

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

ECD Web Site Brings Visibility to Disability

Many NIH'ers are probably unaware that the Americans with Disability Act, a civil rights statute passed by Congress in 1990, does not apply to persons with disabilities within the NIH community, be they employees, visitors or guests. Rather, equal access to all NIH-sponsored programs, services, activities and events is governed by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. To help promote awareness of what rights and obligations the law imposes, the NIH Employees Concerned with Disabilities (ECD) recently launched a Web site as an information resource at <http://disability.nih.gov>. A primary focus of the site is to work to eliminate architectural, communication and attitudinal barriers to full participation by persons with disabilities across the institutes and centers at NIH.

"We designed the Web site as a life vest," said Anne Phillips, "when we found that many NIH employees, managers and supervisors felt themselves at sea. Many people don't feel comfortable that they know how to define disability-related circumstances or whom to turn to for assistance. They also feel adrift in knowing how to structure business practices that reinforce NIH objectives such as reasonable accommodation and nondiscrimination on the basis of handicap." Phillips, a program analyst at NIAAAA, is the webmaster for the site that was coauthored with ECD members Christy Compton and Gary Morin.

"This is a trans-NIH effort," Phillips said, "to champion disability awareness as a business imperative, and provide leadership for successful attainment of the vision of a diverse workforce at NIH, as well as equal access to all NIH programs and services for

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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The Louis Stokes Laboratories Bldg. Gains a Floor, Nears Halfway Point

As it approaches the halfway point in its 3-year construction period, the Louis Stokes Laboratories (Bldg. 50)—which was originally planned to be 5 stories—recently added a floor that will provide 42 more laboratory modules and 27,000 net square feet of usable space. To accommodate the additional floor, the original fourth and fifth floors were moved up one level and a new fourth floor was inserted, which added only 3 months to the project. Completion date is now set for October 2000, with full occupancy by early 2001.

The decision to add a floor came late last year when the Bldg.

50 project management team examined the project budget and forecast a surplus due to good construction market conditions at



Rooftop steel framing for Bldg. 50's penthouse mechanical space crowns the 6-story structure, now halfway complete.

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NIA Symposium Focuses on Alzheimer's Disease

By Stephanie Clipper

"Neuroscience: The Splice, the Mice, the Neuron, and the Nun" was the title of the National Institute on Aging's Florence Mahoney 100th Birthday Lecture Series, which took place recently in Masur Auditorium. The lecture brought together four cutting-edge investigators in the field of aging research to honor Mrs. Florence Stephenson Mahoney, a founding member of the National Advisory Council on Aging, who was instrumental in establishing NIA and several other institutes at NIH. (The event is available for viewing on the NIH videocast Web site at <http://videocast.nih.gov> and can be found in the "Special Lectures" section under "Past Events.")

Beginning the lectures, Dr. Michael Hutton, assistant professor at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., addressed the "splice" by focusing on how some neurodegenerative diseases are caused. His

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persons with disabilities." In addition to an NIH resource directory, the site provides a helpful tool kit of federal sector disability law and guidelines, including the Architectural Barriers Act, Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards, and case law under the Rehabilitation Act. Also available are an online



Anne Phillips of ECD

discussion forum and a questionnaire to help identify access barriers. Additional material is planned for guests and visitors with disabilities.

"We have received a very enthusiastic response," Phillips continued. "There appears to be a real need for this kind of effort to put information out there that, until now, has been fragmented across different levels of man-

agement or not disseminated at all. Meanwhile, we hope people will bear with us. We know that there is a rich store of additional material to be added to the site—a sort of idea bank that can be drawn upon broadly by one and all—but ours is a volunteer effort and web-building takes time."

Phillips thanks the National Institute of Mental Health, especially Bill Fitzsimmons, Wayne Rasband and Kyle Christiansen, for providing server space to host the site, and the Center for Information Technology, especially Charles Mokotoff, for hosting the ECD web forum on disability, an online discussion area. ■

Pharmacology Course Begins Sept. 2

The Principles of Clinical Pharmacology course, sponsored by the Clinical Center, will begin in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10 on Sept. 2. The course is held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to approximately 8 and will run through Apr. 27, 2000. It covers topics such as pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism and transport, assessment of drug effects, drug therapy in special populations, and drug discovery and development. Lecturers include Dr. Carl Peck of Georgetown University's Center for Drug Development Science, Dr. Jerry Collins of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Clinical Center's Dr. Arthur J. Atkinson, Jr., who is also the course director.

