

# THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

## Free Outdoor Film Festival

It's the next best thing to Cannes—the third annual free, outdoor 10-day film festival to benefit NIH charities for children. The series, sponsored by Cable TV Montgomery, runs from Friday, Aug. 13 to Sunday, Aug. 22 on a sylvan site located roughly behind Stone House, near the Medical Center Metro stop. Food and desserts from local restaurants, as well as popcorn, share the bill with 10 recent box office hits and classic films.

Scheduled to be shown on a 40-by-22-foot screen accompanied by theater-style surround-channel sound are:

*Raiders of the Lost Ark*, Friday, Aug. 13

SEE FILM FEST, PAGE 2



Miss America 1999, Nicole Johnson, visited NIH recently. During her tour of the NIDDK-Navy Organ-Tissue Transplant Research Center in the Clinical Center, NIDDK director Dr. Phillip Gorden presented Johnson with an award for her efforts in recruiting patients into the Diabetes Prevention Trial-Type 1. Members of Johnson's family were screened for the trial and she has advocated widely for participation in it. Johnson herself was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at the age of 19. She has dedicated her year of service as Miss America to diabetes awareness.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**1** Opponents Convince NIH To Drop Grad School

Outdoor Film Fest Is Neo-Cannes

**3** NIH, Suburban Hospital Join Forces

**7** NICHD's Guroff Mourned

**8** OD's Francine Little Heads South

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

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Shepherding, But No Sheepskin

## NIH Shelves Graduate School Plan, Will Bolster Training Instead

By Rich McManus

A few days after a lively discussion June 3 with his advisory committee to the director (ACD) about the pros and cons of establishing a degree-granting graduate school here, NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus dropped the initiative in favor of a host of measures to improve the quality and range of graduate student and postgraduate training on campus.

"Our feeling is that we can achieve many and perhaps all of the goals that led to considering creation of an NIH Graduate School without seeking degree-granting authority," said Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research, in an interview July 23.

Though a May 24 town meeting on the subject of starting a grad school here had included more enthusiasm than disdain, and though the ACD offered a 12-3 straw vote (with some notable abstentions) June 3 in favor of continuing with a plan to create the school, Varmus quietly tabled the effort, which would have required legislative authority, just a few days after the meeting.

SEE NO DEGREES, PAGE 6

## NIH Welcomes Summer Undergraduate Students

Nearly 300 undergraduate students and a handful of high school and graduate students packed Masur Auditorium on June 25 for a welcoming ceremony in their honor. The students, who are working at NIH this summer through various programs, were brought together by the NIGMS Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Branch to give them the opportunity to meet one another, as well as key staff involved with NIH programs.



NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus delivers keynote speech.

Dr. Clifton Poodry, director of the NIGMS Division of Minority Opportunities in Research, welcomed the students, stating that he hoped their experiences at NIH

SEE SUMMER STUDENTS, PAGE 4

**FILM FEST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

*Rocky*, Saturday, Aug. 14  
*West Side Story*, Sunday, Aug. 15  
*Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, Monday, Aug. 16  
*When Harry Met Sally*, Tuesday, Aug. 17  
*Casablanca*, Wednesday, Aug. 18  
*Singin' in the Rain*, Thursday, Aug. 19  
*Field of Dreams*, Friday, Aug. 20  
*Titanic*, Saturday, Aug. 21  
*The Rugrats Movie*, Sunday, Aug. 22.

Spectators are encouraged to bring a blanket, buy dinner or movie treats from the vendors to support the NIH charities, sit under the stars and spend an evening with a great film. Food will be served beginning at 7 p.m., and the movies begin at dusk, around 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call the film festival information line at (301) 881-0143 or visit the Web site at <http://www.FilmFestNIH.org>. ■

**'Faces & Phases of Life' Seminar Series**

The NIH Work and Family Life Center, in conjunction with the NIH Employee Assistance Program, presents the following free seminars. Call the WFLC to preregister at 435-1619, TTY/TDD 480-0690. Sign language interpretation is available. For reasonable accommodation, call the WFLC at least 48 hours prior to the seminar. Visit WFLC online at <http://wflc@od.nih.gov>.

