

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Seminar Explores Women's Health In the Middle and Later Years

The ORWH Women's Health Seminar Series kicks off the 1996-97 season with a look at "Women's Health in the Middle and Later Years." The program will begin at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 5 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

Aging is a dynamic process in which gradual and sudden change occur both in health and functioning and in social environmental factors. These changes may be independent or in response to one another. Dr. Eleanor Simonsick, NIA, will open the program with an "Overview: Social and Psychological Health." She will focus on indicators of social connection and measures of psychological health.

Other topics in the seminar will include: "Bladder Health Issues: Urinary Incontinence and Hypersensitivity," with Dr. Kristene Whitmore, Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia; "Bone Health and Diseases," with Dr. Jane Cauley, University of Pittsburgh; and "The Aging Heart and the Epidemiology of Cardiovascular Disease in Older Women," with Dr. Sharon Jackson, Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

The seminar will close with a question-and-answer session.

The Women's Health Seminar Series is sponsored by the women's health seminar committee of the Office of Research on Women's Health. The annual series includes current research findings by nationally recognized experts. The next seminar, which will focus on "Arthritis and Osteoporosis," will be held on Mar. 6, 1997. Admission is free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. For more information, call 2-1770. **R**

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The 'Mazing Web

NIH Internet Presence Looms Large

By Joan Chamberlain

Even the most computer savvy have trouble keeping up with the flood of new World Wide Web technologies coming into the market these days. "Forget surfing anymore. We're riding a tidal wave," says DCRT's Dr. Dale Graham, head of the NIH Web Interest Group. So swift is the pace of change that some in the computer industry now measure time by the "Internet year." This is the equivalent of about 3 calendar months, when major new tools emerge and the web expands another dimension, further transforming how we get information to and from the outside world.

SEE WORLD WIDE WEB, PAGE 4



DCRT's Charlene Osborn and Dr. Peter FitzGerald were among those who introduced NIH to the World Wide Web back in 1993.



Dr. Lawrence E. Shulman, NIH emissary for clinical research to the academic health centers and NIAMS director emeritus, received the Award of Merit from NASA at a scientific workshop held in conjunction with a launching of the Columbia space shuttle from Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Seven of the 13 scientific experiments carried out on the mission were devoted to investigating the loss of muscle and bone in space. The award was given in recognition of his "dedication and commitment to excellence in establishing the foundation for the successful NASA/NIH program."

Hispanic Employee Group Meets

The annual meeting of the general assembly of the NIH Hispanic Employee Organization (NIH-HEO) was held recently, and new officers were elected. The organization is chartered by DHHS and is sanctioned by NIH as an employee group.

Dr. Carlos Caban introduced Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIH deputy director, who addressed the audience. She reported that the NIH portion of the short-term plan for implementation of the "Hispanic Agenda for Action: Improving Services to Hispanic Americans" (available at <http://www.os.dhhs.gov/about/heo/wghi.html>) has been forwarded to DHHS Secretary Shalala. Kirschstein also addressed questions concerning Hispanic underrepresentation in the workforce, recruitment and promotion, and career plans for employees at NIH.

The annual election of officers followed. Officers for the next year are: Ernest Marquez, NIGMS, president; Francisco Calvo, NIDDK, president-elect; Carlos Caban, OER, past president; Raymond Mejia, NHLBI, secretary; Ivan Hernandez, NIAID, treasurer. At-large members include Elva Ruiz, NCI; Margarita Valencia, NIDA; Luis Arvelo, NHLBI; Carlos Crespo, NHLBI.

Marquez pledged to continue and increase activities undertaken by NIH-HEO, especially involvement in the Hispanic Agenda, recruitment and retention, and the activities of the NIH-HEO committees.

All interested NIH'ers are invited to join. A report of the meeting may be obtained at http://mrb.niddk.nih.gov/ray/file/Minutes_1996_Annual_Meeting or by email request to NIH-HEO@list.nih.gov. ■

OPM Expands Children's Benefits

The Office of Personnel Management can now restart civil service annuity payments and continue health benefits coverage for children of deceased federal employees who previously lost those benefits because of marriage. OPM can resume benefits if a child's marriage has ended and he or she is still eligible for benefits because of disability or enrollment as a full-time student while under age 22. Under both CSRS and FERS, benefits for children end upon marriage. Prior to passage of the new law, benefits could not be restored if the marriage ended. Now, under Public Law 104-208, a child's benefits can begin again as early as Oct. 1, 1996; if he or she becomes divorced or the spouse has died before that date. Surviving children reclaiming benefits under the new law may call Sandra Brown at OPM, (202) 606-0313. ■

Performance Of 'Scrooge'

A musical adaptation of *Scrooge* will be presented at the fourth annual AIDS Benefit Show on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The Performing Arts Ensemble will present this production, featuring Santa Claus as special guest. Proceeds will support NIH patients and families through the Friends of the Clinical Center. For tickets (\$7 for adults, \$3 for kids 12 and under) call 6-4600. ■



The NIH R&W Theatre Group made its annual donation to the Patient Emergency Fund (PEF) recently. The mission of the Theatre Group, founded in 1980, is to earn money for donations to PEF by performing musicals at NIH and at area nursing homes. PEF helps families meet any unexpected expenses incurred while a family member is at NIH for treatment. On hand for the check presentation were (from l) Loren Ziller, Jr., Theatre Group; Randy Schools, R&W general manager; Frankie Smyth, Theatre Group; Andrea Rander and Judith Williams, social work department; and Ben Fulton, Theatre Group. The group's next performance will be its 12th Annual Holiday Program on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at noon in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Admission is free and all are welcome.