Registration is open to all interested persons free of charge. Syllabus materials will be provided for each lecture. Certificates will be awarded at the end of the course to students who attend 75 percent of the lectures. More information, including the registration form, is available on the course Web site at <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/principles/>. ■

Must a Growing NIH Pollute?

Can a fast-growing, fast-building NIH avoid becoming a major environmental polluter and thereby causing some of the health problems it is trying to alleviate? That's the theme of an unusual conference Nov. 1-2 in the Natcher Conference Center, sponsored by NIEHS and the National Association of Physicians for the Environment. Speakers include House Appropriations subcommittee chairman John E. Porter, who will be introduced by NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus, Surgeon General David Satcher, former Sen. Lowell Weicker Jr., and former Rep. Paul G. Rogers, who is chairing the conference. Information and registration can be requested free by emailing nape@napenet.org. Details on the conference may be found at <http://www.napenet.org/con99.html>. ■

Leslie Fink has been named director of NIAID's Office of Communications and Public Liaison. She worked for a year as a science writer in that office in 1989 before



leaving to establish and head the communications office for the Human Genome Project in NHGRI. She has been a science communications professional at NIH since 1983, also working at NCI and NICHD. Her work in print and visual media has been recognized by several professional organizations including the National Association of Government Communicators, the Society for Technical

Communications, and the Council of International Non-Theatrical Events. She received the NIH Director's Award in 1997.

Postmenopausal Vols Needed

The Cardiology Branch, NHLBI, is recruiting postmenopausal female volunteers for a 6-month study investigating the effects of hormone replacement therapy on the body's defense against infections that may be important in atherosclerosis. Participants must be between ages 50 and 65 and in good general health, and not have taken hormone replacement therapy or other medications for at least 6 months prior to study. Volunteers will be paid. Call 435-4038.

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Better Health for Sufferers of Genetic Anemias May Be as Near as the Kitchen

By Amy Danzig

NHLBI's Division of Blood Diseases and Resources recently hosted the first-ever meeting of experts on the topic of nutrition and the genetic anemias. Workshops on "Nutrient Metabolism in the Genetic Anemias" and "Dietary Supplements of Potential Benefit to Patients with Sickle Cell Disease" focused on dietary supplements, particularly those that might help patients with sickle cell disease (SCD) and thalassemia. Researchers shared the status and results of current work and made recommendations to NHLBI regarding future directions. Cosponsors with DBDR were the NIH Office of Rare Diseases and the Office of Dietary Supplements.

"We have been aware of anecdotal information for many years that the deficit in growth and development seen in children with genetic anemias is at least partially due to nutritional deficiencies," said Dr. Carol Letendre, DBDR deputy director. "However, this is the first time that sufficient methods to accurately determine the nutritional deficit and to systematically approach evidence-based nutritional therapy for these patients have been presented."

Speakers pointed to exciting preliminary findings and called for further studies to address a variety of knowledge and clinical practice needs. Topics covered during the 2-day meeting included the need for better evaluation of the macro/micronutrient requirements of children with thalassemia and SCD; the role magnesium plays in reducing the number of painful days experienced by people with SCD; and the ability of an antioxidant "cocktail" of aged garlic extract, vitamin C and vitamin E to inhibit the formation of dehydrated dense cells in patients with SCD.

Several presenters gave findings from an NHLBI-funded 5-year longitudinal growth and nutritional status study of SCD being done at the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The study seeks to determine why participants—children with SCD, age birth to 18 years at enrollment—showed poor growth in height, weight, fat, muscle and bone mass.

One part of the study showed that resting energy expenditure (REE) during periods of usual health were higher, and activity energy expenditure significantly lower, in children with SCD. During acute illness, REE in children with SCD was not elevated above the level measured during usual health. However, dietary intake was significantly reduced during illness. This contributed to the overall pattern of energy deficits observed in children with SCD. It also may have contributed to the observed growth failure, altered body composition and lower physical activity in these children. The researchers noted the need for further studies to determine the

best approaches to treatment and prevention of undernutrition in children with SCD.

