Recycling at NIH: What’s Up?

What’s going on with recycling and use of recycled materials at NIH? Although recycling efforts may not be readily apparent to many NIH’ers, much is being done.

NIH has been in compliance with Executive Order 12873, “Federal Acquisition, Recycling and Waste Prevention” and “Vegetable Ink Printing Act,” since its enactment 2 years ago. This law requires a minimum content standard of no less than 20 percent postconsumer materials for all high-speed copier paper, offset paper, forms bond, computer printout paper, file folders, and white woven envelopes. This standard will increase to 30 percent Dec. 31, 1998. The laws also set a standard of 50 percent recovered materials for other uncoated printing and writing paper such as office paper, book paper, and cotton fiber paper.

Of the almost $6.6 million in printing procured through NIH in FY 1994, about 85 percent contained recycled materials. Also, all printing procurement for work performed by outside contractors stipulates adherence to recycled material in paper products and inks. In addition, all letterhead, notepads, etc., printed with NIH, ICD specific insignia/address procured through NIH also must meet the mandated standards for recycling materials.

The Environmental Protection Branch, ORS, is responsible for the NIH recycling program and provided the following facts; keep in mind that these statistics do not include recycling efforts at off-campus leased facilities, nor do they include voluntary programs set up by employees. While most building owners are responsible for recycling in the off-campus facilities, the Division of Support

NIH alumni and Nobel laureate Dr. Joseph Goldstein (l) meets with former NIH director Dr. Donald Fredrickson prior to giving the first annual James A. Shannon Lecture on Jan. 13. Looking on is Shannon’s son Anthony.

So stated Nobel laureate Dr. Joseph Goldstein, a former clinical associate at NHLBI who gave the first James A. Shannon Lecture on Jan. 13 before a packed house at Masur Auditorium.

Goldstein—now a professor and department chair at the medical school (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center) from which he earned his M.D.—erected his argument that “there has never been a better time for M.D.s to do clinical research” upon
Keep Those Cards, Letters Coming

Just a reminder that our Letters to the Editor column is available for those who would like to air work-related issues. For those of you who may wonder where it went, we haven't gotten any letters in recent weeks, so we haven't published the column. The column still exists; it is merely in hibernation. Feel free to wake it up.

NIMH Welcomes Minority Honor Students

"Join us on this journey of discovery which will make a real difference for people," NIMH director Dr. Steven E. Hyman appealed to the more than 110 minority undergraduate honor students from 13 colleges and universities attending the 15th annual Career Opportunities in Research and Training (COR) Colloquium, in Washington recently.

Boosting minority educational opportunities and enhancing minority representation in the mental health research field are COR's goals. Since it began in 1980, COR has helped to prepare hundreds of third- and fourth-year honor students for graduate programs in neuroscience, behavioral science, and mental health research.

COR funds are furnished to colleges and universities that serve substantial numbers of students from underrepresented racial/ethnic minority groups. Principal investigators select COR students and mentor them for 2 years, teaching mental health research design and guiding the students toward graduate school and independent research careers.

Among the students making presentations was Lynn Abeita, a member of the Isleta Laguna Pueblo tribe from New Mexico, who recently graduated from the University of New Mexico. She studied anger management among veterans undergoing alcohol and cocaine outpatient treatment. She found that as anger levels dropped, so did drug and alcohol use. Her research led her to recommend modifying the program to increase patient participation. Abeita, currently working in San Francisco as a research assistant and applying to graduate school, said, "COR has opened so many doors, providing a supportive environment and exposure to graduate school and greater possibilities for the future."

Gary Bennett, Jr., a senior at Morehouse College, has been studying the relationship between personality styles and high blood pressure. He plans to go to graduate school in psychology and hopes to become a psychology professor with his own research laboratory.

LilyAnne Jeu, a student at Hunter College in New York, tested the hypothesis that minor physical anomalies (slight deviations of the head, face, hands, and feet) might serve as markers of abnormal prenatal development, possibly associated with the development of schizophrenia. Although these areas are derived from the same embryological tissue as the central nervous system, her results did not support her hypothesis. She plans to continue her studies in graduate school.

Three students from Puerto Rico, Rosana Amador-Miranda and Damarys Cruz-Gonzalez from the University of Puerto Rico, and Evelyn Badillo-Cordero, from the Caribbean Center of Graduate Studies, presented research on the perception of risk of contracting HIV infection and its relation to sexual behaviors in a group of young Puerto Rican heterosexual women. All three hope to pursue research careers.

"I am continually impressed with the variety and sophistication of the research projects these students undertake," said Sherman Ragland, NIMH deputy associate director for special populations and COR program administrator. "The colloquium seems to get better each year. The program gives me a lot of hope, as Dr. Hyman said, not just for the students who participate but also for the benefits their careers will bring to all of us."

Participants in the recent COR colloquium included (front, from l) Rebekah Hughey, Spelman College; Dr. Delores Parron, NIMH associate director for special populations; LilyAnne Jeu, Hunter College; NIMH director Dr. Steven Hyman. At rear are (from l) Sherman Ragland, NIMH deputy associate director for special populations; Mark King, Howard University; Yevette M. Brown, University of New Mexico.