Dr. Otis Brawley, assistant director, Office of Science Policy, NCI, will present "Issues in Prostate Cancer Screening and Prevention," a seminar sponsored by the NIH Black Scientists Association on Thursday, Dec. 5, as part of its Science Working for Us Seminar Series. The seminar is cosponsored by NINDS, and will take place in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10 at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

N I H R E C O R D

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Cancer Death Rate Declines

The National Cancer Institute announced Nov. 14 that the cancer death rate in the United States fell by nearly 3 percent between 1991 and 1995, the first sustained decline since national recordkeeping was instituted in the 1930's.

The rates reported by NCI are based on mortality data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For 1995, preliminary data were used, so the precise numbers could change slightly once final data are available. But officials said they are confident that the trend is real.

"The 1990's will be remembered as the decade when we measurably turned the tide against cancer," said NCI director Dr. Richard Klausner. "This is the news we've been waiting for. We are on the eve of the 25th anniversary of the National Cancer Act, the legislation that made cancer research a high national priority. Now our nation's investment is paying off by saving lives. We are immensely gratified."

Most of the overall drop in the death rate is due to declines in lung, colorectal, and prostate cancer deaths in men, and breast, colorectal, and gynecologic cancer deaths in women. Some of these trends have been noted previously; for example the breast cancer death rate has been falling since 1989, and the colorectal cancer rates have been falling for about 10 years in men and several decades in women. Other trends, such as the decline in prostate cancer mortality, have only now become apparent.

The decline in mortality has been greater among men than women, although the absolute rate remains substantially higher in men. ■

Scientists Locate Parkinson's Gene

For the first time, scientists have pinpointed the location of a gene they believe is responsible for some cases of Parkinson's disease. Their discovery provides strong evidence that a genetic alteration is capable of causing the disease. The study, published in the Nov. 15 issue of *Science*, sheds light on the mysterious origins of this devastating neurological disease that affects at least 500,000 Americans.

The findings are reported by scientists from NCHGR and NINDS, in collaboration with researchers from UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J., and the Istituto de Scienze Neurologiche in Naples, Italy.

"This exciting result gives us a powerful new tool to understand why nerve cells die in Parkinson's disease and how to stop them from dying. It will usher in a new era of Parkinson's disease research," said NINDS director Dr. Zach Hall.

The current finding shows that a single gene alteration can cause the disease. The next step will be to find and identify the specific gene involved, which is located somewhere within a region of DNA on the long arm of chromosome 4. Learning the gene's exact location and isolating it may eventually lead to genetic testing that will help early diagnosis and treatment. Learning what the gene is and how it works may help researchers design treatments for all forms of Parkinson's disease—not only inherited cases, but also those with no familial link.

The long list of people with Parkinson's disease includes evangelist Billy Graham, science journalist Earl Ubell, and Attorney General Janet Reno. Many other people, including former boxer Muhammed Ali, have Parkinson's-like symptoms due to head injury, toxic chemicals, or other problems. ■

New Technology Helps Study Early Cancer

For years, doctors have looked at tissue biopsies and spotted unusual cells that seem to have early signs of cancer. The problem is doctors have never had the right tools to extract the cells from the tissue, leaving them with no good way to confirm their observation while the tumor is in its early stages and most treatable.

That is until now. In the Nov. 8 *Science*, a team of researchers at NIH reports on a powerful new technique, called laser capture microdissection, that can pull out a small cluster of cells from a tissue sample in as little as 8 seconds.

By taking these cells directly from the tissue, the scientists say they can immediately analyze the cells' gene and enzyme activity with other research tools. Currently, scientists must attempt to extract, or microdissect, cells either by trying to yank them free with a manual tool or through a convoluted process of isolating and culturing the cells. Most scientists say they consider both approaches to be tedious, time-consuming, and inefficient.

According to NCI's Dr. Lance Liotta, senior author of the paper, direct access to cells should lead to a revolution in the understanding of the molecular basis of cancer and other diseases, helping to lay the groundwork for earlier and more precise disease detection.

"Having this technique is the difference between being able to investigate a crime in progress and going back 2 weeks later to the scene of the crime when much of the evidence has vanished, as we typically do now," he said. ■



Dr. Andrea Barnes has been named chief of NIAID's Animal Care Branch, where she has served as deputy branch chief since 1989. She came to NIAID in 1987 as a veterinary medical officer in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases. In 1993, she received the NIH Merit Award for "exceptional contributions to NIAID for the preparation of Institutional Standards of Operating Procedures involving all animal activities." She administers the NIAID Animal Care and Use Program, and oversees the management of all animals used in the Division of Intramural Research.