Another group involved in the Philadelphia study is looking specifically at the effects of zinc. The two-fold goal of this work is to test the feasibility of using a zinc supplement in children and adolescents with SCD and to collect data in preparation for a collaborative multicenter intervention trial.

Elsewhere, NHLBI-funded researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and University of Ibadan, Nigeria, are looking at SCD as a membrane disease. The investigators are testing an antioxidant cocktail of aged garlic extract, vitamin C and vitamin E. There is evidence that this combination inhibits the formation of dehydrated dense cells by protecting red cell membranes from free radical-mediated oxidative stress. A pilot clinical trial at the University of Ibadan has had promising results. The researchers note that since the cocktail consists of established dietary supplements, the therapy would be safe for patients. ■



An open house marked the completion of the Neuroscience Center, a new building on Executive Blvd. that houses staff from NINDS, NIMH and NIDA. Speakers at the event emphasized the advantages of having the institutes that focus on neuroscience located in the same facility. They also dedicated a tree that now stands in front of the building. Shown by the tree are (from l) Dr. Gerald Fischbach, NINDS director; Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIH deputy director; Dr. Alan Leshner, NIDA director; and Dr. Richard Nakamura, NIMH acting deputy director.

Microbe Exhibit at Smithsonian

Looking for fun weekend activities this summer? Consider visiting "Microbes: Invisible Invaders...Amazing Allies," a new interactive children's science exhibition currently on display at the Smithsonian Institution, where the microbial universe becomes larger than life. Produced in collaboration with NIH, the exhibit is hands-on and kid-friendly. The exhibit can be seen at the S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Dr., SW, Washington, D.C., next to the Smithsonian "Castle." ■

Healthy Mothers Needed

The Pediatrics and Developmental Neuropsychiatry Branch, NIMH, seeks right-handed mothers ages 20-40 with nonadopted first-born children ages 5-12 to participate in an fMRI study on the visual processing of faces. Volunteers should have no history of medical or psychiatric disorders, and should not be taking prescription medication (including birth control pills). The first-born children of volunteers should have no history of psychiatric illness or chronic medical problems. Volunteers must have normal vision or wear contacts. Participation requires a 2-hour screening interview, a followup visit and a 3-hour visit for fMRI scan. Participants will be reimbursed. For more information, call Lisa Kalik or Neil Santiago at 496-8381.

BLDG. 50, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the time the job was bid and the limited number of change orders during construction. The management team then explored options. "We wanted to maximize the project, so I asked the structural engineer to see if adding a floor would work. The engineer reviewed it and said it could be done," said Frank Kutlak, Division of Engineering Services (DES) architect and Bldg. 50 project officer.

The next step was to discuss this possibility with the general contractor, Bell Co., to see if an extra floor was feasible from their perspective. The result was, again, positive, but the decision had to be made very quickly. "We then went to the ORS/DES Design, Construction and Alteration Branch management with the proposal," Kutlak said. "They were cautious, but agreed to let us have a feasibility study done by the project's architect/engineer. Two

weeks later, the study concluded that it was technically possible in all disciplines (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical) with a few minor upgrades."

A presentation was made to Steve Ficca, NIH associate director for research services. "We ran all the numbers, and it was close," Kutlak recalls.

"We could afford it, but the construction contingency (a reserve fund commonly kept to handle unanticipated costs) was going to be affected. Mr. Ficca strongly supported our proposal, but insisted that we maintain the contingency in accordance with sound business practices. He helped us work out the budget and contingency issue. The NIH decision to add the floor had to be made quickly, before construction started on the fifth floor."

Operating within a 22-day window of opportunity from the issuance of the feasibility study, the ORS team got approval from NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus with 2 days to spare. "Adding a floor in a project under construction (and within budget) is really an extraordinary accomplishment and it was only possible because of the extreme teamwork and cooperation between the project management team, the design consultants, the general contractor and their subcontractors and the NIH management," said Kutlak. "I am grateful that my ORS/DES management had enough confidence in our team to

A welder from Baltimore Steel—leather-jacketed to protect himself from flying sparks—works on steel framing for the penthouse air handling system. The air handlers are so heavy that a special crane was used to hoist them to the roof.



even let us consider and present such a major proposal."