Interest in Stem Cells?

A number of scientists on campus are considering starting a Stem Cell Interest Group. If you are interested in participating in such a group, email either Dr. Snorri Thorgerisson at snorri_thorgerisson@nih.gov or Dr. Francis Ruscetti at ruscetti@icrfvl.nicifcrf.gov.
NIH, Hopkins Establish New Center

Several components of NIH, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, have established a new research center to analyze common disorders caused by the actions of multiple genes and interactions with the environment. The new Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR) will give scientists a powerful new approach to understanding common but poorly understood disorders such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, and neurologic and psychiatric disorders.

Operating under a $21.8 million contract over the next 5 years, CIDR is housed in a 14,000-square-foot facility at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore. Expected to be fully operational this spring, the center will employ a staff of about 25.

The eight NIH participants are: National Human Genome Research Institute (formerly NCHGR, which attained institute status Jan. 14), which serves as the lead component, NCIC, NICHHD, NIDCD, NIDA, NIEHS, NIMH, and NINDS.

Most diseases of modern life—cancer, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, and a host of neuropsychiatric disorders—seem to result from the activities of several genes and the interplay between a human body and its environment. The effect of each gene, however, is rather weak, making it difficult to understand why some members of a family develop chronic disorders while others do not.

New technologies enable scientists to go after the genetic origins of ordinary diseases that are caused by multiple genes, said Dr. Robert Nussbaum, who came to NHGRI 3 years ago with the aim of developing a center for studying the genetics of complex disorders. As CIDR mastermind, he will oversee the contract from the NIH side.

CIDR will specialize in a technique known as genotyping—sorting through the entire genetic complement, or genome, of disease-prone family members to search for not one, but many gene regions associated with that disease. CIDR researchers expect to analyze the genetics of six to nine complex disorders per year. [1]

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. [2]

NCRR Grantees Win Glaser Awards

Two NCRR-supported researchers, Drs. Andrew Lackner and Marta Marthas, have received Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Awards from the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. They are two of five recipients from the international research community who will receive up to $682,000 over 5 years to conduct pediatric AIDS research. The award is named in memory of the organization’s founder and AIDS activist, the late Elizabeth Glaser.

Lackner, chairman of comparative pathology at NCRR’s New England Regional Primate Research Center, will use his $650,000 Glaser award to study the neurologic sequela of HIV infection in the simian immunodeficiency virus-infected macaque model of AIDS. He will explore why the incidence of neurologic abnormalities is higher in HIV-1 infected children than in adults.

A research grant of more than $675,000 will help Marthas, a virologist at California Regional Primate Research Center, develop strategies for preventing infection or delaying progression of pediatric AIDS. [3]

Blue Pages Project Earns ‘Hammer’

The Hammer Award, a special honor given by the vice president’s National Performance Review to people who have participated in a team effort contributing dramatically to improving the way government works, was presented recently to participants in the cross-HHS Blue Pages Project work group.

The Office of Research Services’ Dr. Cherie Fisk, assistant director for scientific affairs, represented NIH on the team and was one of those receiving the award. The group redesigned the way HHS programs and offices will be listed in telephone books throughout the nation.

The hammer—which cost less than $6, plus a few cents for ribbon, a few bucks for wood and paint, and a card from the vice president—symbolizes the way workers are going to build a new government that works better and costs less. [4]
Services has assumed sole responsibility for recycling at the Stonestreet facility in Rockville. This model allows a private contractor to recycle white paper, cardboard, and wood pallets at no cost to the government.

Volunteer programs have contributed significantly in stimulating intramural researchers to initiate recycling efforts in their areas. Their support is a prime example of how each employee can contribute to recycling at NIH.

In FY 1996, NIH recycled 310 metric tons (682,000 pounds) of white office paper. That would amount to a stack of paper 4.3 miles high or a path of paper 12,000 miles long. And that’s just a year’s worth. Over the 7 years of NIH’s structured program, 1,926 metric tons (4,237,200 pounds) of white office paper have been collected and recycled—a stack 26.8 miles high and 73,562 miles long.

Since 1990, NIH has steadily increased the types and amounts of materials recycled, reaching a total of 5,377 metric tons or 12 million pounds of material. In 1990, of the 8,226 tons of waste destined for the landfill, NIH recycled a total of 288 tons or 3.5 percent. By 1995, the total rose to over four times that amount: 1,175 tons or over 2.5 million pounds recycled in 1 year, and the percentage diverted by recycling has risen to over 10.

In 1990, NIH recycled two major categories: white/mixed paper and wood pallets. Now NIH recycles seven different categories including aluminum cans, metal, yard waste, cardboard, and polypropylene. NIH recycles all materials required by Montgomery County.

Recycling is not a simple or inexpensive process. It requires a number of resources such as FTEs, space, and money to collect and store materials for recycling. While there is some return from recycling, it is not near the cost incurred. In 1996, on-campus recycling efforts cost NIH about $114,000, while selling the 1,122 tons of recycled material only brought in $23,673. A full service recycling program, which would include all on-campus buildings, will cost about $875,000.