**September**

Stress Wars: The Workplace Menace (Sept. 2, 2-3 p.m., Bldg. 1/Wilson Hall)

Aging: The Unfinished Business of Living (Sept. 22, 12-1 p.m., Bldg. 31/6C6)

Jumpstarting Your Career (Sept. 30, 1-3 p.m., Bldg. 31/6C10). ■

*Renitalynette K. Anderson was recently named director of the new Division of Network Systems and Telecommunications for CIT. She joined NIH in 1997 as chief of the Office of Telecommunications Management for NIH and helped coordinate its transition last year into part of the newly formed Center.*



*Anderson is a representative on DHHS's Federal Telecommunication Services 2001 committee and its telecommunications improvement program steering committee. Before coming to NIH, she was a NASA program manager for the telecommunications*

*network that interconnects foreign and domestic tracking telemetry stations, launch areas, control centers and science data capture facilities. Prior to that, she conducted communications and navigations systems development and evaluation for Patuxent River Naval Air Station.*



NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci (r) was recently presented an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Rochester by the school's president, Thomas H. Jackson.

**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. Registration is open to all interested persons free of charge. More information, including the registration form, is available on the course Web site at <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/principles/>. ■

**Depressed, Anxious Teens Sought**

You and your 14-16-year-old may be eligible to take part in research at the National Institute of Mental Health. This is a study about how young people experience emotions, and how feeling sad or worried can cause problems. Payment will be provided. For details, call Barbara Usher, 496-1301.

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♻️ The Record is recyclable as office white paper.

## NIH To Evaluate Role of MRI in Emergency Diagnosis of Heart Attack, Stroke

NIH and Suburban Hospital recently announced the start of a unique study to evaluate whether advanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology will improve the emergency diagnosis of heart attack and stroke, ultimately saving patients' lives.

"This is the first time that an MRI scanner will be used to diagnose heart disease soon after patients are admitted to a hospital emergency room," said NHLBI director Dr. Claude Lenfant, the lead NIH sponsor of the study. "We hope to learn whether this technology can more quickly and accurately identify heart attacks and strokes so patients can benefit from earlier treatment such as clot-busters."

The 4-year study is a collaborative research program between three NIH components—NHLBI, NINDS and the Clinical Center—and Suburban Hospital. The core tools of the new research program will be two specially designed MRI scanners, which will be housed in a new imaging facility at Suburban Hospital called the NIH-Suburban MRI Center, a Heart and Stroke Research and Care Program. The study will involve magnetic resonance imaging of approximately 75 percent of the several hundred patients admitted to Suburban's ER with chest pain or symptoms of possible stroke.

"This is the dawn of a wonderfully beneficial interaction between a government research institution and a private community hospital," said Dr. Gerald Fischbach, NINDS director. "This collaboration offers us a chance to deliver care and to reduce the burden of stroke and cardiovascular disease."

MRI scanners are noninvasive yet they create clear, detailed images of internal organs and structures and can rapidly evaluate blood flow/supply.

Of all the patients coming into a hospital emergency room with chest pain, only about 40 percent can be immediately diagnosed with heart attack using standard testing. The majority of patients must undergo a number of tests or further hospitalization to reach a conclusive diagnosis. MRI may shorten the time needed to evaluate cardiac patients accurately.

The timing of stroke diagnosis is equally critical. "The new MRI technology will allow us to immediately see the stroke as it is occurring in the brain, while the damage is potentially reversible," said Fischbach. "This offers us more hope of intervention and, with better understanding of the causes of stroke, we may ultimately learn ways to prevent stroke."

The three groups of cardiac patients who will receive MRIs include:

*Patients with a definite heart attack.* These patients will be treated with current state-of-the-art

therapies such as a clot-busting drug or balloon angioplasty. MRI evaluation of these patients will occur after stabilization.

