of several protocols. Payment is provided. For more information call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 6-9576. ■

### Attention Former NAFI'ers

If you have had prior service with a nonappropriated fund instrumentality (NAFI) of the Department of Defense or Coast Guard, you may be eligible to make a retirement election to include your NAFI service toward your FERS retirement or to have all of your current service credited under a NAFI retirement plan. If you believe you may be eligible to make such an election, contact your personnel office as soon as possible for details.



## MAPB Offers Web Page Design

NCRR's Medical Arts and Photography Branch (MAPB) has added a new venture to its repertoire: the design of home pages for the World Wide Web. MAPB has long provided state-of-the-art services including consultation, production, design, photography, visual arts and video. Professional artists, designers, photographers and audiovisual specialists—as well as a broad array of outside contractors—are available to NIH staff.

Now MAPB can provide HTML (hypertext markup language), graphics, and animation for the web. Designer Richard Barnes began a few years ago by creating web graphics for the International Cancer Information Center. Designs for the NIH and NCRR home pages quickly followed. Some of his creations are on display at: <http://www.nih.gov>; <http://www.ncrr.nih.gov>; <http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov>; <http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/intramur/mapb.htm>; <http://www.nih.gov.nigms>.

"There are some major differences between web design and traditional print design," Barnes said. "With the web, it's not simply a matter of designing a pretty page. I also have to create logical, clear links so that the end-user doesn't get lost while trying to navigate from one page to another."

He notes that, in contrast to print design, file size is an important issue on the web. Users will quickly lose interest if they have to wait very long for the graphics to download. "There are tricks I use to keep file sizes small, even on graphics that are large dimensionally."

"Three years ago, I didn't even know what the Internet was. Now I'm creating HTML, GIFs, JPEGs, and PDFs for the WWW at NIH," Barnes jests. "It's this evolution—not knowing what I'll be doing 3 years from now—that keeps my job exciting."

For more information about MAPB's wide range of web and other services and rates, call 6-2628. Or check out MAPB's homepage at <http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/intramur/mapb.htm>. ■

*Interested in Internet surfing? Visit the NIH Library in Bldg. 10 and browse the World Wide Web. The NIH Library, part of NCRR, now has a WWW workstation available in the reading room that lets you navigate*



*the web and find the information you need. The workstation is open to all NIH staff and visitors. No appointments are necessary. You can go to sites on the Internet using specific addresses, connect through links in the library's home page (<http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov>), or use one of the many search engines to find information on the Web. Questions? Call the library, 6-1156. Ben Hope (above) and Stephanie Publicker of the NIH Library staff helped make this resource available.*

## DCRT Courses and Programs

All courses are on the NIH campus and are given without charge. For more information call 4-3278.

Macintosh Shortcuts and Techniques	10/24
Oracle Data Browser	10/25
Designing an Intranet	10/25
Configuring Windows and Windows 95 for PARACHUTE Network Access	10/28
Introduction to Networks	10/29
Advanced Microsoft Windows NT Workshop (Optimizing Windows NT)	10/29
Memory Management on the PC	10/30
Avoiding Pitfalls in Statistical Analysis	10/30
ADBIS for Windows: Budget and Finance	10/30
ADBIS for Windows: NIH Property Managemt.	10/31
Computational Biology: Tools on the Web	10/31
MS Windows NT Overview for Managers	10/31
Internet Explorer	11/1
SAS Fundamentals I for Nonprogrammers	11/4-5
Getting Started with C	11/4-7
Densitometric Analysis of 1-D Gels	
Using NIH Image	11/5
SQL Extensions for DB2 Version 4	11/6
Electronic Forms Users Group	11/6
Relational Database Design	11/7
Microsoft's Office 97 Preview	11/7
Account Sponsor Orientation	11/7
ADBIS for Windows: Budget and Finance	11/8
Biomedical Computing: Looking Beyond the World Wide Web	11/8
Oracle Data Browser	11/12
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	11/12
SAS Fundamentals II for Nonprogrammers	11/12-13
Genetics Computer Group (GCG)	
Sequence Analysis	11/13-15

## DWD Training Tips

The Division of Workforce Development, OHRM, offers the following courses. Personal computer training is also available through User Resource Center hands-on self-study courses, at no cost to NIH employees. For more information call DWD on 6-6211 or consult the online catalog at <http://www-urc.od.nih.gov/dwd/dwdhome.html>.