WORLD WIDE WEB, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It was just 3 years ago, when few government agencies had a web site, that Dr. Peter FitzGerald, Charlene Osborn, and Steve Bailey of DCRT put up the first NIH home page (<http://www.nih.gov>). Not many people had the knowledge and equipment to access it then. "The NIH home page had its origins in Gopher, which had already been running a couple years," says FitzGerald. The World Wide Web had been around for a while, but it wasn't until the



Creators of the DCRT Intranet are (from l) David Laws, Jim Brunetti and Charles Mokotoff. (Photo: Rich Frasier)

introduction of the Mosaic browser in late 1993 that users could begin navigating easily through cyberspace. "I would give Mosaic much of the credit for the success of the web," says FitzGerald, who recently designed a search engine for the NIH WebSpace. He recalls thinking, "Gee, we should have a web page, too. I went looking for a graphic of Bldg. 1, then put up our major topics from Gopher."

Since then, NIH has taken the web and run with it. New web sites are proliferating. Classes in HTML (hypertext markup language)—the computer commands that create the web—are overflowing. The NIH WebSpace hosts thousands of visitors every day, though estimates of total use are imprecise. The NIH home page, which receives about 50,000 hits a day, is the tip of the iceberg, since many people bypass the main page to find their program of interest—NLM, for example, which also gets about 50,000 hits a day.

Recently, the NIH home page was ranked by *PC Magazine* as the most popular government web site after the White House. Of the 25 "hottest" web sites listed by the magazine, U.S. government sites were ranked sixth after Netscape (makers of a popular web browser called "Navigator"), Yahoo (a large search

engine), Pointcast (a "personalizable" news feeder), Microsoft, and America Online. In another study of popular web sites conducted by Tim Bray of Open Text Corp., NIH appears as one of the most visible sites at the "center" of the web.

Nowadays one is hard pressed to think of an NIH office or program that doesn't use the web to inform researchers, doctors, patients, and public who make up their audiences. Though the ICDs expect to see printing costs fall, few have seen a major savings yet. "It's too soon to see a cost savings. Most ICDs are at an early stage in terms of having their information available on the web. Also, the percentage of the public with web access is still quite small," said Dennis Rodrigues, who oversees the NIH home page.

What's clear is that the web is helping the institutes reach target audiences more effectively. NIDDK's information office, one of the first to make health information available online, has found the public response to its web site "overwhelmingly positive," according to Kathy Kranzfelder, chief of health information projects. "People appreciate getting the information right away. Sometimes they've just received a diagnosis or are coming out of surgery, and the fact sheets help them put their condition in perspective. Often the information allays their fears."

A sampling of sites shows how creatively NIH is using the web to convey information to the outside world as well as to NIH staff:

► From the NIH home page, the entry point to NIH WebSpace with links to all official NIH

web pages, a visitor can easily explore a wide range of topics such as grants and contracts, health information, scientific resources, NIH news, and a wealth of information aimed at NIH employees. The main page hosts the NIH search engine, which allows visitors to search the 50,000 documents that make up NIH WebSpace.

► One of the most recent additions, NLM's human gene map (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SCIENCE96>), shows the location of more than 16,000 human genes, about 20 percent of the total human genome. Created by an international collaboration of genome laboratories, "the map has tremendous value for identifying disease genes and provides extraordinary opportunities for a new era of medicine," says Dr. Thomas Hudson, head of the mapping team at Whitehead Institute.

► NLM's Internet Grateful Med (<http://igm.nlm.nih.gov>), which gives web access to MEDLINE and several other NLM databases, is available free of charge to NIH employees who obtain an account number from the NIH Library. Users from the outside need to obtain an account number from NLM.

► Through the Clinical Center's Home page (<http://>

www.cc.nih.gov), current clinical research studies being conducted at the CC can be searched by diagnosis or by sponsoring institute.

► You can access an NCI web site, CancerNet (<http://Cancernet.nci.nih.gov>), to search PDQ, NCI's database of peer-reviewed statements on treatment, supportive care, prevention, screening, and clinical trials. A free search can also be obtained by calling the Cancer Information Service (1-800-4-CANCER).

► The NIAID home page (<http://www.niaid.nih.gov>) has a link to a database of all AIDS clinical trials being conducted in the United States, including those funded by drug companies.

► Through DCRT's home page (<http://www.dcrn.gov>), users can check the status of computer systems, browse the DCRT training catalog, and register for classes online.

► The Office of Medical Applications of Research (<http://consensus.nih.gov>) gives doctors the option of earning continuing medical education credits after taking an online quiz based on a consensus statement.

► Ten ICDs are using the web to communicate with their advisory councils, who can now review summary statements online.

► Conference planners inform participants about the program, registration, and abstract and poster deadlines via the web. Organizers of the International Conference on Protein Folding and Design last April attribute part of the meeting's success to its regularly updated web site.

Applicants for research grants can download the entire NIH grant application kit from the web. In about a month, applicants for noncompeting awards will be able to submit their applications electronically, and next year, "a principal investigator will be able to come to our web site, fill out the noncompeting application, have it reviewed and signed off online by the appropriate officials in the extramural institution, and send it to NIH in a fully secure mode," according to Dr. George Stone of the Office of Extramural Research. As the technology matures, Stone sees all of NIH "moving in the direction of the web to support most interactive business processes on campus."

What else is in store for the future? "The web's ability to provide up-to-date, stylized information that looks attractive and is searchable will continue to be its main strength for a while," says Steve Bailey. "Soon you'll be seeing more interactive capability and better tools for providing live audiovisual images."

With its enormous potential to facilitate scientific collaboration, the web is already changing the way science is done. In the physics community, for example, researchers are putting preprints on the web months before an article is scheduled for publication.

