

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Day Care Board Has New Chair, Invites Participation

The NIH day care oversight board was established in 1992 to ensure that day care programs and access to day care facilities are fairly administered, applicable standards are met by existing programs, and new programs are developed as necessary to serve the special needs of NIH employees. In addition, the board establishes policy for future day care centers and serves as a focal point for day care concerns at NIH.

Gladys Melendez-Bohler, senior grants management specialist, NINDS, has been elected chairperson of the board for a 2-year term. "Children represent an opportunity for everyone to succeed," she said. "They can be our greatest contribution to society. This opportunity is very often shared by day care providers. The board seeks to ensure that the quality of care provided by the NIH Day Care Centers to children of NIH employees is the best it can be."

The oversight board also serves as a forum for discussion of NIH day care issues; oversees a grievance appeal process for parents of children in the centers; and works with the Division of Space and Facility Management to ensure that the centers adhere to NIH policies and the terms of NIH day care contracts and use agreements. Administrative assistance for the board and facility management of the centers are provided by DSFM.

The board is seeking volunteers to serve on two ad hoc subcommittees: the policy subcommittee, which will work to develop board by-laws and a report to NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus; and the information resources subcommittee, which will help develop the NIH Day Care Fair, revision of the NIH Day Care brochure, and seminars.

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HIGHLIGHTS

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

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Photographer, Prisoner, Polyglot

NIDDK's Tjio Ends Distinguished Scientific Career

By Rich McManus

Today is the birthday of the scientist who discovered, some 42 years ago, the correct number of chromosomes in human cells. If you act quickly, you can honor the man and his accomplishment by viewing a modest exhibit in the Lipsett Gallery in Bldg. 10, just outside Lipsett Amphitheater, before it closes Mar. 3.

There you will find 11 remarkable photographs taken by this son of a professional portrait photographer, and a brief summary of his scientific career. The photos document, in plants, insects, mammals and man, chromosomes frozen at precisely that moment in division when they can be seen distinctly as separate, wondrous entities.

SEE JOE HIN TJIO, PAGE 4



Dr. Joe Hin Tjio stands beside photographs of his remarkable chromosome studies at the first International Human Genetics Congress in Copenhagen in 1956. His discovery of the correct number of human chromosomes led to much scientific excitement and many invitations to speak and teach.

Fact Sheet on Radiation Available

A newly revised fact sheet for the public and patients titled, "What We Know About Radiation," is now available.

Written by NIH's Office of Communications and Radiation Safety Branch, the fact sheet explains how everyone is exposed to

naturally occurring ionizing radiation in our daily lives as well as the benefits that come from the use of ionizing radiation in medicine and medical research. The known adverse effects of large doses of radiation are also described. Call 6-8855 for copies.

NIH Computer Center Expands, Absorbs Parklawn Facility

The NIH Computer Center, chosen by DHHS as a major federal data center, has begun absorbing the staff and workload of the Program Support Center's Information Technology Service, formerly known as the Parklawn Computer Center. The data center consolidation responds to an Office of Management and Budget directive following the National Performance Review's recommendation to consolidate and modernize federal data centers.

"We're committed to delivering quality service to our new and old customers throughout this period of transition," said DCRT's Perry Plexico, who oversees the Computer Center and the consolidation process. "Customers will see no increase in costs or change in the operating environment of the Computer Center. In fact, we expect that the consolidation, together with facility upgrades, will increase efficiency and produce lower rates for customers in the future."

DCRT will be replacing its mainframe computers with large, scalable servers that can comfortably handle the increased workload. New technologies such as MVS OpenEdition, Unix-based open

systems, client/server capabilities, and World Wide Web facilities will also be introduced this year. By next September, when the merger of the two centers is complete according to the DHHS timetable, "services should equal or exceed current commitments," Plexico predicts. "We're taking every advantage of this consolidation to find ways to improve service." ■

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. ■

Study Needs Older Women

Pre- and postmenopausal women ages 45-60 are needed for study evaluating effect of hormone replacement therapy on drug metabolism. Must be medication-free and a nonsmoker. Volunteers will be paid. Call Sandy or Cheryl at USUHS, (301) 295-2625. ■

NIH To Monitor Contractor Performance

NIH has created a new contractor performance system that has won kudos from acquisitions personnel both here and within HHS. A 1994 law conceded that it is both "appropriate and relevant for the federal government to consider a contractor's past performance in evaluating whether that contractor should receive future government work."