*Patients without a definite explanation for their chest pain.* Scientists hope to use the high quality image of MRI to rapidly identify which of these patients has unstable angina or a heart attack.

*Patients with a milder chest pain, possibly angina.* These patients will be evaluated with MRI and traditional clinical evaluation.

The stroke component of the study will be fully operational in fall 1999. Until that time, a pilot phase will be in effect. Dr. Steve Warach, chief of the NINDS section on stroke diagnostics and therapeutics, said the new program will help researchers address the many unanswered questions about stroke causes, diagnosis and treatment.

The NINDS research team will investigate the factors that cause brain damage in stroke as well as study promising new treatment approaches to see if brain damage can be reduced.

Currently, there is only one proven medicine to help victims of acute stroke, t-PA, a clot-dissolving drug that must be delivered to a patient in the hospital within 3 hours of the onset of stroke symptoms.

In order to determine whether patients are eligible for t-PA treatment, they must first have a CT scan, to see whether the stroke is ischemic (caused by a blockage) or hemorrhagic (caused by bleeding in the brain). If the stroke is ischemic, the patient may be eligible for treatment, but if the stroke is hemorrhagic, delivery of t-PA is dangerous because it can cause more bleeding. NINDS scientists will compare the effectiveness of MRI with CT scans in detecting acute hemorrhages. If MRI proves to be as good or better than CT for seeing blood, MRI alone will replace both tests in most stroke patients.

Another study will involve the development and testing of strategies to extend the "window of opportunity" for optimal stroke treatment beyond 3 hours. One strategy involves direct administration of medication into damaged brain tissue.

Scanned images from both the heart and stroke studies will be archived into a database—along with clinical, laboratory and other information—to keep track of patient results. This will yield a rich source of clinical information for future studies. ■



*At the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the NIH-Suburban MRI Center are (from l) Roger Titus, chair, Suburban Hospital board of trustees; Dr. John Gallin, CC director; Dr. Claude Lenfant, NHLBI director; Dr. Gerald Fischbach, NINDS director; and Brian Grissler, Suburban Hospital president and CEO.*

## SUMMER STUDENTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would be productive and would live up to their expectations.

PHOTOS: BILL BRANSON

The students were also welcomed by Brenda Hanning, acting director of the NIH Office of Education, who noted that "more than 3,000



*Dr. Anthony René, NIGMS assistant director for referral and liaison, greets two summer students during the reception.*

applications were received electronically this year for NIH's summer programs from applicants across the country." She spoke about the many different paths the students took to get to NIH and offered advice on career planning.

"Think about preparing rather than planning for your careers," she urged. Students also heard from Dr. Arlyn Garcia-Perez, assistant director for intramural research at NIH, who spoke to the



*Summer students take the opportunity to meet one another following the ceremony.*

students about the "lessons of life in the pursuit of happiness.

"No one can take away from you the knowledge that you acquire," she told the students, encouraging them to read a lot and to "become students of life."

The event's keynote speaker was NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus, or "the person who runs this place" as he identified himself. He gave students an overview of NIH's key emphases in the coming years, stressing the importance of such areas as genomics, reinvigorating clinical research, harnessing allied disciplines and reducing health disparities.

Following the ceremony, students attended a reception in their honor at the Visitor Information Center.

For more than 10 years, the MARC Branch has brought together its summer students for a welcoming ceremony. This year marks the first time that a welcoming ceremony followed by a reception was held for all NIH undergraduate students.—Susan Athey ■

### NINR Welcomes New Council Members

Two new members recently joined the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research: Dr. Margarethe Cammermeyer and Dr. Carmen J. Portillo. A third member, Jean Rochelle Marshall, was reappointed after serving out the term of another member.



*NINR director Dr. Patricia Grady (third from l) welcomes new members to the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research. They are (from l) Jean Rochelle Marshall, Dr. Carmen J. Portillo and Dr. Margarethe Cammermeyer.*

Cammermeyer is an advanced nurse practitioner and lecturer/consultant in neuroscience nursing. She has extensive clinical practice experience and has served in clinical faculty roles in California and Washington.