This summer, teams of tradesmen are working their way through the structure's gray concrete caverns, completing their portions of the project. "There are at least 15 trades onsite right now, including structural steel, electrical, plumbers, sheet metal, elevator and masons," said Kutlak. The order of construction has been from the bottom up and from west to east, he explained. "Everything moves in waves and sequences from the west section, to the center section, to the east on each successive floor" in a building shaped like an offset letter "Z" whose wings are mirror images of one another.

Already, scores of the principal investigators who will work in the building are donning hardhats to visit their space and verify the final design. "This is called the 'deferred design phase,'" explained Kutlak. "We've got until 550 days into the project to make final decisions on certain elements in the original design (such as cold rooms and cabinet types). The PI's have been visiting since April; about half of their visits are complete. The second round should wrap up in July and August."

What visitors are seeing are massive openings in the building's sides that will serve as windows illuminating rows of laboratory "peninsulas" arranged in an open-lab format known as "neighborhoods." So-called "interstitial" floors above the lab ceilings contain all the pipe runs for ventilation, exhaust, lab gases, electrical and plumbing, and will give future access to DES Public Works Branch personnel servicing the building's mechanical systems. "The only thing the PWB staff will have to go into the lab to do is change the lightbulbs—everything else is up here," said Kutlak, gesturing to an interstitial section nearing completion on the first floor. "The interstitial concept also makes it much easier to construct the building as the tradesmen can



Bricklayers from Long Masonry work on a motorized climbing scaffold. They are installing exterior brick facing on Bldg. 50's west wall.

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON



View from the basement, looking up a concrete stair hall tower; doorways service interstitial and occupied levels.

work standing on the interstitial deck instead of having to use tall ladders as they would have to in a conventional design.”

Kutlak is as solicitous of the building as a father with a newborn: “I walk every square foot of the project every morning and night,” he says unabashedly. Trading hearty hellos with all of the various workers as he tours the site, he is similarly unfazed



Bldg. 50 Project Officer Frank Kutlak (l) poses with ironworkers from Baltimore Steel who are installing the mechanical penthouse steel framing.

by clambering from floor to floor on a flimsy steel scaffold-staircase; it is not work for the fainthearted.

“I don’t see how else you can manage a major construction project,” he says. “I’m out here with the workers every day.” He is particularly proud of having attended 27 of 29 concrete pours at 4 in the morning. “I only missed those two because I was on business trips.” He jokes, “I probably don’t really contribute very much, but it’s good to be around to coordinate and oversee things. The tradesmen really appreciate it and respect me for being out there with them.”

He points out various amenities, including the outdoor balconies, one on the north and south sides of every floor, and pipe chases that are so artistic that he wishes they could have glass walls so that others could appreciate them. The building’s main features earn more attention: a vivarium (animal facility) that will replace the Bldg. 7 animal facility as a habitat for mice and rabbits; 10 gigantic air handlers (one in the basement, nine on the roof); three 16-ton electrical transformers that will step the current down from 13,800 volts as it enters the building to usable voltages for the labs; a unique nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) facility built to house 8 or 9 magnets, including a 1-gigahertz machine—not yet even built—that will be the world’s largest.

Three concrete NMR platforms, each measuring 20-foot square and weighing 120 tons, sit on cushions of air so that tiny vibrations won’t affect the machines’ workings. “There were special acoustic vibration design considerations,” Kutlak said. “The NMR platforms need to be totally isolated from the rest of the structure.” Adjacent to the NMR room is another world-class facility—an electron microscopy (EM) suite that will eventually house four high-power electron microscopes that will generate so much heat that they will be cooled by liquid nitrogen. Forecast Kutlak, “The Louis Stokes Laboratories will be one of the world’s foremost facilities for NMR/EM.”

As happy as the building’s hundreds of researchers from seven institutes will be when the job wraps up next fall, one senses that Kutlak will be, in some sense, bereft on that occasion; you probably couldn’t add enough floors to keep this project officer as pleased as he is today. ■



In a tangle of legs and pipes, steamfitters from Bell Co. work on the main chilled water supply and return lines that will provide chilled water to cool the building.

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research centers around mutations in a gene called *tau*. In some families, unique splice mutations in the *tau* gene are linked to a rare, inherited form of dementia called frontotemporal dementia or FTDP-17. A feature of these tau-related diseases is the accumulation of abnormal proteins related to the neurofibrillary tangles found in Alzheimer's disease.

