NIH Master Plan Wins Awards

The recently completed 1995 NIH Bethesda Campus Master Plan has received two awards from the American Planning Association (APA)—the 1995 Maryland APA Award for Professional Achievement and the National Capital Area APA Outstanding Merit Award in Physical Planning for 1996.

The awards committees stated: “The NIH Master Plan functions as a strategic tool for the efficient allocation of campus resources, the orderly development of future growth, and the creation of an environment which is both functionally and aesthetically conducive to accomplishing the mission of the NIH in a collegial setting.”

The Master Plan was prepared by the Facilities Planning and Programming Branch in the Division of Engineering Services, ORS, in cooperation with the firms of Oudens + Knoop Architects and Keyes Condon Florance Architects and a team of planning, design, environmental and transportation engineers.

Safeguard Your Forms

Employees’ Personal Data Used in Recent Series of Crimes

By Carla Garnett

Whether or not you realize it, the routine personnel forms you use regularly at work can be a gold mine—at least to those with criminal intent. Some misdeeds investigated by NIH police in recent months have involved use of the personal information—in particular, Social Security numbers and home addresses—that for years was filled in benignly on every employee’s biweekly Earnings and Leave Statement, leave requests and training nominations. Given details of the cases below, the security message is clear: Certain personal information must be safeguarded, and NIH has taken important steps in that direction.

Several months ago, NIH’s Police Branch facilities on the B3-level of Bldg. 31C looked a little like a warehouse, stockpiled with new furniture still packed in their original boxes. That stockpile, Det. Jody Luke explained, was confiscated evidence from a case where personal data, probably obtained illegally from employee pay slips, was used to run up credit card bills and purchase merchandise. Police used a search warrant to remove the furniture from the home of the suspect—a former temporary NIH worker—who recently pleaded guilty to several fraud charges and

Chat with a Chess Champion

Allan Savage of the National Library of Medicine recently won the title of “International Master of Correspondence Chess” by the International Correspondence Chess Foundation. He earned this distinction by tying for first place in the 7th North American Correspondence Chess Championship. His victory there has launched him into the 3/4 final of the 19th World Correspondence Chess Championship.

“Correspondence chess is played by mail,” Savage explained. “A typical game takes 1 to 3 years to complete. Moves are relayed in a special chess notation under a time limit of 3 days per move.”

In the spirit of correspondence chess, we recently conducted an email correspondence interview with Savage, who is U.S. life master and also holds the FIDE master title from the World Chess Federation for over-the-board chess. He is a former two-time Maryland State champion, chess teacher, author and journalist.

How long have you been playing chess? How did you learn?

I learned to play chess at age 10 during an extended stay in the...
Dear Editor,

We read the article, “Anatomy Text Draws Criticism” (NIH Record, 24 September 1996) with considerable interest, having been alerted by Dr. Gejman to this controversy last January. In fact, the disposition of Pernkopf’s Anatomy in the NIH Library was discussed at length by the library advisory committee at its two most recent meetings. In August, the LAC voted to remove this text from the stacks and place all editions of this multi-volume work on open reserve.

These volumes embody a number of ethical issues. While the LAC cannot resolve these issues, we struggled to find an appropriate response. The NIH Library serves to provide scientific literature to the NIH community. Our consensus was that to withdraw this book from circulation would do a disservice to the NIH and suppress the memory of possible victims of execution. We were persuaded that to mark the book with an acknowledgement of the controversy surrounding it would constitute a precedent for subjective judgement of any published work. The general practice in libraries has been to remove controversial publications from the general circulation, but to continue to maintain availability of these items. At the present time, this also is the choice for Pernkopf’s Anatomy.

Dr. Elaine A. Neale, Chair, Library Advisory Committee
Suzanne Grefsheim, Chief, NIH Library

Employee Health Information Library

The Worksite Health Promotion Program has collaborated with the R&W to create an employee health information audio/video lending library. The goal is to provide employees with health education materials they can use at their convenience. For example, during the commute home from work an employee can listen to an audio tape on how to negotiate like a pro. Another employee may choose to practice the back-strengthening and fitness exercise demonstrated on a videotape with a spouse after dinner.

The collection includes a variety of topics ranging from menopause to nutrition to stress reduction to child-rearing issues to office ergonomics. The library has already acquired more than 40 audio and video tapes from the ICDs, and other federal and private health education sources, and hopes to continue adding to the collection.

The library will be divided among the five R&W stores and rotated periodically to allow all employees access to the entire collection throughout the year. Tapes can be checked out through the R&W stores in the movie rental department. You need not be a member of R&W to take advantage of this service. A rental fee of $1 will be charged for commercially purchased tapes. Donated tapes will be loaned for free. Stop by your nearest R&W store to get a complete list of available topics. Any comments or suggestions can be directed by email to susanne_strickland@nih.gov.