Portillo, associate professor, School of Nursing, University of California, San Francisco, has served in national and regional leadership roles in Hispanic health and women's health issues.

Marshall, corporate vice president, government and community relations, Meridian Health System, Wall, N.J., has more than 20 years of experience in health care planning and administration. ■

## Two NIGMS Grantees Receive 'Genius Awards'

Dr. Carolyn R. Bertozzi and Dr. Laura L. Kiessling, chemists whose research is supported by NIGMS, were recently named recipients of 1999 MacArthur Fellowships.

The MacArthur Fellows Program was established in 1981 by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to provide unrestricted fellowships—commonly referred to as “genius awards”—to “exceptionally talented and promising individuals who have shown evidence of originality, dedication to creative pursuits, and capacity for self-direction.” Its fellows are awarded 5-year stipends, determined by their ages, to pursue their endeavors however they choose.

The foundation recognized Bertozzi with a \$255,000 grant for her important contributions to the understanding of cell interactions. She has developed a method that can be used to trick cells into expressing nonnatural sugars on their surfaces, which allows the cells to be chemically modified. This technique provides a valuable tool for investigating and developing treatments for disease processes such as infection, inflammation and cancer proliferation.

Kiessling was recognized with a \$285,000 grant for the development of innovative organic syntheses that may lead to a better understanding of the biology of inflammation. She has designed compounds that can cause specific inflammation-mediating proteins to aggregate and be shed from the cell surface. This tool provides the basis for the future development of drugs for treating inflammation.

Bertozzi is an associate professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. She earned an A.B. from Harvard University and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. Kiessling is an associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She earned a B.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. from Yale University.

The MacArthur Foundation, established in 1978, is a private, independent grant-making organization dedicated to helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the human condition. One of the 10 largest foundations in the United States, it awards more than \$150 million in grants annually. ■

## Do You Have Allergic Asthma?

Doctors at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases are seeking people ages 12-85 who have asthma symptoms at least 3 times a week (wheezing, chest tightness, cough, night asthma) for research study of a new investigational asthma medication. Compensation is provided. Call 1-800-411-1222. ■



On July 9, an open house was sponsored by the Special Program Services Office, ORS, to introduce the new NIH-wide interpreting services contract vendor, Sign Language Associates, Inc. (SLA). Project Officer Tim Tosten (top) welcomes the group with interpreting services provided by Andrea Capuyan, SLA lead interpreter for NIH. Tosten helped orient the attendees to the new system. He answered questions, demonstrated the new Web-based request system and distributed the NIH Interpreting Services Consumer Manuals and posters that announced the new contract. Below, SLA Interpreter Bobby Wheeler (l) listens to clients' comments regarding the new contract. For more information on the new contract or to request interpreting services, visit the SPSO Web site, <http://dss.od.nih.gov/interpreting>, or call 402-8180 (TTY 435-1908).



## Register for NCI All Ireland Cancer Conference

Researchers and oncologists from the United States, Ireland and continental Europe are invited to register for the NCI All Ireland Cancer Conference, Oct. 3-6, 1999, in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The conference, sponsored by NCI and the departments of health of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, marks the beginning of a long-term initiative to enhance cancer research in Ireland and promote an international dialogue in the quest for a cure. Featured speakers include NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus, NCI director Dr. Richard Klausner, and Division of Clinical Science director Dr. Edison Liu, chief of NCI Surgery Branch Dr. Steven Rosenberg, and chief of NCI Radiation Oncology Branch Dr. Norman Coleman as well as Dr. Henrietta Campbell, chief medical officer, Northern Ireland; Dr. James Kiely, chief medical officer, Republic of Ireland; Dr. Peter Daly, associate professor of oncology, St. James's Hospital, Dublin; and Dr. Patrick Johnston, professor of oncology, Belfast City Trust Hospital. The conference includes scenic tours of the Irish countryside, an evening reception of traditional Irish music and golf. For registration information, visit the Web site at <http://www.allirelandcancer.com> or call 1-888-624-1937 and ask for the NCI All Ireland Cancer Conference.