The assessment of a contractor's past performance shifts the focus from an award made on the basis of lowest price to one based on performance. In the past, an offeror's relative strengths and weaknesses were compared during the source selection phase of a contract award as the government evaluated a contractor's technical and business proposals. These proposals were frequently complex. Use of past performance evaluations in awarding contracts is expected to ease both the contractor's proposal preparation and the government's evaluation of these proposals.

Further, as contractors realize the emphasis placed on their performance, they'll have added incentive to maintain high levels of performance. Poor performance will prevent a contract from being awarded. Contracts will no longer be automatically awarded to low bids.

The contractor performance system, which became available Dec. 11, is accessible either by network or by the NIH Parachute dial-in feature. This spring, the system will open up to other government agency contracting personnel and become a repository of contractor "report cards."

For more information contact Phyllis Donoghue, 6-1783, or email pd3n@cu.nih.gov. ■



Dr. John Ryan recently joined NCCR as a scientific review administrator in the Office of Review. He will review General Clinical Research Center and Clinical Associate Physician grant applications. Before joining NCCR, he worked as a microbiologist from 1971-1974 at the National Cancer Institute and as an immunologist and scientific administrator at the Naval Medical Research Institute from 1974-1996.

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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Rm. 2B03
Phone 6-2125
Fax 2-1485

Editor
Richard McManus
rm26q@nih.gov

Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

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♻️ The Record is recyclable as office white paper.

International Conference Addresses Malaria in Africa

NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus recently joined an international team of 150 malaria researchers and representatives of funding agencies for a Conference on Malaria in Africa held in Dakar, Senegal. In addition to identifying the top research priorities in the field, conference participants were urged to recommend collaborative efforts on malaria involving partners in the U.S., Europe and Africa and to identify funding mechanisms to address these urgent scientific needs. Thirty-five countries were represented, 22 of these in Africa.

Discussion groups on pathogenesis, epidemiology, entomology, interventions, health systems and operational research, immunology, antimalarial drugs and mechanisms of cooperation and support produced the bulk of recommendations in the final conference report. Participants recommended expansion of research networks, particularly for clinical trials, the development of shared resources such as DNA repositories and databases, enhanced communications between researchers in developing and developed countries, workshops on methodologies and other issues, and other collaborative efforts.

In his closing remarks, Varmus noted that the work of the conference served as a "blueprint for future research on malaria" and that it was a first step in a



With NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus (third from l) at the International Conference on Malaria in Africa are (from l) Ousmane NGom, Senegalese minister of public health and social action; an unidentified senior Senegalese official; Dr. Maxime Schwartz, director-general of the Pasteur Institute; and Dr. Ebrahim Samba, director of the World Health Organization's regional office for Africa.

longer-term initiative. Scientific advisors and funding agency representatives will meet again in 6 months to review the directives contained in the final report and to consider mechanisms of support for collaborative activities.

NIAID provided scientific guidance for the conference and helped organize it with the Fogarty International Center, which conceived of the meeting as a way of strengthening collaborative research efforts in Africa. ■

Surf the Net for ORS Info

Now, on the World Wide Web, you can find out about NIH construction projects and their impact, the NIH parking situation, or how to get voice mail. The Office of Research Services is publishing a home page containing information relevant to the NIH community via the NIH home page. The ORS home page will be a focal point for information about the wide variety of services ORS provides to keep NIH humming.

Currently, the page will direct you to information on: emergency and nonemergency phone numbers for on and off campus; telecommunication services, products and contacts; campus construction projects and their impact on the community; parking and transportation activities and services; *News: To Use!* and *Public Safety News* newsletters; facility and conference services; and general information about ORS.

The address is <http://www.nih.gov/od/ors>. Bookmark this address; ORS will continue to update information presented on this page.

The ORS home page can also be found on the NIH home page under Information for Employees and under Institutes & Offices and Office of the Director.