Looking for Lefties

Is human handedness genetic or cultural? Scientists in the ABL-Basic Research Program based at FCRDC are looking for a gene affecting handedness. Needed are families with one—and only one—left-handed parent, and with two—and preferably only two—left-handed children 16 or older. If interested call (301) 846-1182.
**NIEHS Funds New Centers**

Why are some people more susceptible to environmental contaminants? Why do some get bronchitis or cancer—and others don't? These are among the questions that will be explored by new centers that the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences announced it will fund in southern California and Texas.

Both centers will bring together scientists from several institutions in their states to provide multidisciplinary approaches to environmental health science questions.

The University of Southern California will be the headquarters for a center that will bring together more than 40 scientists from USC, University of California-Los Angeles and the California Institute of Technology, all located in Los Angeles. The center will be funded by a $5 million, 5-year NIEHS grant.

The M.D. Anderson Science Park-Research Division in Smithville, southeast of Austin, will be headquarters for the new Texas Center, which will link scientists from M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and the University of Texas at Austin. It is funded by a $4.2 million, 5-year grant.

The two new centers bring the national network of university-based NIEHS Environmental Health Sciences Centers to 17. The institute also supports five marine and freshwater biomedical sciences centers, and three developmental centers.

**Last Chance for FARE**

Nov. 15 is the deadline to apply for the Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE). Awards of $1,000 will be given to 120 fellows to attend scientific meetings. Application form and instructions can be accessed at the fellows’ website Felcom, ftp://helix.nih.gov/felcom/index.html.

**NIGMS Grantees Honored**

Three NIGMS grantees recently received the 1996 Gairdner Foundation International Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to medical science. The awards are informally considered “Nobel predictors,” because nearly 20 percent of Gairdner recipients (46 out of 243) have gone on to win a Nobel Prize. This year’s Gairdner award winners include Dr. Robert S. Langer, Dr. James E. Rothman, and Dr. Randy W. Schekman.

Langer is professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The Gairdner Foundation cited his development of slow-release drug delivery methods. He receives support from both NIGMS and NIAMS.

Rothman is vice chairman of the Sloan-Kettering Institute and chairman of the cellular biochemistry and biophysics program at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. NIGMS has supported his research for 20 years. He also receives support from NCI and NIDDK.

Schekman used genetic techniques in yeast to identify many of the proteins, including sec1 and sec61, that are essential for protein secretion. He is a professor in the department of molecular and cell biology and an HHMI investigator at the University of California, Berkeley. NIGMS has supported his research for 16 years.

The five Gairdner Foundation award winners each received $30,000 in Canadian funds (about $23,000 U.S. dollars), a framed inscription, and a sculpture (Le Coeur) at an Oct. 25 ceremony in Toronto.

**Problems with Alcohol?**

Is alcoholism destroying your family? NIAAA is seeking both actively drinking and recovering alcoholics for various studies. If you are 18 or older, have no significant medical problems, no current drug use (except alcohol), and take no medications, you may qualify for free treatment. For more information call 6-1993.
NIAAA Seeks Volunteers

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism is currently seeking volunteers between the ages of 18 and 60 to participate in studies. The participant must be in good physical health and on no medication. All participants will be paid. For more information, call 6-1993.

hospital. My 5th grade teacher brought me a pocket set and beginner book. I have been playing in tournaments since age 14 (31 years). When is the 3/4 final of the 19th World Correspondence Chess Championship? And if you win that, what next? The 3/4 final is slated to start in the spring of 1998. Top three or four places (out of 15-17 players) qualify for the 19th world championship final (there will be four or five 3/4 finals). The 19th world championship final would probably start around the year 2003.

Is it fun to play a chess game spread out over 1-3 years? Do you play a bunch of games "simultaneously?"

A tournament such as the 3/4 final requires one to play 15-16 games simultaneously. Most correspondence players play in many different events at once, so may often have 30 or more games going at one time. Most players who enjoy correspondence chess find it fun, since games contain fewer mistakes and can approach the ideal of "perfect play." Social correspondence with one's opponents, often in foreign countries, is also enjoyable. At the level of the world 3/4 final and final, the games involve an enormous investment of time and thus there is a large element of "work" as well.

How do you choose opponents?

Most correspondence events are round robin, all-play-all affairs. In the world championship cycle, players must qualify from preliminary tournaments. Can email be used instead of surface mail?

Recently, email has been allowed instead of surface mail for transmitting moves in international correspondence tournaments. But both players must have Internet access, which isn't frequently the case yet, especially for Eastern Europeans. How can you be sure that your opponent isn't getting advice from other chess players about how to counter your moves?

Help from other players and from chess-playing computers is usually forbidden, but obviously, enforcement is impossible. Among the stronger correspondence players, computer help is not worth the trouble.

How did you qualify to be a U.S. life master, and a FIDE master?

To be a life master (a U.S. over-the-board title, not correspondence), one must play 300 games at the level of master. FIDE master (an international over-the-board title) is earned in a similar way. (U.S. ratings and FIDE ratings are similar but separate.) In what years were you Maryland State champion? 1988 and 1990.