Efforts are ongoing to expand the scope of NIH recycling by increasing the amount of material currently being recycled and adding new material such as drink cans and newspapers to the current recyclable list. The NIH recycling program is completely voluntary. With the cooperation of staff, the amount and diversity of materials recycled and diverted from the landfill will continue to grow.

Any recycling program depends on the help of individuals. Employees can help by using such recycling opportunities as disposing of white office paper in recycling containers instead of the trash can and taking home and recycling such personal items as soda cans and newspapers. For more information about NIH recycling, contact the Environmental Protection Branch, 6-7990.

**NIH’ers Claim Communication Awards**

The International Blue Pencil and Gold Screen competitions, sponsored by the National Association of Government Communicators, annually recognize outstanding government communications projects and their producers. Blue Pencil Awards are given for the best writing, photography, print publications and their producers. Gold Screen Awards are given to the best in film, visual arts and broadcasting.

NIH’ers, their awards, project titles and categories are listed below:

**Blue Pencil**

Elaine Baldwin, NIMH project officer, First Place, “People,” Public Service Announcement-Ad Slick Category.


Clinical Center Office of Communications, First Place, “Foil the Flu,” Visual Design, visual communication via posters, flyers, maps, logos, folders, etc.

**Gold Screen**


**Video Workshop Series Resumes**

In February, the NIH Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will continue the 1996-1997 season of its video workshop series “Tuesdays at the Little Theater.” The next topic is “Dealing with Conflict and Confrontation.”

The workshops employ a two-part approach. At each session, a segment of an expert speaker’s videotape is shown first. Counselors from EAP then lead a group discussion about the topic. The topics address typical workplace issues faced by NIH’ers. The lunchtime, drop-in format is planned to make attendance simple. The series is free, open to all employees, and no registration is required. The workshops are all held in the Bldg. 10 Visitor Information Center’s Little Theater. For more information call 6-3164.

The sessions on conflict and confrontation will be held from noon to 1 p.m. on the following Tuesdays: Feb. 4, Feb. 11, Feb. 18, Feb. 25, Mar. 4.

NIDR Pain Research Honored

The American Pain Society presented its highest honors in pain research to two investigators for their work at the National Institute of Dental Research. Drs. Mitchell Max and Gary Bennett received the awards, each accompanied by a $10,000 prize, at the society’s annual meeting held recently in Washington, D.C.

Max, chief of NIDR’s clinical trials unit, Pain and Neurosensory Mechanisms Branch, received the Wilbert E. Fordyce Clinical Investigator Award for developing innovative clinical trial methods and treatments for pain caused by nerve damage. His research has focused on the mechanisms and treatment of pain caused by conditions such as postherpetic neuralgia (nerve damage that can follow an attack of shingles) and diabetic neuropathy.

Bennett received the Frederick W. L. Kerr Basic Science Research Award for his development of an animal model of chronic neuropathic pain that has been adopted by scientists at universities and pharmaceutical companies around the world and has led to the development of investigational drugs for treating persistent pain. The award also recognized his contributions to defining the peripheral and central mechanisms by which nerve injury leads to chronic pain. Until last July, Bennett was chief of NIDR’s neuropathic pain and pain measurement section in the Pain and Neurosensory Mechanisms Branch. He is now professor of neurology at Allegheny University of the Health Sciences in Philadelphia.

Conference on Managed Care Opens Series

The National Institute of Nursing Research and the Clinical Center’s department of nursing are sponsoring a conference entitled “Managed Care: Crisis and Opportunity for Clinical Research.” It will be held Thursday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

The conference will feature prominent experts in the field. Presenters will include: Dr. Neil R. Powe, Johns Hopkins; Dr. Colleen Conway-Welch, Vanderbilt University; Dr. Dorothy Brooten, Case Western Reserve University; Dr. Jeffrey Harris, Massachusetts General Hospital; Dr. Madison Powers, Georgetown University; and Dr. David Blumenthal, Mass General.

This conference is the first in a series entitled “Expanding the Horizons of Health Care Through Research,” which will run through this year and cover such topics as chronic illness, pain management, neuroscience and disease management and genetics.

Admission is free and open to all but seating is limited. For more information call Marianne Duffy, 6-0207, or check NINR’s home page on the World Wide Web (http://www.nih.gov/ninr).

Kudos for Panic Disorder Campaign

The NIMH Panic Disorder Education Program has won first place awards in four communications competitions. Sponsored by medical, government, and public relations organizations, the contests attracted entries from all over the world.

Panic disorder, which affects 3-6 million Americans at some time in their lives, is characterized by repeated panic attacks involving numerous physical symptoms, accompanied by overwhelming fear and feelings of unreality. Untreated, many people with panic disorder can become severely disabled and even housebound. But 70 to 90 percent of patients improve significantly when treated appropriately.

The American Medical Association’s International Health and Medical Film Competition awarded the campaign two first prizes, a coveted “Freddie” for each entry. At a recent awards ceremony, the “Train” television public service announcement (PSA) took first place in the PSA category, and the video documentary Panic Disorder: Stories of Hope won first place in the health sensitivity category.