If you have ideas about how to improve the ORS home page or information you would like to see included, phone 6-1004 or send your ideas by email to burnspd@nih.gov. ■

NIH Sailing Association Open House

The NIH Sailing Association will host an open house at the FAES house (corner of Old Georgetown Rd. and Cedar Ln.) on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 5 to 8 p.m. Members of the NIH/NOAA community are invited to meet sailing club members and look at sailing opportunities in the coming year. Application forms will be available for NIHSA membership and the basic training class, which begins Apr. 9. A \$5 charge for the open house includes admission, pizza and other snacks and sodas. There will be a cash bar. ■



Blue Cross/Blue Shield Day

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of the National Capital Area will be on the NIH campus Wednesday, Feb. 19 to assist enrollees who have claims or enrollment problems. A representative will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. that day in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 9, armed with a laptop computer to access directly the enrollee's records at company headquarters. No appointment is necessary. Assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be on campus 1 day each month from now on. ■

NIH Observes Black History Month,

In observance of Black History Month, Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. (D-Ill.), will be the featured speaker at a program sponsored by several NIH components on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 11:30 a.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. All are invited.

JOE HIN TJIO, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Today is also the day Dr. Joe Hin Tjio (pronounced CHEE-o) reluctantly leaves unit 411 in Apartment Bldg. 20, which has been home to him and his wife Inga since 1966; they have been residents of the building since Tjio first came to NIH in 1959 as a visiting scientist.

It is a flat dominated by books the way a prairie is dominated by grasses. Even the chairs groan with volumes, not to mention the floor-to-ceiling bookshelves that claim every wall. There are really only two themes to the few photographs that compete, albeit feebly, with the literature: photos of chromosomes, and photos of the Tjios' son, Yu Hin, born 4 years before the family moved to NIH.



Tjio accepts a trophy from President John F. Kennedy on Dec. 6, 1962, honoring him as an International Prize Award winner of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation. The prize recognized Tjio's work on mental retardation. At rear left is the president's mother, Rose Kennedy.

Because the apartment building is scheduled for demolition next fall to make way for a new Clinical Research Center, all residents—including several with tenures that rival or exceed the Tjios—must be gone by Aug. 31. Packing, for the Tjios, means sifting through a career alternately savaged by fate and soothed by serendipity.

Born to Chinese parents in 1919 in Java, then part of the Dutch East Indies, Joe Hin Tjio learned how to make photographs early in life, serving as an apprentice to his father, who had a studio. "He had a darkroom," Tjio recalls. "I had to develop photographs for him. I had to help make prints."

He finds on the wall a favorite print of a soaring bird, dwarfed against billows of light and dark.

Educated in strict Dutch colonial schools, which required that he learn French, German and English, in addition to Dutch, Tjio, whose native tongue was one of the many Indonesian languages, trained in agronomy in college. He became deeply involved in potato breeding as he matured as a scientist, trying to create a hybrid resistant to a common disease.

Then war intervened. In 1942, Tjio was impris-

oned by the Japanese Imperial Army, which occupied his country. For 3 years, until World War II ended, Tjio languished in a concentration camp, enduring torture (for daring to provide medical help to those worse off than him) and "horrible things" that are still obviously painful to recall.

"I knitted sweaters and underwear for the other prisoners to fill my time," he remembered, his eyes welling. "These are painful memories."

When the war ended, he boarded a Red Cross boat for displaced persons and shipped to Holland, whose government provided him with a fellowship for study in Europe.

"I stayed with the relatives of people I had helped in prison," he recalls. "They helped me adjust myself. It was only about 3 months. I came there in the spring, and by August I was able to continue work in plant breeding in Copenhagen and Sweden."

He stayed half a year at the Royal Danish Academy in Copenhagen, then journeyed to the University of Lund in Sweden, where he began an association with the Institute of Genetics headed by Dr. Albert Levan. His work by now had broadened to include mammalian tissues.

"He got into cytogenetics by necessity," notes retired medical geneticist Dr. Gordon Allen (NIMH, 1952-1984), who has been a close friend ever since Tjio came to work at NIH. "His work in plant genetics called for it."