Please expand briefly on your work as teacher, author and journalist.

I have taught chess for over 20 years in schools, chess clubs, adult education centers, and privately. I have authored two books on chess, both now out of print. As a chess journalist, I have edited chess magazines, been a columnist and written chess book reviews for several publications.

How long have you worked at NLM, and what is your title?

I have worked at NLM for 9 years and am a technical information specialist in the medical subject headings (MeSH) section.

Savage reminds employees that there is an NIH Chess Club that meets on Wednesday evenings in Bldg. 10's 2nd-floor cafeteria.—Rich McManus

ACRF Cafeteria Closes Temporarily

Weekend patrons of the ACRF cafeteria operated by Guest Services, Inc., will now need to head toward the Bldg. 10 B1-level cafeteria to purchase their morning cups of coffee: For the next 3 months, the Clinical Center nutrition department will relocate to the ACRF cafeteria while their facility undergoes an extensive renovation. During this time, the ACRF dining area next to the cafeteria will also be closed to allow renovation of the existing ceiling.

To accommodate the overflow of patrons, GSI will provide the following: Weekend service in the B1-level cafeteria—hours of operation will be from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.; extension of weekday hours of operation in the B1-level cafeteria from 5:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. until 11 p.m.; refrigeration units containing grab-and-go items such as freshly made packaged sandwiches, salads, and bottled juices and water will be available in the coffee cart atrium. Hours of operation will be extended from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Renovations are scheduled for completion by mid-January 1997. GSI will resume normal operations at the ACRF cafeteria by the end of that month.

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.
The Office of Personnel Management has announced an open season for Nov. 11 through Dec. 9 under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). During that period, eligible employees may change their plan, option, type of enrollment, or any combination of these. Also, eligible employees who are not currently enrolled may choose to enroll during the open season. In considering their options, employees should be aware that they may not be covered as an employee under their own enrollment and as a family member under someone else's enrollment in FEHBP. Likewise, a member of one's family cannot be covered under more than one enrollment in the program.

Commissioned officers, employees serving under appointments limited to 1 year or less and intermittent employees are not eligible for enrollment in FEHBP. However, temporary employees who have completed 1 year of current continuous employment, excluding any break in service of 5 days or less, are eligible to enroll.

Employees eligible to participate in the open season may obtain a booklet entitled 1997 FEHB Guide from their personnel office. It contains open season enrollment instructions, general information about FEHBP, the major features of all plans, premiums, and general categories of coverage such as outpatient and inpatient service, calendar year deductible, catastrophic limit, etc.

Enrollees will be mailed a 1997 brochure by their current health benefits carrier. Employees who are eligible for enrollment and are not currently enrolled or covered by a federal plan should contact their personnel office for information on the program or plan brochures.

In conjunction with open season, the Office of Human Resource Management is sponsoring a Health Benefits Fair. It will be held in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1 on Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives from most of the plans that are available to NIH employees will be on hand to answer questions on their 1997 benefits. The advisory committee for employees with disabilities will be there to assist employees who need help getting information.

Do You Get the Winter Blues?

The NIH Clinical Psychobiology Branch is seeking men and women ages 18-65 who experience symptoms of winter-related depression to participate in a study of how light therapy affects the brain to reduce symptoms. For more information call 6-0500.

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

The Thrift Savings Plan is having another open season from Nov. 15 through Jan. 31, 1997. FERS employees who were hired before July 1, 1996, as well as CSRS employees have an opportunity to change their current election, or make an initial election.

Eligible FERS and CSRS employees may elect to contribute to the G fund (government securities), C fund (stocks), and/or F fund (bonds). FERS employees may contribute up to 10 percent of their salary each pay period and will receive matching agency contributions on the first 5 percent. CSRS employees may contribute up to 5 percent of salary, but do not receive any matching contributions. FERS employees who do not contribute receive an automatic 1 percent agency contribution each pay period. They may choose to distribute this contribution among the three funds.

The features of the plan and directions on how to make a plan election or to change your current withholding are described in the Thrift Savings Plan Open Season leaflet, which will be distributed to eligible employees by their ICD personnel office.

More detailed information is provided in the Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan for Federal Employees booklet and is available in your ICD personnel office.

FAES Health Insurance Open Season

FAES Health Insurance Program announces its open season through Nov. 30. The program is open to those who work for or at NIH in full-time positions but are not eligible for government plans. This includes NIH fellows, special volunteers, guest researchers, contractors and full-time temporary personnel. The minimum enrollment period is for 3 months.

Open season is for those persons who did not enroll when first eligible and for current subscribers to make changes. FAES is offering two programs this year: Blue Cross/Blue Shield Select Preferred Provider Plan and Principal Health Care (M.D. IPA), a health maintenance organization. Information about rates and benefits, which will be effective Jan. 1, 1997, may be obtained from the FAES business office, Bldg. 10, Rm. B1C18.