## Males Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking male volunteers ages 18-45 to participate in a 5-month study of the effects of reproductive hormones on brain and behavior. Volunteers must be free of medical illnesses and not taking any medication on a regular basis. They will complete daily rating forms and be asked to participate in one of several protocols. Payment will be in accordance with the duration of each visit and the type of protocol. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 496-9576.

## NO DEGREES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gottesman, who had presented the grad school plan at the last two ACD meetings, and at the May town meeting, stated that both he and Varmus did not want to continue with a potentially divisive project; they admit having been swayed by reasoned opposition to the idea of starting an accredited school. "We really were listening," Gottesman said, when people spoke out against the plan.

"Harold was impressed by the arguments of the people who thought we shouldn't continue with the plan, and particularly by those who argued that it wouldn't be good for NIH," Gottesman continued. "He hasn't changed his mind about the importance of having graduate students at NIH, though. The faculty here, particularly the new ones, are very keen on attracting graduate students to NIH."

There are currently 145 graduate students in various stages of training on campus, and formal arrangements are in place with four major universities whose students are working toward their degrees here, Gottesman said. He foresees a day when such partnerships are more numerous, and more structured.

"We have gotten together a group of senior faculty who are interested in the topic of graduate education," Gottesman explained, "including Bill Eaton (an NIDDK intramural scientist who publicly opposed the school idea at the May meeting), to consult with us on how to proceed. We want to do this in a way that makes most people comfortable." The group has discussed the four extant university ties—to Duke, George Washington, Maryland and Johns Hopkins—and how to cultivate more relationships. Three goals are already agreed upon: the need to appoint a dean of graduate students, the need for a place for students to meet socially and academically, and the need for a faculty to teach, advise students (as part of onsite thesis committees), and design novel curricula. Further, another town meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 4:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. "We want to hear from the current graduate students about what NIH needs to do to improve graduate-level education," Gottesman said. "Anyone interested in hearing from the students is welcome."

In the next few months, interested potential faculty here will decide how to pursue alliances with universities, and craft studies that take advantage of NIH's expertise in areas where there are acute national needs, for example in bioinformatics, clinical research, genomics, animal behavior, and addressing health disparities in minority populations, as well as training more minority scientists. "This is the prime goal of the program," Gottesman declared. "NIH, I think, can do a lot."

The decision not to grant Ph.D. degrees does not change in any way plans for an NIH Academy (an entity whose structure is still under discussion and

whose goal is to address health care disparities by emphasizing recruitment and training of disadvantaged students and underrepresented minorities), Gottesman pointed out; his deputy Dr. Arlyn Garcia-Perez, with Levon Parker of NINDS, cochairs a working group on that subject. The group is defining the Academy's goals and critical elements, and will begin to make recommendations in the fall, Gottesman said. He said there have been discussions already about where a social/academic center should be on campus, but that nothing is conclusive. "We have agreed that it should be located near the center of campus, and that it should be easily accessible to students," he said. "It's not yet clear how we will achieve that, though."

He also feels strongly that there should be some kind of student housing or dormitory for students, particularly for younger trainees. But that goal remains distant.

Gottesman said intramural reaction to the decision not to pursue a formal graduate school has been typically poised: "People aren't terribly disappointed with the decision—they tend to be quite practical about this. People around here are quite mature and pragmatic about decisions like this. We didn't want a divisive issue among the faculty."

On the upside, not seeking formal accreditation gives NIH more leeway and control in designing curricula, and choosing students, he said. "We think we can fashion partnerships that will meet most of the goals of the (original formal) program."