Tjio's successful research garnered the attention of the government of Spain, which invited him to work on a plant improvement program there. From 1948 to 1959, he directed cytogenetic research in Zaragoza, Allen relates, taking summers and holidays off to work with Levan in Sweden.

"I was trying to study human chromosomes," Tjio says, when a serendipitous discovery occurred to him in the early morning hours of Dec. 22, 1955. Building on techniques for separating chromosomes on glass slides that had been pioneered by Dr. T.C. Hsu at the University of Texas in Galveston, Tjio introduced improvements that yielded startling results. He could count quite clearly in human embryonic lung tissue that there were 46 chromosomes, not 48, as had been science's best estimate in the preceding half century.

"The number was just an incidental finding, like serendipity," he says today. "I just was surprised that it was not 48, as they had thought for so many years."

In his excitement, Tjio shared his results with his Swedish colleagues. "Levan was on vacation, so I showed it to them." Their unanimous verdict was that Tjio should publish his findings immediately, and with himself as first author, which was contrary to tradition in European universities that held that the lab's chief always got top credit on work issuing



Tjio at his apartment in Bldg. 20, where he has lived for the past 38 years. Among the treasures he must pack are honorary degrees from Europe and Japan, whose prisoner he was during World War II.

from his lab.

Thus began another harrowing chapter in Tjio's career that would rival his imprisonment as a source of anguish. He decided to refuse Levan first authorship on the grounds that Levan contributed nothing but resources to the work.

"I told him no, I wouldn't allow him to be first author," Tjio recalls. "I said if you want to be the author, you do the work." Tjio went so far as to threaten to throw all of his work away, daring Levan to reproduce his results.

According to Tjio, Levan demurred at this point, pleading, "Don't do that. It belongs to science."

"You want better to tell the truth than to be diplomatic," counseled Tjio's wife Inga, a native of Iceland and a polyglot herself, who had been a student of natural history when they met in 1946.

"It has hurt me so much," replied her husband.

"Life isn't fair, as you are always saying," answered Inga, who later soothes Joe Hin by assuring, "Everybody who knows you, knows the truth."

Since Levan is still alive, in his nineties, they are reluctant to stir the ashes of an old controversy. Though Tjio's health has failed in recent years, the incident yet crackles in unit 411 as the scientist's natural urge to speak the truth collides with overarching concerns about civility.

Tjio insists that his groundbreaking finding, published in the Scandinavian journal *Hereditas* on Jan. 26, 1956, didn't make him famous or change him in any way. But the paper created great international excitement and Tjio was soon fielding offers to speak and teach.

In 1956, at the first International Human Genetics Congress in Copenhagen (see photo, p. 1), Tjio was approached by Indiana University professor and

Nobel laureate Herman Muller, who persuaded Tjio to consider emigrating to the United States, where his expertise was highly sought, especially by Dr. T.T. Puck at the University of Colorado.

"I didn't want to come to a country (embroiled in) this Joe McCarthy business," snorts Tjio. "I don't want to come. I have just had this experience with the Japanese."

Muller persisted, sending Tjio clippings critical of McCarthy from the *New York Times*. "Muller said, 'Give my country a chance. We are not all McCarthyites,'" Tjio recalls.

Tjio relented in 1957, arriving at the University of Colorado for a stint with Puck during which he earned his Ph.D. For the oral part of his examination he chose German and Spanish from his palette of tongues. (Of their ease with many languages, Inga chuckles, "We read them if we don't speak them, eh?")

Shortly thereafter, NIH's Dr. DeWitt Stetten, Jr., invited Tjio to join the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases' Laboratory of Experimental Pathology. Like many visiting scientists of the past 40 years, he was invited to live on campus in Bldg. 20. In 1959, the Tjios moved in, largely because "I wanted to remain within walking distance of my lab," he says. Inga adds mischievously, "It was because my husband never drove a car!"

At NIH, Tjio built on the ramifications of his chromosome work, studying leukemia and mental retardation. Ironically, his son suffered complications at birth and was affected by the latter condition. For many years his lab was in Bldg. 10. Late in his career, his space was moved to Bldg. 8, and in February 1992 Tjio retired with the status of scientist emeritus, retaining his space and resources. However on Jan. 31, he gave up the lab and will soon move with Inga to Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg.