Next, addressing the "mice," Dr. Karen Hsiao Ashe, professor of neurology at the University of Minnesota, spoke about an animal model she developed that now serves as a tool for the study of many aspects of Alzheimer's disease. This mouse model produces a mutant version of a protein found

in the brains of human Alzheimer's disease patients. The animals develop plaques characteristic of AD and have difficulty on tests of learning and memory.

Addressing the "neu-

ron," Dr. Rudolph E. Tanzi, director of the genetics and aging unit in the department of neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital, presented his latest work in the controversial field of Alzheimer's disease genetics. Tanzi, who is also an associate professor of neurology and neuroscience at Harvard Medical School, was part of two separate teams that in 1997 identified the presenilin mutations linked to early-onset Alzheimer's disease. More recently, he and his colleagues identified a gene called A2M-2, different forms of which may serve as a risk factor for late-onset AD.

In his lecture on the "nun," Dr. David A. Snowdon, associate professor of preventive medicine at the University of Kentucky's College of Medicine, spoke about his 9-year project called the Nun Study, a collaboration with the School Sisters of Notre Dame, a religious order. Snowdon, an epidemiologist who is also associated with the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging in Lexington, Ky., presented evidence that there may be risk factors for AD that stretch back to adolescence, risk factors associated with language ability and the development of thinking areas of the brain. His latest research focuses on a possible link between Alzheimer's disease and low levels of the common B vitamin known as folic acid or folate.

"The four presentations highlighted different facets

of research into the causes of late life dementias," said Dr. Marcelle Morrison-Bogorad, associate director of NIA for the Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging Program. "These researchers have made seminal contributions to research on Alzheimer's disease and frontotemporal dementias. Their research is breaking new ground in the general fields of messenger RNA processing and the relationship between protein structure and function; animal models of disease; risk factor genes for multifunctional disease; and life course predictors of late life disease."

The symposium celebrated the contributions and 100th birthday of Mahoney, who was not able to attend the meeting.

"Mrs. Mahoney was a critical proponent of medical research and health policy research over the past 50 years and, in many ways, working with her colleagues such as Mary Lasker, was responsible for a lot of the advances in and public appreciation of medical research," said NIA director Dr. Richard J. Hodes in introductory remarks. "She served on the advisory councils of a number of institutes at NIH and was particularly instrumental in the founding of the NIA. She's been a great champion and believer in the cause of medical research in the service of public well-being and has, through her contacts with the press and with policymakers, had a very substantial impact on those of us at the NIH." ■



Participants in NIA's Florence Mahoney 100th Birthday lecture series stand next to a portrait of Mrs. Mahoney. They included (from l) Drs. David A. Snowdon, Karen Hsiao Ashe, Marcelle Morrison-Bogorad, Richard Hodes, Rudolph E. Tanzi and Michael Hutton. The event was videocast over the Internet.

NIH Fencer to Compete In World Championships

Dr. Larry Pinkus, a scientific review administrator for the pathology A study section in the Center for Scientific Review, has been selected to participate in the Veterans World Fencing Championships to be held in Siofok, Hungary, Aug. 20-22.

A fencer for the past 34 years after taking up the sport as an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University, Pinkus is president and coach of the NIH R&W Fencing Club. He will compete in the age 50-59 sabre team at the world championships. Selection was based on points earned in three veteran's (age 40 and older) national tournaments. Pinkus was chosen by the U.S. Fencing Association following his performance in the recent Summer Nationals Fencing Championships in Charlotte, N.C., where he placed third in the combined sabre national championships.

Pinkus was formerly sabre champion of the Southeast, many times champion of Virginia, and previously was a member of the U.S. team for international competition in 1995.



HRDD Training Tips

The Human Resource Development Division, OHRM, will offer the courses below. Hands-on, self-study, personal computer training courses are available through the HRDD's User Resource Center at no cost to NIH employees. For details, visit HRDD online at <http://trainingcenter.od.nih.gov/>.