The International Blue Pencil Competition of the National Association of Government Communicators awarded NIMH first place in the PSA Ad Slick category recently (see p. 4). This print PSA also depicts the symptoms and fear that characterize panic disorder. The video news release (VNR), “Summer Travel Not an Option for Many with Panic Disorder,” which won second place in the Gold Screen VNR competition, portrays people whose lives are restricted because they have panic disorder and have become housebound.

Inside PR, the largest trade publication in the public relations industry, awarded the “People” print PSA campaign first prize in the PSA category of the Creativity in Public Relations Awards. In addition, the overall Panic Disorder Education Program received a certificate of excellence in the government agency category.

Finally, the Public Relations Society of America National Capital chapter awarded the Panic Disorder Education Program its top award for campaigns in the public service category.

Chamber Concert Set, Feb. 2

The Rock Creek Chamber Players will perform on Sunday, Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. in the 14th floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. The program will include Scarlatti’s “Cat’s Fugue” sonata for solo keyboard; Robert Ward’s Serenade for Mallarme, for flute, viola, cello and piano; and Schubert’s Octet, Op. 166. For more information about this free public concert, sponsored by the Clinical Center’s recreation therapy section, call (202) 337-8710.
Goldstein meets with fellow Nobelist and mentor Dr. Marshall Nirenberg, in whose lab Goldstein worked as an NHLBI clinical associate.

the formidable foundation of Shannon's career; the former NIH director (1955-1968) is credited with shaping much of the modern NIH and was himself an ardent clinician as well as bench scientist.

In a genial Southern twang that broadened words like type to “tap,” Goldstein said most of the useful insights of medicine's past half century have been the result of collaborations between creative, alert physicians (“Those folks who actually see the patient, say hello and shake their hand,” he quipped) and their allies at the bench who were able to sort through evidence to test daring hypotheses.

His exemplars of “clinical investigation at its very best” were fellow Nobel laureates (1950) Philip Hench and Edward Kendall, a physicist and Ph.D., respectively, who waded through a variety of clues to discover the steroid cortisone as a therapy for arthritis.

“The collaboration between a chemist, a clinician and a pharmaceutical company (in this instance Merck, which slogged through a 30-step chemical synthesis—the most laborious of its kind up to then—to make small quantities of cortisone) is like a good collaboration between partners writing a hit Broadway musical,” he said. “Together, they produce a successful performance.”

Indeed, Goldstein borrowed the title of his talk—“The Clinical Investigator: Bewitched, Bothered and Bedeviled”—from a similar line in Rodgers and Hart's Broadway hit Pal Joey.

Surveying the current state of medicine, with its emphasis on managed care and cost-cutting (which has led to "PAIDS"—paralyzing academic investigator disease syndrome), Goldstein observes three categories of pursuit: pure basic research, disease-oriented research, and patient-oriented research.

Although he gave historical examples of titans from each of these groups, his heart clearly is with the latter. His own career as an NHLBI clinical associate in Dr. Marshall Nirenberg's lab took off when the case of a youngster with hypercholesterolemia, to whom he was introduced by former NIH director Dr. Donald Fredrickson, began to consume him.

“NIH played a major role in our careers,” said Goldstein, whose collaboration with Brown is now in its 25th year. Allowing that their work “has gotten more and more basic over the years,” Goldstein nonetheless credits his clinical experience with engendering much of the pleasure he has obviously taken in his career.

Patient-oriented research, or POR, may get short shrift these days as scientists in general “are more interested in presenting their results at Cold Spring Harbor than at the Washington Sheraton,” he jibed, but it tends to attract “fiercely independent people who avoid ‘bandwagon' research at all costs.” He described “the four Ps of POR”—passion, patients, patience and poverty.” This last characteristic is where NIH may have a remedy, he suggested. “NIH could help by supporting more clinical research, work that is nonbandwagon and creative. Career development awards are needed.”

Spotlight on Clinical Research

Clinical research will be in the spotlight on Feb. 10 when NIH sponsors its first Clinical Research Day. All sessions will be at the Clinical Center.

“This event will celebrate the history of clinical research at NIH and, more importantly, the future of clinical research here,” said Dr. John I. Gallin, CC director. He, Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research, and Dr. H. Clifford Lane, director of NIAID's Office of Clinical Research and head of the Clinical Research Special Interest Group, are program coordinators.

NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus will present the welcome at 9 a.m. in Masur Auditorium. He will also talk about the future of clinical research at noon.

The program kicks off with an overview by Gallin on CC revitalization. The design of what will be known as the Mark O. Hatfield Clinical Research Center will be covered by Robert J. Frasca of Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership, the architectural firm designing the new building.

Dr. Alan Rabson, NCI deputy director, will present a look back at NIH clinical research in his presentation on moments of discovery.

Morning scientific presentations will cover brain imaging; obsessive-compulsive disorders in children; new treatments in sickle cell anemia; osteogenesis imperfecta; IL-2 therapy in AIDS; renal cell carcinoma; and hepatitis C and G.