Dr. Graeme Wistow has won the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology's Cogan Award for outstanding contributions to visual science. Chief of NEI's molecular structure and function section in the Laboratory of Molecular and Developmental Biology, he was chosen for his important advances in the understanding of the structure, function and gene recruitment of crystallins in the eye lens. Wistow has written more than 70 scientific publications, including a recent book entitled Molecular Biology and Evolution of Crystallins. He will be honored at ARVO's 1997 annual meeting, where he will deliver the Cogan Award Lecture, "Crystallins: Stress Proteins, Enzymes, and Gene Recruitment in the Lens."
Trans-NIH Symposium on Nonhuman Primates, Nov. 15

A trans-NIH consortium is sponsoring a symposium, "Unique Contributions of Nonhuman Primate Research to Neuroscience," on Nov. 15, as a satellite symposium to the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington, D.C. The symposium will explore the role of nonhuman primates in neuroscience research, the contributions made through use of primates and current areas where there is a need for primate research. Registration is $15, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For registration information, contact Sally Marshall, (301) 468-6001.

CRIME REPORT. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was given an 8-year suspended jail sentence, 5 years of probation and forced to pay more than $4,000 in restitution, according to Luke.

In a similar case in 1994, Luke recalled, a woman—a former NIH employee—was able to open a line of credit in another employee's name and purchase a brand new Chevrolet Lumina minivan. In both cases, the credit card companies absorbed the financial losses and affected employees were not held responsible for charges billed to them in the scams.

In another gross misuse of personal information, a suspect was convicted after a 4-month investigation by NIH detectives. In that case, a man in his early twenties whose name is being withheld by police, obtained names and pertinent personal data from reading death notices published in the local newspaper. Scamming financial institutions as far away as West Virginia, the man used the information to apply for and receive more than $95,000 in student loans that were disbursed in the name of the deceased individuals. NIH officials were alerted when the wife of a deceased NIH'er contacted them thinking her husband's personnel file was being misused. A $16,000 student loan check had been issued in her husband's name.

"The investigation revealed that the information for the loans did not come from NIH, but was obtained solely from the published death notice," Luke explained. Key details of the fraud were uncovered during the NIH investigation, however, and the suspect was arrested, convicted and eventually sentenced to 10 months in a federal prison, 3 years probation and $50,000 in restitution. Additionally, Luke was able to recover about $45,000 of the lost funds.

Most recently, a fraudulent check crime that was attempted over a 2-day period at the NIH Federal Credit Union ended with the suspects being chased by car and on foot by NIH detectives, who eventually captured the miscreants in the Metrorail tunnel on campus. In that case, a male suspect deposited two checks totaling $4,000 into an NIH credit union account. The checks promptly were discovered to be stolen and NIH detectives were notified. When the suspect returned to withdraw funds from the account, a credit union teller told him the cash payment would be delayed and called Luke and Det. Larry Brown. The suspect and an accomplice returned to the credit union the next day, where the detectives were waiting, and after a dramatic car chase from Bldg. 13 to the intersection of Center Dr. and Rockville Pk. (where the suspects crashed their vehicle) and into the Medical Center Metro tunnel on foot, both suspects were apprehended. The case went to court Oct. 23; the suspect pleaded guilty to theft and will be sentenced in February.

"In general there is a criminal element that targets employees who are in jobs that handle pay slips and other personal information, simply due to the nature of their work," concluded Capt. Will Liston of NIH's Division of Public Safety. "NIH employees should be made aware of this and they should be reminded to keep on their guard."

Due in large part to these investigations, NIH has taken steps to safeguard personal data of employees better. For example, Social Security numbers and home addresses no longer appear on pay slips or grant awards, and employees, grantees and those requesting NIH funding have been advised to be cautious when filling in unnecessary information on requests for leave (form 71), grant applications and other forms. In addition, Social Security numbers on current grant applications are being deleted before they are circulated to reviewers.

NCI's SSTAR Program Recruits

NCI's Support Staff Training and Retention (SSTAR) Program is a new approach to developing a cadre of highly trained individuals to meet the office management and technical support staffing needs of NCI's research and administrative communities. Individuals selected for SSTAR receive up to 12 months of work experience and training in a range of areas prior to referral to vacant positions.

Up to eight intern positions are being offered at the GS-5, 6, and/or 7 levels. Applications will be accepted for SSTAR through Nov. 18. Application packages are available from NCI at the following locations: Human Resources Management and Consulting Branch, EPS/550; 31/3A19; or FCRDC Bldg. 567/Rm. 101. In addition, application packages may be requested by calling 6-0493. More information may be obtained by calling 6-0493.