Asked his feelings on closing his long association with NIH, Tjio answers, "Depression. I would prefer to stay. After all, I spent half of my life here."

Getting ready to vacate on his 78th birthday, Tjio seemed resigned to the change. "Usually it snows" on his birthday, noted Inga.

Packing has renewed his association with the objects closest to his heart—mainly images of his son. (There is also one of Inga's grandmother, smoking a pipe. "She started smoking at 15 and died at age 96, and never had cancer, eh?" laughs Inga.) For the first time, he smiles broadly to recall his favorite photographic subjects. "My son," he declares triumphantly, "and children." ■

Special thanks to Dr. Gordon Allen, who helped make this story possible; he in turn credits designer Rayne Ann Wood of the Medical Arts and Photography Branch, NCRR, whom he helped prepare the exhibit honoring Tjio.—Ed.

Genome Lecture Series Change

The date for the National Human Genome Research Institute's lecture by Dr. Dierdre Meldrum titled, "Capillary Automated Submicroliter Sample Preparations for Genome Analysis," has been changed from Feb. 20 to Thursday, Feb. 27. Time and place remain the same: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Clinical Center.

DAY CARE BOARD, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The seminars will focus on family health issues such as day care, long term care, quality care, and research on day care.

Membership on the subcommittees is open to federal employees who work on the NIH campus or in NIH facilities, and provides an opportunity to serve fellow employees and their families. Those interested in serving may self-nominate for membership by sending a letter cosigned by their supervisor to Chris Steyer, NINDS Personnel Office, Bldg. 31A, Rm. 8A23, no later than Mar. 12. The letter should include the applicant's name, address, employing organization, and refer to the subcommittee of interest. The board encourages supervisors to support employees who wish to volunteer for these efforts by allowing employees the time necessary to attend meetings and complete subcommittee assignments.

There are presently four NIH-sponsored day care centers. Childkind, Inc.—Located in Bldg. T-46 on campus, this center accommodates 33 children between the ages of 6 weeks and 3 years. Parents of Preschoolers, Inc. (or POPI)—Located in Bldg. 35 on campus, has 65 children between the ages of 2½ and 5 years. Executive Child Development Center (or ECDC)—Located at 6006 Executive Blvd., this center is licensed for 221 children between the ages of 6 weeks and 13 years, including before and after school care for school-age children and a summer camp. First Environment Early

Learning Center—cosponsored by NIEHS and EPA and located in Research Triangle Park, N.C.—currently accommodates 88 children between the ages of birth and 5 years. A second center will open in Research Triangle Park this winter. All of the centers that are open are presently full and have waiting lists.

NIH employees and others who work in NIH

Members of the NIH day care oversight board include (standing, from l) Mary Haas, director, POPI; Carol Wigglesworth, Dona McNeill, Chris Steyer, Lee Ettman, director, Childkind, Inc.; Shawn Googins, Anne Schmitz, director, ECDC; David Lankford, Dr. Michael Lamb, Dr. Ilan Kirsch, Dr. Alfred Del Grosso, Pamela Jenkins, Audrey Jones and Dr. David Monsees (outgoing board member). Seated are (from l) Dr. Suzanne Epstein (outgoing board member), Dr. Margaret Daube-Witherspoon, Gladys Melendez-Bohler, Veronica Crawford-Robinson and Dr. Roberta Shahin.

Current Day Care Oversight Board Members

Name	ICD/Agency	Phone No.
Gladys Melendez-Bohler, Chair	NINDS	6-9231
Paul Horton, Vice Chair	ORS/DSFM	6-3172
Dr. Margaret Daube-Witherspoon	CC	2-4297
Dr. Alfred Del Grosso	FDA/CBER	6-5470
Michael Friedman	OD/OIRM	2-4458
Shawn Googins	OD/ORS	6-5774
Dr. Ilan Kirsch	NCI	6-0909
Dr. Michael Lamb	NICHD	6-0420
Juanita Mildenberg	OD/ORS	6-6186
Dr. Roberta Shahin	FDA/CBER	6-2013
Christine Steyer	NINDS	6-6334
Carol Wigglesworth	OD/OPRR	6-7163x245