Poster sessions will occupy the lunch break. Workshops are set for the afternoon. Offered concurrently at 2 p.m. are sessions on the future of diagnostics and the immune system. Planned for 3 p.m. are presentations on gene transfer and the nervous system.

Sessions will be in Masur Auditorium and Lipsett Amphitheater. No preregistration is required. Call 6-8025 for more information.
Goldstein referred to bandwagon science as pernicious and "hard to stop once it gets started." Work in his own field involving genetic susceptibility to heart attacks has burgeoned with tiny advances, he said. Almost 900 papers describing variations in genes influencing plasma lipoproteins and their correlation with heart attacks appeared in the last decade. "But very little of it was useful, and it resulted in no new therapies or insights."

Fields that might attract bold mavericks today include gene therapy, epidemiology and chemokines, he said, adding optimistically that two papers published within a day of each other last August on bone morphogenetic proteins may result in some good to actual people some day.

"What is needed is more patient-oriented research, and more patients," he stated. His prescription for the problem was Shannonese: a creative environment such as Shannon created in Bldg. 3 when his hawkeyed recruitment garnered two eventual Nobelists, and 20 future members of the National Academy of Sciences; more NIH support for clinical research; and research partnerships, which he termed "absolutely crucial. These need to be collaborations among equals," not serfs doing the bidding of some research wizard, he emphasized.

Returning to the virtues of his career-long work with Brown, he said such partnerships "don't work without constant dialogue. You get into the habit of thinking out loud." He said the "embarrassment of sharing one another's lunacy" is far preferable to harboring crazy notions in the prison of one's skull. Another advantage to group work is that "you get rid of false ideas rapidly. Good collaboration stops nonsense."

Patient-oriented research "can be a great story with all the drama and excitement of a Broadway musical," he concluded. "The greatest commandments are to be original, avoid the bandwagon, and march to the beat of a different drummer."

NIH is starting to get in tune with the beat by hosting Clinical Research Day (see sidebar) at the Clinical Center on Feb. 10, said Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research.

The Shannon Lecture, one of a half dozen or so named lectureships at NIH, was established by the NIH Alumni Association to emphasize discussion of science and public policy. At the conclusion of his talk, Goldstein accepted a plaque from NIHAA marking the occasion.

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**DCRT Springs into New Term**

DCRT is offering a record number of computer-related classes and seminars from now through the end of May. To receive a catalog or register, call 4-DCRT or visit http://www.dcrtnih.gov on the Web.

This spring's highlight is Web Information Day on May 28 in the Natcher Conference Center. It will feature keynote speaker Dr. Vinton Cerf, "father of the Internet," and lectures/demonstrations covering a wide range of Web-related topics including hot new tools, intranets, and biomedical sites. For more about this special event, free to all NIH'ers, see http://widi.dcrtnih.gov.

DCRT's 1997 spring semester offers many more classes on the Web as well as seminars on:

- "MacroModel: A Chemist's Molecular Modeling Tool" by Dr. Carol Parish on Feb. 20, one lecture in a series sponsored by the Molecular Modeling Interest Group.
- Quantum chemistry, a five-series session beginning Mar. 3.
- Image processing, a six-series session led by Dr. Benes Trus beginning Mar. 11. Use of the NIH Image software in particular and its application to densitometric analysis of 1-D gels and segmentation of images will be discussed in two brief seminars.
- "Biomolecular Docking with ICM" by Dr. Ruben Abagyan on Mar. 18.
- Using Adobe Photoshop to acquire scientific images on Apr. 17 and using Adobe Illustrator to prepare scientific images for publication on May 7.
- "Theory and Applications of van der Waals Forces" by Dr. V. Adrian Parsegian, a series focusing on the theoretical physical foundations as well as the practical significance of van der Waals forces, which begins on May 22.

Those who were wait-listed last semester for popular classes (Windows 95, Unix, Internet Explorer, PC Trouble Shooting) will be glad to know more sessions have been added to meet demand. Students and their organizations are not charged for DCRT training because most instructors are volunteers from the division and other ICDs who generously share their expertise with others. If you would like to teach a class, call Leslie Barden, 4-3278.

**Study Needs Mothers**

Argentine-American or Japanese-American mothers with a healthy first-born infant no older than 5 months are needed for a study of social and cognitive development in infancy. Participation involves two brief visits to mother and baby in the home. You do not need to be a U.S. citizen. For more information call Debby Clay at NICHD, 6-6832.
NCI Senior Scientist Sanford Retires

By Francis X. Mahaney, Jr.

After 49 years of service and a year past her official retirement, Dr. Katherine K. Sanford, a senior scientist with the National Cancer Institute, is leaving NIH.

She officially retired in December 1995, but volunteered to stay on an extra year to complete her research. From 1977 until her retirement, Sanford was chief of the in vitro carcinogenesis section at NCI's Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology. She has been a world leader in studies of tissue culture and in vitro carcinogenesis.