<i>Courses and Programs</i>	<i>Starting Dates</i>
<i>Management, Supervisory &amp; Professional Development</i>	
Coaching Skills: Coaching for Commitment	10/29
Fostering Creative Thinking	10/30
Interacting with Difficult People	11/7
Changing Tomorrow Today: Rise and Shine	11/12
How Good Leaders Make Tough Choices	11/13
<i>Communication Skills</i>	
Writing Skills Review	11/12
<i>Administrative Systems</i>	
Domestic Travel	11/13
Foreign Travel	10/31

## Kaiser Plan Service Day

**Kaiser Permanente Health Plan will be on the NIH campus Thursday, Oct. 24 to assist plan enrollees who have claims or enrollment problems or questions. A plan representative will be available from 10 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 7 and from 2:15 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 38, Conf. Rm. B. No appointment is necessary. Assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.**

## Study Needs Volunteers

**The cognitive neuroscience section is looking for volunteers ages 18-40, male/female, to participate in cognitive psychology experiments. Volunteers will be paid. Call 2-0060 and ask for Pilar or Bob for more information.**

NIA science writer Susan Cabill is fairly certain that the plant below is bittersweet nightshade, also known, poetically, as felonwort, violet-bloom and woody nightshade. She found it along a driveway beside Bldg. 15K recently, and challenges campus botanists to identify the plant at right, which was seen growing recently near the corner of Cedar Ln. and Rockville Pike, behind Bldg. 31. Bittersweet was once used medicinally as an internal antirheumatic, diuretic, narcotic, astringent and sedative, but now appears only to have slight antibiotic activity. This may explain its former use as an external remedy for sores.



### Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series, held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, ends the month on Oct. 30 with a talk by Dr. Kenneth D. Stuart, senior scientist and director, Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, and professor of pathobiology, and adjunct professor of microbiology, University of Washington. His topic will be "The Mechanism of mRNA Editing: gRNA-Specified Uridylate Insertion and Deletion." The lecture is hosted by the Molecular Biology and RNA Interest Groups.

On Nov. 6, Dr. Tim R. Mosmann will address "Immune Regulation by T Cell Subsets and Their Cytokines." He is professor, department of medical microbiology and immunology, University of Alberta, Canada. Hosts for the event are the Immunology and Cytokine Interest Groups.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595. ■

### Why Change the NIH Home Page?

If you visit the NIH World Wide Web home page you will notice it has taken on a different look. The new page was designed to load faster, but the real reason for the change was to accommodate a new, first-level area called "Information for Employees." In the early days of the web, (a few years ago) the NIH web site was used primarily for communicating with the public and the extramural scientific community. As web use has become more commonplace, there has been an expansion in online information resources for internal agency use.

This new area provides a "home" for the many information links designed to help NIH employees. For example: you can look up items in the NIH Manual chapters, get procurement information, shop in the virtual computer store, look for career development courses, and submit requests to the NIH Library. You can even get the latest interest rates from the NIH Federal Credit Union or see what tickets are selling at the R&W.

If you have ever had a hard time trying to find something on the NIH web site, you will appreciate another change to the NIH home page—the addition of an NIH "search engine." This service automatically creates a searchable index of the entire NIH web. As with most Internet search tools, you will often uncover too many items when running a search. Successful searching involves learning how to select and associate your search terms carefully. The current search engine is still undergoing tests. User feedback is appreciated.

**www** To try these new areas, point your browser to: <http://www.nih.gov/>.