Ex-officio Members:

Lee Ettman	Childkind, Inc.	6-8357
Shirley Everest	OD/OEO	6-6301
Mary Haas	POPI	6-5144
Gerald Hines	ORS/DSFM	2-0878
Pamela Jenkins	ORS/DSFM	6-3172
David Lankford	OGC	6-4108
Dona McNeill	NIEHS	919-541-0451
Anne Schmitz	ECDC	6-9411

buildings or on campus should feel free to contact board members with their questions or concerns about day care, or to share ideas about needs that are not presently being met in the NIH workplace, including elder care. ■

Garden Club To Meet

Spring isn't far away—it's time to think about your garden! The NIH Garden Club will have its first organizational meeting Feb. 18 at 5 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 7. Day and time of future meetings may vary to accommodate members' schedules. The club expects to have two main goals: helping members improve their home gardens and helping increase the beauty of the NIH landscape through hands-on efforts and donations of plants and/or resources.

The club is open to all who are interested in gardening in all its forms, i.e., backyard, container, water and indoor.

For more information contact Karen Helfert via email at kh21k@nih.gov or fax 2-0316. ■



NIH Grantees Receive Presidential Awards

Ten NIH grantees were selected by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to be among the 60 individuals to receive the most prestigious award the federal government can make to outstanding researchers starting their careers—the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

“The Presidential Early Career awardees represent the best among our next generation of scientists,” said Dr. Wendy Baldwin, NIH deputy director for extramural research. “These young investigators are the leaders of their fields and will be the pathfinders for science in the future.”

Nine agencies nominated more than 60 scientists and engineers for the new award. NIH selected its nominees from among the most meritorious investigators funded through its First Independent Research Support & Transition (FIRST) award and the traditional investigator-initiated research project grants. Only first-time grantees who also met the eligibility criteria for the FIRST award were eligible. The 1996 NIH awardees are Dr. Ali Hemmati-Brivanolou, Rockefeller University (NICHD); Dr. Allison Jane Doupe, University of California, San Francisco (NIMH); Dr. Paul Khavari, Stanford University (NIAMS); Dr. Aron Lukacher, Emory University (NCI); Dr. Deirdre Meldrum, University of Washington (NHGRI); Dr. Lee Niswander, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research (NICHD); Dr. David Self, Yale University (NIDA); Dr. Morgan Sheng, Massachusetts General Hospital (NINDS); Dr. Mark Walter, University of Alabama, Birmingham (NIAID); and Dr. Keith Woerpel, University of California, Irvine (NIGMS). ■

African American History Lecture

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, the National Library of Medicine will hold its fourth annual African American History Month Lecture. The speaker will be Prof. Spencie Love of the University of Oregon, who will speak on “One Blood: Charles R. Drew, M.D., and a Mythic Prescription for Our Times.”

Drew is chiefly remembered today as a pioneer in the use of blood plasma and the operation of blood banks, but in his short life he accomplished much more: as a college athlete, surgeon, researcher, and teacher of a generation of medical students at Howard University. The legacy and myth-making generated by his death in an automobile accident in North Carolina will be the subject of Love’s lecture.

The session is scheduled for 2-3:30 p.m. in Lister Hill Auditorium, Bldg. 38A, and is sponsored jointly by NLM and the Washington Society for the History of Medicine. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For more information, contact Stephen Greenberg, 6-5405, email: hmdref@nlm.nih.gov. ■

STEP Forum Series To Examine Minority Programs, Feb. 20 in Natcher

The STEP Forum series will present “Recent Court Decisions: Minority Programs Under Fire?” from 1 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20 in the Natcher Conference Center main auditorium.

Almost daily, there are news reports about affirmative action programs under fire, from Washington, D.C., to California. First there was Adarand, and then the Hopwood case in Texas. The most recent was California Proposition 209. From local school districts to the Supreme Court, everyone is waiting to see what happens next.

For NIH, the questions are: How does this affect our grant and contract programs? What do these cases and propositions really mean?