Recently, she developed the first laboratory test that distinguishes persons with Alzheimer's disease, and persons predisposed to cancer. The test involves subjecting the person's skin fibroblasts or blood lymphocyte cells in culture to fluorescent light that causes DNA damage. The cells are then treated with DNA repair inhibitors and compared for chromatic breaks in Alzheimer's and cancer patients' cells. There are many more chromatic breaks under certain conditions. This research was published last May in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"The cytogenetic assay developed by Dr. Sanford is a great contribution," said Dr. Ram Parshad of Howard University School of Medicine. "It has the potential to be used as both a marker of cancer predisposition and for certain neurodegenerative diseases."

Last year, Sanford and her coworkers found that green tea-derived phenolic compounds, and curcumin, a plant phenolic, inhibit the DNA damaging effects of fluorescent light on cultured cells.

During the past decade, Sanford has been instrumental in the development of a cytogenetic assay to evaluate DNA repair of mammalian cells in culture. Using this assay, she and her colleagues showed, as early as 1985, that there is a defect in the processing of x-ray-induced DNA damage, common to cells from human tumors and unaffected skin fibroblasts or to blood lymphocytes from individuals genetically predisposed to cancer, including familial and some breast cancers.

Sanford was born in Chicago. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in 1937 from Wellesley College, and her Ph.D from Brown University in 1942. In 1988, she received an honorary doctorate of science from Catholic University.

From 1941 to 1942, Sanford was an instructor in biology, immunology, and comparative anatomy at Western College in Oxford, Ohio. From 1942 to 1943, she was an instructor at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., and from 1943 to 1947, she was an assistant director of the science program at Johns Hopkins University Nursing School.

Joining first the tissue culture section in NCI's Laboratory of Biology, she has been active in cancer research since 1947. In 1954, one of her earliest works on tissue cell culture earned her the Ross Harrison Fellowship Award and opened a new field of research on the in vitro malignant transformation of rodent cells. In 1974, she became head of NCI's cell physiology and oncogenesis section, Laboratory of Biochemistry.

"She was among the first scientists to culture mammalian cells on a glass substrate," said Dr. Charles W. Boone of NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control. In the early days of her career, mammalian cells were grown in blood clots, he said. "She is a first class scientist, leaving behind a good set of experiments still to be done. Her research will endure and will not be lost in the molecular woodlands."

Sanford is a founding member of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), and has served on various AACR committees. She is also a member of the American Society for Cell Biology, the Tissue Culture Association, the International Society for Cell Biology, and the American Society of Human Genetics.

Lecture Focuses on Keratotomy

The STEP Science for All Series will present "Photorefractive Keratotomy: Are You Ready to Leave Your Eyeglasses Behind?" on Thursday, Feb. 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

The featured speaker will be Dr. Terrence P. O'Brien, director of ocular microbiology at Johns Hopkins' Wiltmer Ophthalmological Institute. Photorefractive keratotomy is a new laser procedure to correct nearsightedness or improve distance vision. The talk will review the latest information on the safety and effectiveness of this surgical technique, which offers the prospect of distance vision without a need for eyeglasses or contact lenses. After the presentation, O'Brien will be available to answer questions from the audience.

The session is open to all NIH'ers on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance registration is not necessary. Inform STEP of any need for sign language interpretation/reasonable accommodation by Jan. 31. For more information call 5-2769.
OER's Padgette Retires After 30 Years

For the first time in a decade, business in the office of the NIH deputy director for extramural research must be conducted without the skilled hand of Ann Padgette, who retired on Jan. 3 after a 30-year NIH career. This is a loss not only of great talent and dedication, say those who know her well, but also of fine personal qualities that greatly enhanced the workplace.

"There are people in the workplace whose chief virtue is that they are really nice," observed NHLBI deputy director Dr. Peter Frommer, who interviewed Padgette for her first job here in 1967 and later hired her as his secretary for more than 10 years.

"And there are people who are not so nice, but are really good at what they do. Ann is a lovely combination of both—she's really nice and she really does the work."

"She's just a lovely person—skilled, effective, hardworking, and liked by everyone," he continued. "Everyone had confidence in her as a person, and as a confidante."

A native of Jackson, Tenn., who still retains a subtle Southern accent despite being reared in the Mt. Pleasant area of Washington, D.C., Padgette had already spent a number of years in the private sector when she arrived at NIH in 1967.

"I just wanted a government career," she recalls. "My family has a tradition of working for the PHS (Public Health Service)," she recalls. "It was a logical place to come."

She was hired as a secretary “in the old Artificial Heart-Myocardial Infarction Branch, which doesn’t even exist, of course,” she notes with a quiet laugh.

She remained in the heart institute for 19 years, most of which were spent with Frommer, Dr. Barbara Packard and Dr. Eugene Passamani. In 1986, Padgette came to Bldg. 1 to work for Dr. William Raub, who was NIH deputy director for extramural research.

"Dr. Raub had asked me for recommendations about a secretary, and I said all the nice things one naturally says about Ann," remembers Frommer. "I told him she was the gold standard for secretaries."

A few years later Dr. Raub stopped me and told me that my recommendation was wrong—(Padgette) was much better than that!"