"The web serves the role of electronic publication very well, and that will continue to grow so that sites look more and more like paper pages," says

DCRT's FitzGerald. "Now, trying to do in-line tables, mathematical symbols, and equations is still messy, but it's getting there. On the scientific side, you'll be seeing a lot more remote computing, allowing a scientist to fill out a form and send data to a supercomputing facility, where it's analyzed and sent back to the requester. The scientist doesn't have to know anything about the computer to do it—just how to use a browser."

The web is likely to improve personnel services on campus in several ways. By advertising vacancies on the web, NIH will be recruiting from a wider pool of qualified applicants. The application process will be easier because interested candidates will have the option of applying online. Individual employees will also benefit from a personnel information and benefits system developed by DCRT, which will become available to the ICDs in January. The system gives employees immediate access to data such as the value of their compensation packages, their contributions and the government's to life and health insurance, all the data on their pay slips, and the information needed to estimate their retirement annuities. As security problems are overcome, employees will be able to make some online changes that now require Employee Express or the help of human resources staff.

The NIH internal web, or Intranet, will expand as people tap into its potential for sharing information in a secure way among specific groups. "The Intranet's advantage is that it gives individuals selective access to information, such as projects and confidential data, while at the same time sharing information with wider groups," says Sandy Desautels, who helped design the DCRT Intranet, which describes projects and events of interest to division staff and provides confidential personnel and budgetary information to managers. The Intranet is moving toward the use of one simple interface for any operating system, which allows for an increasingly rich information environment accessible by anyone on campus or remotely connected.

If use of the NIH web continues to escalate, could the system become so overloaded that it collapses? That remote possibility simply underscores the need to keep pace with new technologies, says FitzGerald, who speculates that NIH may someday need a separate network line dedicated to the web. With the growth in multimedia applications, the Internet is quickly becoming congested. The telecommunications companies and others are working on the problem of limited bandwidth, probably the single largest deterrent to the unharnessed growth of the web. The Internet Protocol, which routes data from one computer to another on the network, is also being redesigned to enable the Internet to carry increased traffic efficiently, and—good news for NIH—the National Science Foundation is funding development of a high-speed network dedicated solely to research. ■



Dr. Gabrielle Leblanc, a developmental neurobiologist, was recently named a health scientist administrator in the Division of Fundamental Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders, NINDS. She comes to NINDS from the Oregon Health Sciences University School of Dentistry, where she served for 6 years as an assistant professor in the department of biological structure and function and carried out research on avian neural crest development. As an HSA, she will initiate, monitor, and operate a program of basic and clinical research grants and contracts in the area of developmental neuroscience.

NIEHS Marks 30 Years, Opens New Lab Bldg.

Thirty years of study of the effects of the environment on human health were celebrated at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences recently as it opened "F Module," a \$48 million laboratory addition, and marked its third decade as an institute.

A variety of speakers highlighted NIEHS' discoveries of developmental impairment in children from even very low lead levels, of how endocrine disruptors such as dioxin work, of a mouse model to mimic human exposure to DES, and of a DNA repair system called replication repair. NIEHS also isolated (with the University of Utah) the first gene for breast and ovarian cancers, and has worked with Johns Hopkins University in isolating a gene that suppresses the spread of prostate cancer.

Remarkable NIEHS fertility studies have included a finding that at least 25 percent of pregnancies are lost before women even realize they are pregnant, and the recent discovery that women are most likely to become pregnant if impregnated during the 6 days ending with the day of ovulation.

NIH's Nobel Laureate Martin Rodbell will be among the scientists moving from rented lab space miles away into the consolidated labs made possible by the construction of the F Module, where he and other experts in the molecular mechanisms of cell communication will be within shouting distance of scientists who have revealed how DNA is damaged by environmental factors and repaired.

NIEHS director Dr. Kenneth Olden said past discoveries and new facilities should help institute scientists meet the challenges facing the environmental health sciences.

First and foremost among the hurdles, he said, is



NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus (l) and NIEHS director Dr. Kenneth Olden prepare to snip the ribbon to officially open the \$48 million F Module Laboratory addition. Olden had pushed for congressional funding of the addition, arguing that it would pay for itself in reduced leases of privately owned space.

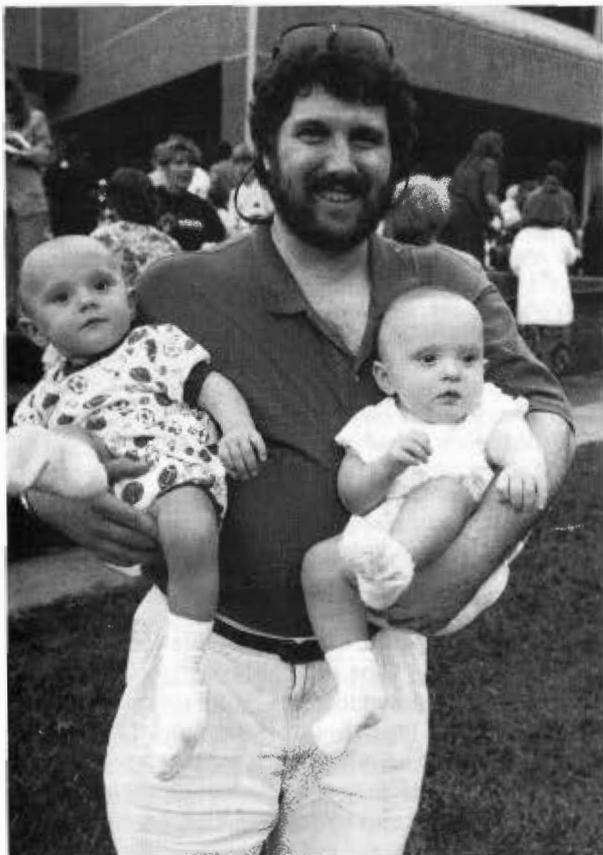
teasing apart the genetic and environmental aspects of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, osteoporosis, cancer and other complex diseases in which several genes and a variety of environmental, dietary, behavioral and infectious exposures may be involved in causing the disease.