He concluded, "We haven't given up the idea of having a very good graduate program at NIH, and also improving the quality of postgraduate education. We think the two go hand-in-hand." ■



Some 250 NIH families and Clinical Center pediatric patients took advantage of a recent R&W-sponsored trip to Six Flags America. The outing, designed to give children a holiday from the hospital setting, included park admission, parking and a catered meal. The group also sampled a host of new rides at the theme park in Prince George's County, which debuted this summer.

## NICHD's Gordon Guroff Dies in Auto Accident

By Bob Bock

Dr. Gordon Guroff, deputy scientific director of NICHD, died July 9 in an automobile accident in Moultonsboro, N.H. The 66-year-old biochemist was best known for his groundbreaking research on neurotransmitters, the chemical messengers that brain and nerve cells use to communicate.

"The NICHD community is shocked and saddened by this unexpected, tragic loss," said NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander. "He was a kind man and a brilliant scientist who will be deeply missed by his friends and colleagues."



Dr. Gordon Guroff

Guroff had been deputy scientific director since 1982. He began his NIH career at what was then the National Heart Institute in 1959. He is most well known for discerning the molecular mechanism by which certain

amino acids are converted to the neurotransmitters serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine. This mechanism, which involves a molecular process known as "hydroxylation," eventually became known in professional circles as "the NIH shift."

"We are indebted to Dr. Guroff for his scientific contributions, and the scientific community will be much the poorer for this loss," said NICHD acting scientific director Dr. Igor Dawid. "This loss pales in comparison, however, to the loss of a wonderful man and sincere friend."

Born in Chicago, Guroff received a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Illinois in 1954 and his M.S. in biochemistry from Alabama Polytechnic University in 1956. He received his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin and shortly thereafter became a research fellow in the Laboratory of Clinical Biology at the National Heart Institute. In 1960, he became a chemist for that laboratory, and remained there until 1968.

He joined NICHD in 1968, as chief of the section on intermediary metabolism in the Laboratory of Biomedical Sciences. While he held this post, he also took a temporary assignment at the Biocenter of the University of Basel, in Switzerland. He then served as special assistant to the acting scientific director of NICHD, and later became acting scientific director. In 1976, he was appointed chief of the section on intermediary metabolism of NICHD's Laboratory of Neurobiology. In 1982, he became deputy scientific director and chief of the section on growth factors, positions he held until his death.

His recent work dealt with biochemical and molecular biological studies of nerve growth factor,

a peptide required for the development of nervous system cells.

Among Guroff's other scientific accomplishments, he discovered a new class of proteases that are activated by calcium, and made important contributions to the development of affinity chromatography, a method for purifying proteins.

Guroff was an accomplished mentor, having trained more than 100 postdoctoral fellows at NICHD, and in recent years was in charge of the NICHD summer student research program. In addition to his duties at NICHD, he was also a lecturer in biochemistry at George Washington University.

He was a member of numerous professional societies including the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society for Neurochemistry, the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, and the Society for Neuroscience. He has authored or coauthored nearly 200 scientific papers and the book, *Molecular Neurology*. He has also edited *Oncogenes, Genes, and Growth Factors*, and the three volume series, *Growth and Maturation Factors*.

Guroff is survived by his wife of 26 years, Marjorie Robert-Guroff and their children, Sarah and Robert Guroff; by three children from a prior marriage to Julie Guroff—Peter Guroff, Margaret Guroff, and Steven Guroff; by his mother, Sarah Guroff; and his brothers, Gregory Guroff and Avram "Buzz" Guroff; and by four grandchildren. ■

## 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>.

Active Server Pages Workshop	8/16-17
Advanced Oracle PL/SQL for Application Developers	8/17-19
Using Email Effectively	8/18
Basic Telecommunications at NIH	8/18
Research Contracts and Grants	8/18
Visual Basic for Programmers	8/19
NIH Data Warehouse Advanced Query and Reporting	8/19
Information Technology Security for Unix System Administrators	8/19
Database Technology Seminar	8/20
Getting Started with GCG	8/24
LISTSERV Electronic Mailing Lists	8/24
Remedy — Customer Service Tool	8/24
BRMUG Macintosh Users Group	8/24
Using FrontPage to Generate Web Content	8/25
Good Web Page Practices	8/25
NIH Data Warehouse Procurement and Market Requisitions	8/25