Padgette worked for a succession of DDERs beginning with Raub and continuing with Drs. Katherine Bick, the late John Diggs, and, most recently, Wendy Baldwin for the past 3½ years.

“They were all so very different,” notes Padgette. "But all have been very interesting people. Very committed and dedicated."

She acknowledges a special relationship with Diggs since he was born just 10 miles from her hometown in the Volunteer State. And she said Baldwin is especially enjoyable. "Dr. Baldwin is a lot of fun. She's got just enormous energy and tremendous dedication. But I've enjoyed them all."

Said Baldwin, "In the 3½ years I have worked with Ann Padgette, I have found her to be one of the nicest and most competent people I could hope to find. She goes beyond what is needed to do the things that make everyone's days better. I am always amazed to find how many people not only know Ann, but count her as one of the best, and I agree!"

Padgette’s NIH tour took her through a variety of buildings including 31 (twice), Landow and Federal. But Bldg. 1 has impressed her as NIH’s most exciting worksite.

The stimulation of her office notwithstanding, Padgette is leaving “because I just think I’ve worked long enough. When you combine the private industry years and the government ones, it adds up.”

She doesn’t have any big plans for retirement, but intends to stay in Kensington and resume interests in piano and painting watercolors, plus “the usual volunteer work, and a little traveling.”

Padgette was honored with an NIH Merit Award in 1992.

“NIH has been a wonderful place to work—I really mean that,” she said. “It’s been a real privilege to be here.”

As her career neared an end, Padgette, who was honored at a Jan. 3 reception in the lobby of Bldg. 1, took snapshots of favorite people and locations on campus.

“Ann gave a lovely ambiance to the office,” said Dr. Raub.

Frommer concluded. "She was a model and an inspiration. We're going to miss her—even those of us who don't see her on a regular basis."—Rich McManus

Sleepers Needed for Study

The Clinical Psychobiology Branch, NIMH, is recruiting male and female healthy volunteers, 18-30, who are habitual long sleepers (more than 9 hours a night) or short sleepers (less than 6 hours). Volunteers should have no history of mental illness, be free of sleep disturbances, and not on any medications, including over-the-counter medications and birth control. Participants will spend 5 consecutive nights on an NIMH research unit. From Monday night until Friday afternoon, participants will remain on the unit around the clock. The study does not involve taking any medications. Contact Holly Giesen, 6-6981, or send email to hgiesen@box-h.nih.gov.
Former NCI Scientist Joftes Dies

By Francie X. Mahaney, Jr.

Dr. David L. Joftes, who served as chief of the National Cancer Institute’s Contracts Review Branch until his retirement in 1989, died Nov. 11 at his home in Delray Beach, Fla., of pancreatic cancer. He was 72.

He joined NCI in 1974 as chief of the National Organ Site Program. He later moved to the Division of Extramural Activities where he was chief of the Contracts Review and Referral Branch, and later chief, Contracts Review Branch.

“He was a man who constantly strove for perfection,” said Dr. George J. Galasso, executive director of the National Foundation for Biomedical Research. “He was a great credit to the NIH and the scientific community he served.”

Jofotes was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. During World War II, he served as a machine gunner in a U.S. Army armored infantry regiment in Europe and was subsequently wounded, for which he received the Purple Heart among other military decorations.

He received a master’s degree in 1947 from Tufts University and earned his doctorate in biology from Boston University in 1951. He was a research associate at Boston University from 1950 to 1952. He then served at a U.S. Air Force atomic warfare directorate from 1953 to 1954.

From 1954 to 1967, he was head of radiobiology at the Cancer Research Institute at New England Deaconess Hospital and was a research associate in pathology at Harvard University Medical School. He also served as an adjunct professor of biology at Boston University from 1966 to 1967.

His early research career involved studies on radiation risks, as well as the benefits of radiation treatment. He came to NIH in 1967, through the Grants Associates Program. He then joined the Mental Retardation Program, NICHD, in 1968 until he came to NCI in 1974.

He spent his leisure hours gardening, taking photographs and traveling. He and his wife Rosalyn (also a former NIH employee) enjoyed many trips including visits to Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, New Zealand, as well as parts of the U.S. His camera was always with him. He retired to Florida and spent summers in Vermont. Never one to waste his talents, he served as a volunteer at Florida-Atlantic University, where he wrote a manual on clinical research committee reviews. He also taught reading and mathematics.

Jofotes was a member of the New York Academy of Science, the Thyroid Association, and the American Society of Cell Biology among other affiliations. He is survived by his wife, of Delray Beach, and his daughter, Linda Carlton, of Bethesda.

Harold Fournelle Mourned

Dr. Harold J. Fournelle, 87, a former Public Health Service officer who retired from NINDS in 1973, died Jan. 3 at the Naval Hospital in Bethesda following complications of a stroke. He had lived in Bethesda since 1961.

He was born in White Bear Lake, Minn., and earned his undergraduate and doctoral degrees in microbiology at the University of Minnesota.

Following 8 years of service with the Arctic Health Research Center in Anchorage, Alaska, where he studied soil and water-borne bacteria responsible for enteric diseases in many Eskimo villages, he was assigned for 2 years to the U.S. mission to Colombia. There he helped establish a bacterial identification laboratory at the Universidad del Valle.