NIEHS'ers (from l) Sally Fields, Administrative Management Branch; Dr. James Huff, Environmental Carcinogenesis Program; Nancy Stark, Office of Management; and Mary Gant, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, reach their arms to the heavens, hoping the number they're standing on is called by the emcee of the cake walk—17 lucky winners took home treats.

A catered spread and long line marked the reception that followed the 30th anniversary and F Module dedication ceremony.





Dr. Greg Blumenthal of the Laboratory of Computational Biology and Risk Analysis has his hands full with 1-year-old fraternal twins Michael and Rachel.



John Schelp of the Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation (squatting l), shares a bubble-blowing moment with Candice Jin (left) and his wife, Beth Moracco, and 14-month-old daughter Mikaela. Candice is the daughter of Dr. Lei Jin of the Laboratory of Toxicology.



Laura Zhou, 4, daughter of Dr. Haibo Zhou of the Statistics and Biomathematics Branch, sits patiently while Donna Ratcliff of the Human Resource Management Branch paints colorful balloons on her face. Face painting, science for kids, a scrap exchange and other fun and games were all part of the NIEHS Family Day festivities.

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.



Line dancers made the Macarena a huge hit at Family Day '96.

Blood Bank Changes Hours

The NIH Blood Bank is changing its hours. Beginning on Jan. 2, 1997, the blood bank will be open every Thursday until 5:15 p.m. This is to accommodate present and prospective donors who would like to give blood during the latter part of the day. The other hours will remain the same: Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Tue. 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Thurs. 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Walk-ins are accepted, however the bank prefers that you call ahead to schedule an appointment. Phone 6-1048. ■



Dr. Robert Hammond, formerly chief of the Review Branch, NIDDK, has joined NCI to lead the new Office of Advisory Activities, located within the Division of Extramural Activities. OAA coordinates review of intramural programs with external advisory functions across NCI and ensures that appropriate policies and procedures are in place to accomplish the purposes of

each advisory body. Also on the OAA staff are Dr. Florence Farber of the NCI Grants Review Branch and Dr. Judy Mietz, formerly with the NHLBI Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, who will serve as executive secretaries for review of the intramural research programs. Susan Feldman will be senior program analyst; she had been the NIH committee management officer.

Overweight Kids, Parents Needed

Healthy overweight children and normal weight children with two overweight parents are needed for an NICHD study investigating body composition and the causes of overweight: African American and Caucasian boys and girls, ages 6-10. 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. ■

Treatment for Panic Attacks

People currently experiencing spontaneous panic attacks and/or social anxiety 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. ■

Dr. Pamela McInnes has been named chief of the Respiratory Diseases Branch, Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, NIAID. She will oversee a large clinical trials program, and research on influenza and associated viral respiratory pathogens, bacterial vaccines, tuberculosis and leprosy, neonatal pathogens and maternal immunization. She received the NIAID Director's Merit Award in 1995 and the NIH Director's Award in 1996 for "exceptional leadership in advancing the development and safe implementation of Haemophilus influenzae vaccines." She joined the division in 1990.



Symposium on Oligonucleotides

The NIH Therapeutic Oligonucleotides Interest Group is hosting "The First NIH Symposium on Therapeutic Oligonucleotides," on Friday, Dec. 6. It will be held in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The talks will cover a range of topics in the area of antisense oligonucleotide therapeutics. The program will close with socializing from 4:50 to 5:30. Reservations are not required. Contact person is Yoon Cho-Chung, 6-4020. ■

Healthy Volunteers Sought

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. ■



Dr. James E. Rothman, an NIGMS grantee since 1972, was recently named a recipient of the 1996 King Faisal International Prize in Science. The award recognizes scientists whose work broadens scientific knowledge and has practical benefits. Rothman is program chairman for cellular

biochemistry and biophysics at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York and vice chairman of the Sloan-Kettering Institute. Along with two other scientists, he received the Science Prize for Biology for "distinguished research in the sorting and targeting of protein and protein transport." He shared a cash prize of \$200,000 and received a gold medallion. He has also received support from NCI, NIDDK, and NIAMS.

Do You Get the Winter Blues?

The NIMH 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.

Levine Honored at NICHD Symposium

By Robert Bock

"Mort Lipsett, who preceded me as NICHD director, was renowned for his skill in picking scientific talent, and he certainly picked a winner in Art Levine." With those words, Dr. Duane Alexander set the tone for "Scientific Excellence at NICHD: A Symposium in Honor of Arthur S. Levine," which was held recently at Lister Hill Auditorium.