Management, Supervisory & Professional Development
 Enhancing Relationships in the Workplace 8/31
 Successful Management at NIH 9/8

Administrative Systems
 Professional Service Orders 9/1
 Introduction to Property Management 9/8
 Domestic Travel - Overflow 9/13

Administrative Skills Development
 Time Management Techniques 9/3
 Creating and Maintaining Filing Systems 9/9

Communication Skills
 Communication in the Workplace 8/31
 NIH Correspondence: Letter & Memo Preparation 9/8
 Fundamentals of Grammar 9/13
 Ten Secrets to Powerful Writing 9/13

Human Resource Management
 Processing Personnel Actions 9/13

Computer Applications and Concepts
 Advanced MS Word 7.0 - Office 95 8/31
 Introduction to Web Page Design- HTML 9/1
 Advanced FileMaker Pro 4.0 - Mac 9/1
 Introduction to Windows 9/2
 Introduction to Lotus 1-2-3 97 9/8
 Introduction to Internet 9/8
 Intermediate Internet 9/8
 Introduction to Web Page Design w/FrontPage 97 9/9
 Introduction to MS Excel 97 9/13

Quality of Work Life
 Financial Management 9/9

Fire Prevention Slogans Sought

Fire up your imaginations and think up a nifty slogan for NIH's observance of National Fire Prevention Week. If you win the contest, open to everyone (except members of the sponsoring Emergency Management Branch, Division of Public Safety, and their immediate family), your idea appears on next year's commemorative posters at NIH, along with your name. You can enter as often as you like, and entries should be snappy one-liners about fire prevention. Previous slogans include "Be Cool About Fire Safety," "Smoke—Silent and Deadly" and "There's a Lot of Little Reasons to Prevent Fire." Be sure to print (legibly) or type your slogan on a sheet of white paper. If you submit multiple candidates, rank them in order of preference. Entries are due by Sept. 30. Send or fax entries to the fire prevention section, Bldg. 15G, Rm. 2. Fax number is 402-2059. For more information call 496-0487. ■

CIT Computer Classes

All courses are on the NIH campus and are given without charge. For more information call 594-6248 or consult the training program's home page at <http://training.cit.nih.gov>.

PC Viruses	7/30
SAS Fundamentals II	8/2-3
Learn Web Application Development w/Tango	8/2-10
NT Workstation Troubleshooting	8/3
Advanced Macintosh Techniques	8/4
LAN Concepts	8/4
NIH Data Warehouse Travel	8/4
Electronic Forms Users Group	8/4
Windows NT Startup	8/5
Introduction to HTML	8/5
Oracle SQL Plus	8/5
Advanced Word Techniques for Building Large Documents	8/9
NIH Data Warehouse Budget and Finance Mini Session	8/9
Hubs, Switches and Routers	8/10
The NIH Contractor Performance System	8/10
NIH Data Warehouse Research Contracts and Grants Mini Session	8/10
Web Animation Overview	8/10,12
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	8/10
Incorporating Outlook 2000 into Daily Operations	8/11
Video on NIHnet	8/11
Oracle PL/SQL for Application Developers	8/11-12
Parachute for Windows 95/98	8/12
Introduction to Networks	8/13



Dr. Julia Howe Rowland has been named director, Office of Cancer Survivorship, NCI. The office is the focal point for support of special initiatives aimed at investigators who interact with cancer survivors, and research programs relevant to survivors and their families. Rowland has more than 20 years of experience as a researcher, clinician and educator in the field of psycho-oncology. She has served as an associate professor and director of the psycho-oncology program at Georgetown University School of Medicine. Her work at OCS begins full-time in September.



Dr. Muriel Kaiser-Kupfer, chief of the Ophthalmic Genetics and Clinical Services Branch, National Eye Institute, recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Cystinosis Foundation. Cystinosis is a genetic disorder in which cystine crystals accumulate in organs and tissues throughout the body, including the eye. In the eye, the deposits of crystals cause many symptoms including severe pain and discomfort sometimes so incapacitating that the patient cannot open the lids. One of the world's leading researchers in the eye complications of cystinosis, Kaiser-Kupfer has authored or coauthored more than 100 scientific papers on eye diseases and disorders. Her collaboration with Dr. William Gahl of NICHD led to an important treatment to prevent the severe eye symptoms associated with cystinosis. A specialist in ophthalmic genetics, she reached a significant scientific milestone in 1987 when she described, in the New England Journal of Medicine, a procedure to remove the crystals in the cornea by administering topical cysteamine eyedrops in patients with nephropathic cystinosis. Kaiser-Kupfer has been involved in genetic research at NEI since 1972.