## Lecture on Freedom of Information Act

The Bethesda/Medical chapter of the National Contract Management Association is hosting a seminar on the release of information under the Freedom of Information Act as it applies to both the government and contractors. The speaker will be attorney Bernard Fensterwald. The meeting is Wednesday, Aug. 18 from noon to 1 p.m. in Executive Plaza North, Conf. Rm. F. The seminar is open to all and no registration is necessary. Contact Sharon Miller, 435-3783, for details.

### OD's Francine Little Takes NIEHS Post

Francine Little, a 28-year NIH'er who has been director of the Office of Financial Management in the Office of the Director since 1995, took charge of NIEHS' Office of Management on July 5.

An OD boss of Little's described her as "very loyal. And she's inspired tremendous loyalty from her staff."

"She's a lot of fun," said a colleague. "She's very loving."

"I like people," she admits. "I like to make it easy for people. I don't like contention, no—but I can deal with it!"



Francine Little

And once there's been a dispute, and it has been settled, Little prefers that "we wind up laughing about it."

Maybe the fun, the fight and the laughter come from being part of a family of 13 kids. She has seven sisters and five brothers—all still in the Washington area, as is her mother.

Little was reared in the city, attended public schools there and gradu-

ated from Howard University. She has been with NIH since 1971, beginning as a management intern. At the end of the internship, she started in budget, and, except for a stint as an administrative officer in NCI, has worked exclusively in budget.

She was budget officer of the National Eye Institute for 3 years and of the National Cancer Institute for 10.

In 1992, she left NCI to become NIH assistant director for budget. The next year she was appointed acting director and was named director in early 1995. Her role was to advise the NIH director on budget planning, policy and formulation and oversee NIH's central accounting system.

She loves NIH but says she feels a little "burned out" in budget—been there, done that—and is looking forward to the "new challenge" of management at NIH's southernmost institute.

Little succeeds Charles Leasure, who is now with the National Human Genome Research Institute. ■

### Y2K Services for Unix

Unix systems at NIH have a new ally to help prepare for the year 2000 and beyond. CIT is offering remediation services to the ICs to ensure that Unix systems achieve both Y2K compliance and an acceptable level of security. To take advantage of this offer, contact Jim Sullivan at 496-7212; email [sullivan@alw.nih.gov](mailto:sullivan@alw.nih.gov). ■



NIAMS' Laboratory of Physical Biology recently hosted two interactive cloning lessons for summer students, who used DNA from the skeletal muscle of a mouse. Shown above are (from l) NIAMS biologist and session leader Amy Herrera, Jennifer Szilagyi, Tara Knox, Tieu Co, Chris Hessman, Tiffany Reed and Kirsten Ehrenspeck. Below are (from l) Raushanah Newman, Stephanie Addison, Waldo Johnson, Jennifer Myers, Lindsay Cromwell, NIAMS Summer Student Program Coordinator Sharon Louis and Chimere DeVane.



### Female Volunteers Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking female volunteers ages 18-45 to participate in a 5-month study of the effects of reproductive hormones on measures of cerebral activity and blood flow. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles with no changes in mood in relationship to menses, be free of medical illnesses and not taking any hormones or medication on a regular basis. They will complete daily rating forms and be asked to participate in studies of cerebral blood flow with positron emission tomography and magnetic resonance imaging. Payment is tied to duration of each visit and type of protocol. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 496-9576. ■

### Difficult Teenagers Sought

You and your 11-16-year-old may be eligible to take part in research at the National Institute of Mental Health. This is a study about how young people experience emotions, and how anger and bad moods can cause problems. Payment will be provided. For details, call Barbara Usher, 496-1301.