NICHD and other NIH scientists as well as researchers from outside the campus gathered to pay tribute to their mentor, colleague and friend. Levine joined NICHD as scientific director in 1982, believing then that a sophisticated understanding of developmental biology would provide insight into the mechanisms underlying not only genetic and developmental disorders of childhood, but also many of the common disorders and diseases of adulthood such as cancer and premature aging. Subsequent research discoveries have confirmed the wisdom of his choice of scientific direction years ago.

The first speaker was Dr. Andrew M. Lewis, Jr., of FDA's Center for Biologic Evaluation and Research (and formerly in NIAID), a colleague of Levine's for 30 years. Lewis described how Levine, he, and their collaborators worked years ago to identify the discrete biological functions of tumor virus genes. The two collaborated on more than 25 scientific papers, and were instrumental in the physical and genetic mapping of SV40, the first mammalian tumor virus to be analyzed in this way. Levine's current collaborator, Dr. Roger Woodgate, described their recent work on DNA repair and mutagenesis.

Levine joined NIH as a clinical associate at NCI in 1967, and became chief of the institute's Pediatric Oncology Branch in 1975. Earlier in his career, he played a leading role in clinical research on childhood malignancies, and throughout his career Levine has worked as a molecular biologist. After coming to NICHD, he established an intramural program that has recruited a large number of scientists of exceptional quality.

Among those who also spoke at this tribute were: Dr. Alan G. Hinnebusch, chief of NICHD's Laboratory of Eukaryotic Gene Regulation, who described how his lab has elucidated the complex molecular mechanism by which yeast cells respond to starvation; Dr. Alan Wolffe, chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Embryology, who described the developmental role of the nucleosome in gene expression; and Dr. Heiner Westphal, chief of the Laboratory of Mammalian Genes and Development, who explained how his group pioneered many aspects of "knock-out" technology and used this new technology to identify and understand the functions of critical genes in early mammalian embryogenesis. Dr. Igor Dawid, chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, also addressed the group on the molecular



genetics of vertebrate embryogenesis, emphasizing the development of the central nervous system and overall body patterning. In addition, one of the institute's best-known researchers, NCI director Richard Klausner, who is also chief of the Cell Biology and Metabolism Branch at NICHD, spoke about his recent research on VHL, a tumor suppressor gene associated with angiogenesis.

Alexander discussed how Levine, soon after he was appointed as scientific director, proceeded to identify the strengths and weaknesses in the intramural program, redirected resources accordingly, and gave focus to the program. Specifically, Levine put his emphasis on one of the most fundamental questions of biology: What are the molecular mechanisms that direct the development of an undifferentiated, fertilized egg cell into a highly differentiated, multispecialized adult organism?

Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research, pointed out that Levine developed the NICHD intramural program "to the point where it's one of the strongest scientific programs in existence." Gottesman added that Levine, now the longest serving scientific director, has presided over a five-fold increase in NICHD's intramural resources over the past 14 years.

NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus said that under Levine's guidance, NICHD's clinical research program has also evolved into an exemplary program that has impressed many visiting members of Congress.

"I'm continually impressed with the richness of the program that Art has organized," Varmus said, "and the resources that all of you who serve in his program bring to the rest of us who work here at NIH."

At the conclusion of the program, Westphal presented Levine with a four-volume bound set of Levine's collected scientific publications.

"When I first learned of this symposium, I was not only delighted and honored, but somewhat nonplussed, because commonly in science, symposiums such as this are either held in memoriam or on the verge of someone's retirement," Levine said. "Given that I feel quite well and still young, this is indeed a special testament to the friendship, generosity and civility of my colleagues." ■

Pictured above are participants in the NICHD symposium honoring the work of Dr. Arthur S. Levine: (standing, from l) Drs. Igor B. Dawid, Duane Alexander, Andrew M. Lewis, Jr., Richard D. Klausner, Alan G. Hinnebusch, Alan P. Wolffe, Roger Woodgate and (seated, from l) Drs. Michael M. Gottesman, Levine and Heiner Westphal.

Smokers Comes to Rockledge

On Jan. 7, 9:30-11 a.m., Rockledge 2, Rm. 9104, there will be a free orientation seminar to introduce a smoke-cessation program. Those interested can participate in six 2-hour weekly sessions that will follow on consecutive Tuesdays, beginning Jan. 14. Smokers helps you overcome nicotine addiction gradually. The program is sponsored by the Division of Workforce Development and NHLBI, and can be paid for with ICD funds. Cost for the six sessions will be \$225 or \$255 per person, depending on the number of participants. For more information call Judith Ireland, 5-0086.

Lindsey Memorial Fund Established

A special account has been established at the NIH Federal Credit Union in memory of Nat Lindsey, who died suddenly on Sept. 18. He worked at NIH for 34 years until his retirement in 1994.



Nat Lindsey

For the last 14 years of his career, he served as the NIH small and disadvantaged business utilization specialist for research and development in the Division of Contracts and Grants.

The credit union account will benefit his favorite charity, the Barney Neighborhood House, which provides educational, social, recreational, and counseling services for youth, adults, and senior citizens in wards 1 and 5 of the District of Columbia. The account will be open until Dec. 30. Only money orders and checks will be accepted for tax deduction. Forward donations to Annette Owens-Scarboro, Bldg. 6100, Rm. 6E01, payable to the "NIHFCU-Nathaniel Lindsey Memorial Fund."