The General Services Administration recently recognized three NIH'ers as graduates of The 1,000 by Year 2000 Information Resources Management (IRM) education program, a partnership between GSA and academia to help employees keep up to date on changes in the IRM field. DCRT boasts two graduates, Catherine Greenville and Charles Havekost (above); NIAAA's Megan Columbus was also honored for completing six graduate-level courses in IRM. The program's intent is to have 1,000 IRM professionals trained by the year 2000.
**MAPB Offers New Slide Imaging Service**

The Medical Arts and Photography Branch’s new in-house electronic slide imaging service saves travel time and money. No more treks to the basement of Bldg. 10 to drop off slide data. No more unexpected costs. Now, you can create slide presentations on your PC or Macintosh, print them via MAPB’s JetStream Film Recorder, and pick up your finished slides 24 hours later. And you pay only $4 per slide compared to current charges of $4.50 to $12 per slide.

After you have created a slide presentation in a computer application like Microsoft PowerPoint or Corel Draw for Windows, you must download a PostScript Printer Driver, or PPD. This PPD allows you to print directly to the JetStream Film Recorder through your local area network. Macintosh users can download the driver from the NCRR MAPB AppleTalk Zone in AppleShare. PC users will need to contact their network administrator, who will call MAPB’s Bernard McLaurin at 6-3467 to get access to JetStream.

This new service can be time-saving and efficient, but it is not foolproof, especially for first-time users. If you have questions, call 6-3221.

**NIMH Study of Soldiers’ Kids Wins Award**

When their parents go to war, young children, especially boys, can become vulnerable to depression. These children can be helped, but adequate treatment may require careful attention to the effects of the separation on other family members, particularly the parent left behind.

These are conclusions drawn from research led by Dr. Peter Jensen, chief of the NIMH Child and Adolescent Disorders Research Branch. This research has been chosen by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry to receive the 1996 Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Award for Scientific Achievement. The award was presented to Jensen during the academy’s 43rd annual meeting in Philadelphia last week.

Jensen and associates studied 383 families, with at least one child age 4 through 17, living on a military post near Washington, D.C.

The study showed that children’s difficulties are often shared by others in the family: their caretaking parents have increased symptoms, as well as greater stress levels.

Jensen encourages health care providers to consult multiple sources, including parents, children, teachers, and other knowledgeable individuals, to evaluate the well-being of a child or family accurately, because children may not always show their distress or acknowledge it. They may hide their feelings in order to keep from further upsetting the family.

**Researchers Identify Two Cancer Genes**

Some endometrial cancers, or tumors in the uterus, appear to result from a mutation in a gene, MSH3, say Drs. John I. Risinger of NIEHS’ Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis, and Asad Umar of NIEHS’ Laboratory of Molecular Genetics; they reported their work in a recent Nature Genetics.

When the gene becomes impaired, it fails to correct an instability that sometimes occurs on the DNA strand, perhaps as a result of an environmental chemical or other factor. This uncorrected instability is characteristic of human tumors at several sites, and the researchers suggest mutant MSH3 should be sought in cancers of the colon, pancreas, ovaries and bladder.

Risinger was lead author in a separate study appearing in the journal Cancer linking the mutation of the MMR gene to breast cancer. If confirmed, the study would establish the fourth gene known to be related to breast cancer, the others being BRCA1, BRCA2, and p53.

**RFB&D Needs Volunteer Readers**

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic needs volunteers to direct recordings and read science, math, and computer textbooks at evening sessions.

RFB&D is located on Wisconsin Ave. at Friendship Heights Metro stop—two stops from NIH on the red line. Parking is available. Call (202) 244-8990, if interested.

The national advisory panel of the National Center of Dental Hygiene Research met recently at the Natcher Conference Center. The group includes dental hygienist researchers, educators, and clinicians from the U.S. and Canada. Cosponsored this year by NIDR’s Division of Epidemiology and Oral Disease Prevention, the meeting focused on the latest issues in dental hygiene research. In the first row are (from l) Ruth Nowjack-Raymer of NIDR’s Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Branch; Dr. Jane Forrest, director, National Center for Dental Hygiene Research; Dr. Lois Cohen, director, Division of Extramural Research, NIDR; and NIDR deputy director, Dr. Dushanka Kleinman.
Healthy Volunteers Needed

The NIMH Clinical Psychobiology Branch seeks healthy male and female volunteers ages 18-65 for a study of the effects of light therapy on brain activity. Volunteers must be free of medical and psychological disorders and not taking any medications. Payment is provided. For more information call Kim Katz, 6-0500.

NIEHS Focus Groups Recommend Changes in Business Practices

Using clusters of interested employees to look for problems and recommend corrections, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences has made 60 improvements in the way it does business—and there are more on the way.

The employee-recommended changes already in place have reduced the kinds of purchases requiring clearances from 100 to 13. They have fine-tuned stock requirements so that back orders are greatly reduced.

An employee who sees a cracked door glass or a malfunctioning light or plumbing problem can now call directly to the maintenance team that can come right over and fix it, rather than having his or her request sift slowly down through supervisory layers.

Most of the problems solved have been ones that management didn’t even know existed. Using a process that businesses might want to emulate, management gave time and support for scientists, managers and service employees to form groups to study services such as the library or graphics or animal care.