Speakers will include: Renee Landers, deputy general counsel, DHHS; Dr. William A. Lester, Jr., professor, department of chemistry, University of California, Berkeley; Dr. John F. Alderete, professor, department of microbiology, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio; and Dr. Elvera Ehrenfeld, director, Division of Research Grants.

The forum is open to all NIH’ers on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance registration is not necessary. Extramural scientist administrator continuing education credit is available. Inform STEP about any need for sign language interpretation/reasonable accommodation by Feb. 13. For more information call 5-2769.

Apply Online for Summer Jobs

This year, applicants for summer jobs at NIH can use their computers to submit the necessary information. The 1997 NIH Summer Employment Program and Electronic Applications Form can be accessed on the Web at <http://ohrm.cc.nih.gov/nihhrm/summer.html>. This site provides information on summer employment opportunities, qualification requirements, application procedures, and more. The site, part of the NIH Human Resource Services home page, allows speedy, direct and confidential submissions of employment applications. Site developers include Ron Sleyo, NIDDK; Demond Bennett, Clinical Center; Terri Messick, Division of Career Resources; and Faustina Ifedi, Office of Resource Services. ■

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. ■



In honor of Black History Month, the NIH Black Scientists Association will sponsor a scientific seminar as part of its Science Working for Us Seminar Series. The seminar is titled “Sigma Receptors: Can a Novel Receptor System Provide New Insights Into the Actions of Antipsychotic Drugs and Other Psychoactive Agents?” It will be presented by Dr. Wayne D. Bowen, chief, unit on receptor biochemistry and pharmacology, drug design and synthesis section, Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, NIDDK. This seminar is cosponsored by NINDS and NIDDK, and will take place on Thursday, Feb. 20 in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10 at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Injured on the Job?

Do you have a work-related upper extremity problem or injury, i.e., carpal tunnel syndrome, tendonitis, or repetitive strain injury of the fingers, wrist, elbow or shoulder? USUHS is conducting a study that includes a \$30 payment and opportunity to win \$500 in a study lottery. Volunteers must be ages 20-60, seen by a physician within the past month and currently working. For more information, call (301) 295-9659.

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.



NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (c) accepts a 1997 R&W membership card from officials of the association including (from l) Randy Schools, general manager; Karen Ciaschi, director of recreation and employee services; Linda Doty, chairman; Lisa Strauss, 1st vice chairman; Howard Baldwin, 3rd vice chairman; Nina Bobbitt, secretary. Memberships are available for \$5 at any R&W gift shop. Get 'em while they're hot!

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series—held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10—features Dr. David V. Goeddel, president and CEO of Tularik, Inc., of South San Francisco, on Feb. 19. He will discuss “Mechanisms of Signaling by Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptors.”

On Feb. 26, Dr. Henry M. Kronenberg, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, will lecture on “PTHrP and Indian Hedgehog Regulate Differentiation of Growth Plate Cartilage.”

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

Fogarty Center Offers Tax Help to Visitors

The Fogarty International Center will sponsor a series of tax year 1996 tax preparation workshops to help foreign participants in the NIH Visiting Program complete federal and state tax forms. The workshops will be about 3 hours long. Participants should bring copies of their W-2, 1042S, and/or 1099 forms to the workshop.

The schedule is as follows:

Date	Time	Location	Who Should Attend
Feb. 20	9 a.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Fellows
Feb. 20	1 p.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts
Mar. 4	9 a.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Fellows
Mar. 4	1 p.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts
Mar. 10	9 a.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Fellows
Mar. 10	1 p.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts
Mar. 17	9 a.m.	Bldg. 31/Conf. Rm. 7	Visiting Fellows
Mar. 17	1 p.m.	Bldg. 31/Conf. Rm. 7	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts
Mar. 25	9 a.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Fellows
Mar. 25	1 p.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts
Apr. 1	9 a.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Fellows
Apr. 1	1 p.m.	Natcher/Rm. F1 & F2	Visiting Associates/Scientists/Special Experts

Postmenopausal Women Sought

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking women who are postmenopausal (no menstrual period for at least 1 year) and medication-free to participate in a study investigating the effects of hormones on behavior. Hormonal evaluation will be performed and payment is provided. For information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 6-9576. ■

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 6-0500. ■