Lindsey's NIH colleagues, along with the NIH small and minority business community, which he counseled, will long remember the special opportunity they were given in life by having known and worked with him. He was one of those special persons in life whose kindness and gentleness knew no bounds. He will continue to serve as an example of the level of professionalism his coworkers in the NIH community so earnestly try to achieve.

Lindsey's survivors include his wife, Annie, as well as his family and many friends.—Mary Armstead

STEP Session Focuses on Chronobiology

A STEP Science for All session entitled "Chronobiology: Timing is Everything!" is planned for Wednesday, Jan. 8, 1997, in the Natcher Conference Center auditorium from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn about seasonal affective disorder (SAD) and light therapy, the facts behind melatonin and jet lag, and how daily biological rhythms can affect the outcome of surgery or chemotherapy. Speakers for the series are Thomas Wehr, NIMH; William Hrushesky, Stratton VA Medical Center, Albany; and Timothy Monk, University of Pittsburgh.

The session is open to all NIH'ers on a first-come, first-served basis. Inform STEP of any need for sign language interpretation/reasonable accommodation by Dec. 30. For more information call 5-2769. ■

NINDS Sponsors Stroke Symposium

NINDS will sponsor a national symposium on "Rapid Identification and Treatment of Acute Stroke" on Dec. 12 and 13 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Va. The symposium will bring together professionals from a variety of fields to develop a national plan for rapid stroke treatment.

On Dec. 12, the symposium will feature presentations and panel discussions. That evening, participants will assemble comments from these sessions into final reports that will be presented on Dec. 13. The conclusions will eventually be published.

For more information, contact Terry Balderson, (301) 495-1591 x265. ■

Takoma Mandoleers Hold Concert

The Clinical Center rehabilitation medicine department will present the Takoma Mandoleers in concert on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. in the 14th floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. There is no admission charge and the public is welcome. The performance will include classical, popular and ragtime and music of the early 20th century. For more information, call Bob Hammond, 6-2378. ■

Flamenco Dance Program, Dec. 7

The Viva Flamenco Spanish Dance Company, featuring veteran NIH'er Ena Camargo, will perform at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The program will feature music and dance encompassing various styles, geographic regions and periods of Spanish history. Tickets are available at the Bldg. 31 R&W store's activity desk for \$10. Call 6-6061 for more details. ■



The NIH Chamber Singers will be presenting a holiday concert and sing-along on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at noon in Natcher Auditorium B. The program will feature traditional Christmas and Chanukah favorites, some unusual pieces and a dash of humor to brighten your holidays. Admission is free.



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 Starting Dates

Management, Supervisory & Professional Development

Fostering Creative Thinking at Work	12/9
Interpersonal Relationships in the Work Environment	12/17
Coaching Skills for the 21st Century	1/9
How to Make Your Attitude Work For You	1/14
Time Management	1/15
HR Professional as a Consultant	1/15
Intro to HR Management	1/22

Administrative Systems

Domestic Travel	12/9, 1/8
Foreign Travel	12/13
Intro to NIH Property Management	12/16
Basic T&A Using TAIMS	12/17, 1/21
Determining Price Reasonableness in the Award of Simplified Acquisitions	12/19
Buying from Small & Large Businesses on the Open Market	1/7
Consolidated Purchasing Through Contracts	1/8
Creating & Maintaining Filing Systems	1/8
Federal Supply Schedule	1/9
Delegated Acquisition Training Program	1/13

Career Transition

NIH Retirement Seminar (CSRS)	12/11
Mid-Career Financial Planning (CSRS)	1/21

Computer Applications and Concepts

Upgrading to Windows 95	12/11
MS Word 6.0 for Windows	1/21
MS Exchange for Windows 95	1/15
Welcome to Macintosh	1/16
Intro to Internet	12/12
Advanced Internet	12/12
Intro to CRISP	1/16

Symposium on Cytokine Biology

The NIH Cytokine Interest Group is hosting a minisymposium on "Methods in Cytokine Biology," on Thursday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Natcher Conference Center. The program will feature talks and workshops on new and existing techniques to measure cytokine expression. Featured topics will include "chip"-based DNA detection systems, multiprobe RNase protection assays, single cell cytokine analysis by flow cytometry and quantitative PCR. For more information, contact Calman Prussin at calman@nih.gov, or visit the CIG website at <http://www.nih.gov/sigs/cytokine/>. ■

DCRT Courses and Programs

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

Network Security at NIH	12/4
ADBIS for Windows: Budget and Finance	12/4
Electronic Forms Users Group	12/4
Netscape for the PC	12/5
Introduction to HTML	12/5
Windows 95 Start Up	12/5
Choosing the Right PC: What You Need to Know	12/5
Introduction to HTML	12/5
ADBIS for Windows: NIH Property Management	12/6
Disaster Recovery	12/9
SAS Fundamentals II for Programmers	12/9-10
MS Exchange for Administrators	12/10
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	12/10
ADBIS for Windows: Procurement and Marketing Requisitions	12/11
DHCP for Dynamically Allocating IP Addresses	12/11
A Look at MS Exchange for End Users	12/12
Wavelets in Tomography	12/12
Mac Configuration for PARACHUTE Network Access	12/13
ADBIS for Windows: Mini Session for Property Management	12/16
ADBIS for Windows: Mini Session for Property Management	12/17
Introduction to Oracle PL/SQL	12/16-18
Configuring Windows and Windows 95 for PARACHUTE Network Access	12/18
Web Data Access with Central Support	12/19
Formation of Biological Vesicles	12/19
Oracle for Application Developers	12/19-20
Database Technology Seminar	12/20
BRMUG Macintosh Users' Group	12/24
ADBIS for Windows: Procurement and Market Requisitions	1/7
Segmentation of Images Using NIH Image	1/7
LISTSERV Electronic Mailing list	1/7
Netscape for the Macintosh	1/8
Central Computing Services at NIH	1/8
Electronic Forms Users Group	1/8
Designing Graphics on the Web	1/9
C Language Fundamentals	1/13-17
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	1/14
Windows NT Overview	1/14-15
Web Page Design	1/16
Database Technology Seminar	1/17