It was Carl Barrett, the enthusiastic NIEHS scientific director with the Nike slogan “Just Do It” over his office door, who had the idea of letting employees at all levels loose to review areas where they work. He had observed that high quality scientific research depended on a lot of help from others—the whiz kids in computer support, the library, graphics, animal handlers and the people who keep glassware ready and prepare media. But he saw that these units sometimes seemed to be working at cross purposes rather than looking for common goals.

He decided to bring interested scientists, adminis-}

We Have a Winner...

An employee has come forward with the correct identification of a flowering plant that appeared on the back page of the last issue of the NIH Record, published Oct. 22.

Israel Putnam, chief of the material acquisition unit, Radiation Safety Branch, wrote, “The plant pictured has a yellow flower and is called Evening Primrose. Each evening or afternoon, a different flower will open on the plant.”

He also observed that a neighboring plant “has a pink flower with black seeds. I am afraid I do not know its name but it is a real hardy weed in my garden.”

The neighboring plant was identified by Janice Peacock, a clerk in the Office of Extramural Research, as smartweed. She knew the primrose as well, but wasn’t as quick on the draw as Putnam.

NIDR’s Dr. E. Lea Watson is the first recipient of the Annie Elizabeth “Bessie” Delany Scholarship Award, which was presented at the National Dental Association (NDA) meeting held recently in Chicago. The NDA Foundation honored Watson for her pioneering efforts in postgraduate dental education in research. The award consists of a plaque and a prize of $10,000. With the award money, Watson will work with Howard University to initiate a community health promotion project in Washington, D.C. Since 1994, she has served as a National Research Service Award Fellow in NIDR’s Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Branch.

Socially Anxious Vols Needed

Adults ages 18-65 who experience significant anxiety in social and performance situations (e.g., parties, dates, work, public speaking) are needed for study of anxiety and alcohol use. Participants will receive $40 for 4-5 hours of interviews and testing. Call Giao Tran at American University, (202) 885-1743.
NIGMS Council Gains Four

Four new members have been appointed to the National Advisory General Medical Sciences Council. They are: Dr. David A. Clayton of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI); Dr. Sarah C.R. Elgin of Washington University; Dr. Steven M. Paul of Eli Lilly and Co.; and Dr. Christopher T. Walsh of Harvard Medical School. In addition, the Department of Veterans Affairs has appointed its ex officio member to the council, Dr. Neil S. Mandel.

Clayton is a senior scientific officer at HHMI in Chevy Chase.

Elgin is a professor of biology and a professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics at Washington University in St. Louis.

Paul is vice president of the Lilly Research Laboratories, a component of Eli Lilly and Co. Prior to joining Lilly in 1993, he was the scientific director of NIMH.

Walsh is Hamilton Kuhn professor in the department of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology at Harvard Medical School.

Mandel is associate chief of staff for research and development at Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Milwaukee, and professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Healthy Volunteers Sought

The cognitive neuroscience section seeks healthy right-handed men and women ages 18-45 for studies of brain function and structure, using PET and MRI techniques. The PET scan involves exposure to an amount of radiation that is within both NIH and FDA guidelines. Volunteers will be paid. If interested, call 6-0225.

NLM Hosts Open House, Nov. 13

The National Library of Medicine's Public Services Division will hold an open house Wednesday, Nov. 13 to inform library users and others about equipment and software acquisitions and accessibility to services at the library in support of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Patrons may visit the library’s reading room during normal library hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. A display, brochures, and a closed-caption version of the new NLM-produced video, Your Key to Medical Information, will be available. Demonstrations of the equipment listed below will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.:

♦ VISTA screen magnification software and the JAWS speech synthesizer are available at a CD-ROM and a Locator computer workstation. All workstations have enlarged keyboard letter and function keys.

♦ ClearView print enlarger with a 21-inch Sony Trinitron monitor is available to project magnified images for visually impaired patrons to view print materials from the NLM collection.

♦ Reading Edge Kurzweil reader scans English language text and reads it back to the visually impaired user with the use of headphones.

In addition to the open house, visitors may wish to join the daily NLM tour at 1 p.m., starting at the Visitor’s Center in the Lister Hill Bldg. A new exhibit on “Emotions and Disease,” prepared by NLM’s History of Medicine Division, will also be open in the lobby of Bldg. 38.

The NLM reading room is located on the first floor of Bldg. 38. More information can be obtained from the reference section at (800) 272-4787 or 6-6095.

New Signs Installed Campus-Wide

New exterior signs are being installed across campus now through early 1997. No disruption to activities during installation is expected. The existing sign system was installed in 1977 and needs to be updated to reflect numerous changes and to help visitors locate destinations more easily.