Garden Club Meets, Aug. 5

The next meeting of the NIH Garden Club will feature a discussion by members who have worked with landscape designers. Some simply had plans drawn, some had plans plus some work done (some do-it-yourself work, too) and some said "do it all!" What was helpful, what do they wish they had known before they started, and what they would do differently next time—all these issues will be addressed on Thursday, Aug. 5, noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 7. The meeting is open to all. Check the club Web site for more information: <http://recgov.org/r&w/garden>.

Computer Classes on Campus this Summer

Summer routines in the lab or office are often a bit less hectic, making it a great time to update and expand computer skills by taking some of the courses available through the CIT Computer Training Program. More than 85 subjects are taught, all offered without charge. Registration is easy—enroll via the Web at <http://training.cit.nih.gov>, by phone, or by sending or faxing in the form printed on the back of the program catalog.

The 1999 summer term runs through early September and includes a variety of classes ranging from 1-hour seminars to multi-session intensive courses. Several new courses added to this term reflect the diverse needs of NIH computer users.

Scientists can find help with GCG sequence and analysis:

- ◆ *Getting Started with GCG* explains how to use GCG on the Helix system at NIH and describes SeqWeb and SeqLab.

- ◆ *Advance Sequence Analysis Using the Wisconsin Package* lets experienced users explore the variety of tools to manipulate and analyze nucleotide and protein sequences.

Web developers can expand with new powerful tools:

- ◆ *Using FrontPage to Generate Web Content*

- ◆ *Filemaker Pro on the Web—Real World Examples*

- ◆ *Active Server Pages Workshop*

Network users can follow emerging technology:

- ◆ *Network Sniffer Workshop* by April Merryman follows up her popular introductory class from the spring term.

- ◆ Another seminar examines videocasting on the NIH network and looks at new ways of delivering voice, data and video over a single pipe.

PC Users can get a jump on the latest from Microsoft:

- ◆ *Incorporating Outlook 2000 into Daily Operations*

- ◆ *Advanced Word Techniques for Building Large Documents* is intended for proficient users of MS Word and is geared to Word 2000

To see the complete course schedule, visit the Web site shown above. To order the printed catalog, or for recommendations on selecting courses or clarification on eligibility requirements, call GO CIT (594-6248).

The CIT program is designed to help NIH'ers use computers effectively and efficiently. Contractors, with approval from their NIH project director, can take courses closely related to their current assignments when doing so is in the best interest of NIH. ■



Shown at the NIH Alumni Association annual meeting are (from l) NIH alumna Dr. Jane E. Henney, FDA commissioner, who spoke on "Back Home Again via Indiana, Kansas and New Mexico," Dr. John F. Sherman, Rep. Constance A. Morella (R-Md.), who received the 1999 NIHAA Public Service Award, and Dr. William S. Jordan, Jr., outgoing NIHAA president. The meeting was held June 12 at the Lasker Center. Newly elected NIHAA officers for 1999-2001 are Dr. William I. Gay, president, Dr. Murray Goldstein and Dr. Jerome G. Green, vice presidents, and Storm Whaley, secretary/treasurer. The NIHAA is now in its 11th year and has more than 2,200 members. For information about joining, call (301) 530-0567.



NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein and NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci recently dedicated a bench in front of Bldg. 4 to the memory of Roskey Jennings. At the time of his death at age 87 in October 1998, Jennings was still working at NIAID. Nicknamed "the Iron Man," Jennings was honored for 66 years of dedicated service to NIH. He holds the length of service record for NIH, HHS and quite possibly the federal government. Jennings worked for 43 years without ever taking a sick day. "Roskey was at NIH even longer than I have been," laughed Kirschstein to the delight of a host of friends and coworkers. She said Jennings was the only NIH employee to have his own parking space and now a bench dedicated in his honor. Fauci said Jennings would be pleased at this recognition. "During his career, Roskey received many NIH awards for outstanding service. He was a loyal, dependable and dedicated employee who is sorely missed," Fauci concluded. The bench's memorial plaque bears Jennings' nickname and the dates of his NIH tenure.