STEP Applications Due Dec. 20

The following STEP modules still have registration open: Module 3, "Solveny In Science," on Apr. 9, 1997, and Module 4, "The Last Phase of Life: Knowing How and When To Let Go," on May 8, 1997. Registration is required by Dec. 20. Application details and a form can be found in the back of the STEP catalog. For more information about STEP training activities, call 5-2769. ■



Dr. William E. Paul's 25 years as chief of NIAID's Laboratory of Immunology will be celebrated with a seminar convened in his name on Tuesday, Dec. 17, in Lipssett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Paul also serves as director of the NIH Office of AIDS Research. Paying tribute, as speakers for this event, will be Drs. Anthony S. Fauci, Baruj Benacerraf, Charles Janeway, Jr., Mark Davis, Anthony DeFranco, Laurie Glimcher, Kenji Nakanishi, Fred Finkelman, Ronald Schwartz, and Ronald Germain. No registration is required. Call Germain, 6-1904 for more details.

We're Outta Here...

This is the last NIH Record for 1996. We appear again in your hands on Jan. 14, 1997. The deadline for that issue is New Year's Eve—Dec. 31. In other words, two payday days will pass (Dec. 17 and 31) where it will be up to you to invent a "second best thing about payday." Happy Holidays!

NINDS's Webster Shares Science With Students

Dr. Henry deF. Webster, chief of the NINDS Laboratory of Experimental Neuropathology, recently visited the Merritt School Branch of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, D.C. During his visit, which was part of the Merritt School Branch's science program, Webster shared with the students an interactive presentation on "Special Senses and the Nervous System."

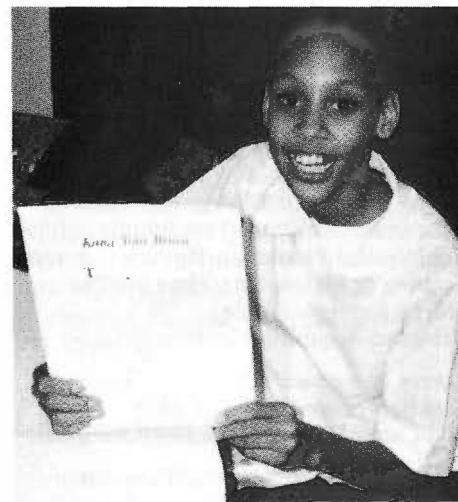
Using medical "props," which included the contents of his physician's bag, opticokinetic drums and reading cards (from NEI), reflex hammers, tuning forks, and copies of the NINDS publication *Know Your Brain*, Webster gave the students a brief overview of the nature and function of the nervous system.

Merritt is the only D.C. public school that hosts a Boys and Girls Club. The program, directed by Leslie Penn, provides a positive and safe place for students and other young people in the community to do homework, study with tutors, play games, and participate in physical education and other activities.

Describing his audience as "attentive" and "curious," Webster said he enjoyed the experience and encouraged other NIH scientists to participate in similar events. "A lot of NIH scientists might enjoy this kind of activity as a satisfying form of community service," he said. "I was very impressed with the students and the school."—Shannon Garnett ■



Webster uses such "props" as an opticokinetic drum (above) to explain ocular reflexes to the students, and the NINDS publication *Know Your Brain* (below) to give a basic introduction to the structure and function of the brain.



FAES Chamber Music Series Continues

The FAES Chamber Music Series will present Ignat Solzhenitsyn, piano, on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Admission is \$20 at the door, \$10 for students. For more information, call 6-7975.

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series, held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, features two lectures at mid-month then goes on winter holiday until Jan. 8.

On Dec. 11, Dr. Bert Vogelstein of Johns Hopkins will give the George Khoury Lecture on the topic "Molecular Aspects of Colon Cancer."

The final speaker of the year on Dec. 18 is Dr. Janet Smith, professor of biological sciences at Purdue University. She will discuss "Modular Organization in the Structure and Function of an Enzyme Family: The Glutamine Amidotransferases."

Kicking off the new year on Jan. 8 is Yale's Dr. Ira Mellman, who will discuss "Cell Biology of Antigen Presentation: MHC Class II Transport, Dendritic Cell Development and other Strange Tales." A special Monday lecture at 2 p.m. will be held Jan. 13 when Dr. Joseph L. Goldstein of the University of Texas lectures on "The Clinical Investigator: Bewitched, Bothered and Bedeviled." This is the first James A. Shannon Lecture. On Jan. 15, Princeton's Dr. Anne Treisman will talk about "Feature Binding, Attention, and Object Perception."

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