The new signs, which will be predominantly green or blue with white lettering, have been designed to be attractive, informative and easy to read. They will be visible day and night for pedestrians as well as drivers. Examples of these signs have already been installed at the corner of South and Center Drives. Green signs will be used primarily to direct people to buildings and help navigate intersections. Blue signs will show visitors where to park. NIH Division of Engineering Services Project Officer John Morris is handling the sign replacement project; he can be reached via phone, 2-1419, or email morrisj@destm5.od.nih.gov.

R&W Has Aquarium Tickets

Experience the magic of the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Check out the new exhibit “Jellies: Phantoms of the Deep,” as well as the many dolphin shows and the intriguing tropical rain forest. The tickets cost $11 for adults and $6.50 for children, and can be used any day of the week. Beat the long lines by buying tickets through R&W.
Richard Feldmann Retires from DCRT

Richard J. Feldmann, head of the protein modeling and computation section in DCRT’s Laboratory of Structural Biology (LSB), has retired from NIH to form Integrated Genomics, Inc., a biotechnology company in Manassas, Va.

There he will continue his research on protein folding while leading a team that seeks to develop useful new drugs by exploiting information on genetic sequences.

“I came to NIH in 1967 to help build the connection between computer technology and biomedical research,” says Feldmann, who worked in the former Heuristics Laboratory founded by DCRT’s first director, Dr. Arnold Pratt, to explore the application of “artificial intelligence” tothe problems of research. Early in his career, he designed the NIH/EPA Chemical Information System, one of the first globally accessible collections of scientific data.

“Richard always seems to be a step ahead of popularly perceived technology,” says Dr. Adrian Parsegian, LSB chief. “He always had a better way to use computers, no matter what the application.” As Feldmann’s focus turned to the study of protein structures, he collected protein and nucleic acid x-ray structures, which were published in an atlas, and in 1977 codeveloped the first computer-generated images of the surfaces of proteins and nucleic acid structures. Using homology alignment and graphical modeling techniques, he constructed hundreds of models of protein structures for scientists at NIH and elsewhere. According to Parsegian, “His molecular graphics programs have been described as ‘the best thing for protein structure since x-ray diffraction.’”

Feldmann became intrigued by the mysteries of protein folding, still one of the central questions of molecular biology. With Drs. Byungkook Lee and Bernard Brooks, he published in 1986 “Understanding Protein Architecture Through Simulated Folding,” a package of stereo slides exploring problems of protein folding. “One of the memorable moments of my career was looking at the stereo line drawing images of ribonuclease-S and being struck by the beauty of that structure,” Feldmann recalls.

In 1984, he helped establish the first scientific network of computers on the NIH campus, later overseeing the installation of molecular graphics workstations in various NIH laboratories. In recent years, he studied possible approaches to protein folding using highly parallel remote network computing. A lifelong advocate of the peaceful uses of technology, he spent many years building collaborations with scientists from the former Soviet Union. Feldmann sees “the uses of computers in biotechnology and genomics as a powerful force for economic growth in the 21st century.”

Richard J. Feldmann

Postpartum Depression Study Recruits

The Biological Psychiatry Branch, NIMH, seeks female volunteer mothers ages 18-40 who have had postpartum one or more past episodes of postpartum depression following a full-term pregnancy. Volunteers must be free of medical illnesses and medication-free. They may be asked to participate in a 6-month protocol studying the effects of ovarian and stress hormones on brain and behavior in an endocrine model of pregnancy. All volunteers will be paid. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 6-9576.

Healthy Volunteers Needed

Healthy male and female volunteers without significant anxiety problems are needed for a 3-4-hour study evaluating cognitive and psychological aspects of anxiety. Participants will be paid $40. For more information call Matt Wineman at USUHS, (301) 295-3651.
DWD Training Tips

The Division of Workforce Development, OHRM, offers the courses below. Personal computer training is also available through User Resource Center hands-on, self-study courses, at no cost to NIH employees. Additional courses are available by completing the “Training By Request” form in the back of the DWD catalog. For more information call DWD on 6-6211 or consult DWD’s home page at http://www-urc.od.nih.gov/dwd/dwdhome.html.

Courses and Programs

Management, Supervisory & Professional Development
- Interacting with Difficult People: 11/7
- Changing Tomorrow Today: Rise and Shine: 11/12
- How Good Leaders Make Tough Choices: 11/13
- Basic Supervision: 11/18
- Federal Budget Process: 11/25
- Reinventing NIH: Intro to Work Process Redesign: 12/5

Privacy Act Seminar: 12/5

Using Teams to Improve Organizations: 12/9

Successful Management at NIH: 12/11

Interpersonal Relationships in the Work Environment: 12/17

Communication Skills
- Writing Skills Review: 11/12
- Effective Listening & Memory Development: 12/10

Administrative Systems
- Basic T&A Using TAIMS: 11/18, 12/17
- T&A for Supervisors Using TAIMS: 12/3
- TAIMS for System Administrators: 12/4
- Domestic Travel: 11/13, 12/9
- Foreign Travel: 12/12
- Travel for AOs: 12/12
- Intro to NIH Property Management: 12/16
- Determining Price Reasonableness in the Award of Simplified Acquisitions: 12/19