In 1961 he came to NIH’s Clinical Center, where he worked in the old Environmental Services Branch’s bacteriology lab. He then moved to the Division of Research Grants’ microbiology fellowship review committee, where he was executive secretary for 8 years. He spent the last 3 years of his NIH career at NINDS as executive secretary of the research training committee.

Fournelle was a fellow of the American Public Health Association and a member of the American Society for Microbiology, among other affiliations. He is survived by his wife, Louise K., of Bethesda, two sons, Dr. John H., of Madison, Wis., and Joseph B., of Germantown, Md., and four grandchildren. His sister and a niece also survive.

A memorial fund in his name is being established with the Arctic Institute of North America, 2500 University Dr. NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N, 1N4.
Programs Now Recruiting

**New Management Interns Join NIH**

NIH recently welcomed seven new Presidential Management Interns (PMIs), three new NIH Management Interns (MIs) and two fellows from an NCI training program (see photo).

The Presidential and NIH Management Intern Programs are both celebrating anniversaries. The MI program is marking 40 successful years and has graduated more than 292 interns since its inception in 1957. The PMI program—open only to graduate degree recipients—is celebrating 20 years and has graduated 43 interns. Many of the interns have remained with NIH and have gone on to successful, high-level managerial positions.

Observes Tony Itteilag, NIH deputy director for management, “The PMI and other management training programs have proven themselves to be the most effective way for the federal government to fill positions in a whole variety of nonmedical, non-scientific specialties—from budget and policy analysis to legislative and planning slots.”

Both programs use entry-level career development training designed for outstanding men and women interested in careers in public service. Both programs use rotational assignments to introduce interns to administrative career tracks, i.e., grant and contract management, general administration, human resources management, budget, legislation, and program/management analysis.

The MI program is administered by the administrative training committee. The opening date for this year’s program is Feb. 10 and the program closes Mar. 10. This year’s program will be limited to DHHS employees only. Application packages are now available and may be obtained from most NIH personnel offices or by calling the Division of Career Resources, 6-2403. Information sessions will be held at the following locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>Clinical Center/Masur Aud.</td>
<td>12 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>Bldg. 31/Conf. Rm. 8</td>
<td>12 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>Parklawn Bldg./Rm. C</td>
<td>12 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>Rockledge Bldg./Rm. 9104</td>
<td>12 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>EPN/Rm. J</td>
<td>12 to 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>Natcher Bldg./Rm. B</td>
<td>12 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
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**DCQT Courses and Programs**

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

- Designing an Intranet 1/29
- Web Access to HRDB 1/29
- NIH Data Warehouse: ADBIS for Budget and Finance Mini 1/29
- NIH Data Warehouse: ADBIS for Property Management Mini 1/29
- NIH Data Warehouse: ADBIS for Budget and Finance 1/30
- Avoiding Pitfalls in Statistical Analysis 1/30
- How to Get NIH Site-licensed Software 1/31
- Windows 95 Start Up 2/3
- Thermal Fluctuation and Protein Folding Pathways 2/3
- Personal Computing Topics 2/4
- Modern Survival Analysis - Extending the Cox Model 2/4-5
- Electronic Forms Users Group 2/5
- NIH Data Warehouse: ADBIS for Property Management 2/6
- Webs for Everyone 2/6
- Macintosh Tips and Techniques I 2/6
- Wavelets in Medicine and Biology 2/7
- Fundamentals of Unix 2/10-11
- WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group 2/11
- NIH Data Warehouse: ADBIS for Budget and Finance 2/12
- Netscape for the PC 2/13
- Windows NT Overview 2/13-14

**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.

**Line Dance Classes Expand**

To keep pace with demand, the R&W Country Western Dance Club now offers beginners’ level classes in line dancing and couples dancing—during lunchtime and after work—both in the Clinical Center and at the Rockledge Fitness Center. Learn such popular dances as the Electric Slide, Slappin’ Leather, Cowboy Reggae and many more. To receive the club’s monthly email newsletter, send your email address to da20a@nih.gov. For more information call 6-5031.
NIH Salutes Martin Luther King, Jr.

NIH's annual King Commemoration Program was held Jan. 10 in the Natcher Conference Center. The Morgan State University Singers, under the direction of Dr. Nathan Carter (r), presented a concert dedicated to King's vision. Other highlights of the event, which was emceed by NINDS deputy director Dr. Audrey Penn, included remarks by NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein and NICHD deputy director Dr. Yvonne Maddox. “Long before his birthday was made a national holiday—in fact, since the year after his assassination—NIH has formally honored” the life and work of the slain civil rights leader, said Kirschstein. The program was transmitted live to NIH facilities in Baltimore and North Carolina.

“Let My People Go.” The litany read responsively each year at the King Program was led by (from l) Dana Kelley of the Clinical Center and Rosemary Pettis of NIDA. Shown providing sign language interpretation is Sandy Mitchell (r); in the background is presiding officer Penn. In photo at right, attendees enjoy refreshments in the Natcher atrium.