Career Transition
- NIH Retirement Seminar (CSRS): 12/11

Computer Applications and Concepts
- Intro to Windows 3.1: 12/5
- Upgrading to Windows 95: 12/11
- Intro to Internet: 12/12
- Advanced Internet: 12/12
- Web Page Design-HTML: 12/5

Depressed Volunteers Needed

The NIMH Neuroendocrinology Branch is seeking both depressed and healthy male and female volunteers between ages 18 and 65 to participate in studies looking at the relationships between depression and stress hormones. Volunteers must be free of medical illnesses and medication-free. Healthy volunteers will be paid for participation, while depressed subjects meeting study criteria will receive treatment. For more information, call Dr. Andre Negrao or Dr. Denise Sciullo, 6-6978.

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

ABDIS 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

Advanced ALW Unix/AFS Support: 11/14
Database Technology Seminar: 11/15
Windows NT Overview: 11/18-19

Image Reconstruction via the Maximum Entropy Method: 11/19

Basic Statistics Using SAS/STAT Software: 11/19-21
MS Exchange for Administrators: 11/20
Configuring Windows and Windows 95 for PARACHUTE Network Access: 11/21
Scientific Computing Resource Center Overview: 11/21
Interactive Data Analysis Using SAS/INSIGHT Software: 11/22
LAN Concepts: 11/25
MATLAB - Matrix Laboratory: 11/25-26
ABDIS for Windows: NIH Property Management: 11/26
PC Viruses: 11/26
BRMUG Macintosh Users' Group: 11/26
Windows 95 Start Up: 11/27

EAP Video Series Comes to Executive Blvd.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will offer its popular video series to NIH staff located on Executive Blvd. Each session of the series explores different aspects of a work-related topic and includes two parts: a segment of a videotape and a discussion on the video's topic led by an EAP counselor. There is no cost and no registration is required.

The first Executive Blvd. series will be: “Dealing with Conflict and Confrontation.” The sessions will be on Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., on Nov. 6, Conf. Rm. H, EPN; Nov. 13, Conf. Rm. H, EPN; Nov. 20, Conf. Rm. F, EPN (note room change); and Nov. 27, Conf. Rm. H, EPN.

For more information, call 6-3164.

Dr. Douglas R. Lowy has been named deputy director for the NCI Division of Basic Sciences. He joined NIH in 1970 as a research associate in the Laboratory of Viral Diseases, NIAID. In 1975, he was appointed senior investigator in the NCI Dermatology Branch. Since 1983, he has been chief of NCI's Laboratory of Cellular Oncology. Lowy is internationally recognized for his studies of the ras oncogenes and tumor-producing human papillomaviruses. He has received many honors and awards including the Wallace P. Rowe Award for research in virology.
FEW Chapter
Registers
Voters
Since last August, volunteers from the Bethesda chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) have been registering voters in a variety of NIH buildings once a week. They registered some 410 voters during this community service project. Chapter President Angela Magliozzi recently congratulated NLM’s Helen Garton “for her superb management of this project.” For more information about the chapter’s activities, check out the FEW homepage on the World Wide Web at http://www.recgov.org/few/few.html.

NIH Celebrates Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 10; Day Care Kids Have a Ball

Dog Meet Dog: Sparky the Fire Dog meets Thunder, a specially trained search and rescue dog from the Montgomery County department of fire and rescue services. Thunder was used in the search and rescue effort following the bombing of the federal office building in Oklahoma City a few years ago.

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures
The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series, held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, features some distinguished members of the home team in mid-November.
On Nov. 13, Dr. Joseph Fraumeni of NCI will discuss “Epidemiology of Cancer: An Interdisciplinary Approach.” This is the Robert S. Gordon, Jr., Lecture, and is hosted by the Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Clinical Research Interest Groups and the NIH Office of Disease Prevention. Fraumeni is director of the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics.
Clinical Center director Dr. John Gallin gives the G. Burroughs Midler Lecture on Nov. 20. His topic is “What Chronic Granulomatous Disease Has Taught Us About Oxidative Metabolism, Interferon-γ, and Gene Therapy.”
For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595.

Use or Lose Reminder
Don’t forget to schedule “use or lose” annual leave in writing no later than Saturday, Nov. 23. Questions concerning leave should be directed to individual ICD personnel offices.

Fire protection inspector Dan Walther (l) and fire fighter Sam Barnett (masked) of the Division of Public Safety provide children the steps to follow if they find themselves in a fire. More than 150 kids from various NIH day care centers entered the Fire Safety House at rear, which is homebased at Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Sparky appears with winners of the NIH fire prevention slogan contest. Eve Ashcraft submitted “There’s a lot of little reasons to prevent fire,” in the adult category. Her son Jason won in the children’s category with, “Be cool about fire safety.” The slogans will appear on next year’s fire prevention posters.