

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

'All You Ever Wanted To Know About Y2K'

NIH Holds Y2K Awareness Day, Oct. 29 in Masur Auditorium

Just how prepared is NIH for the coming of the new millennium? Plan to attend the NIH Y2K Awareness Day on Friday, Oct. 29 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, to have this and many other Y2K questions answered.

With fewer than 75 days until the year 2000, many of us have been inundated with news, predictions and warnings about the so-called "Y2K bug"—computer malfunctions caused by their potential inability to distinguish the year 2000 from the year 1900. From 9 a.m. to noon, panelists from NIH, utility companies and community

SEE Y2K DAY, PAGE 2

NIAAA Collaborates with Alcohol Issue Forums

By Dianne Vignovich-Needham
In Indiana, the Purdue University women's basketball team returns this season with one player missing. Tiffany Young, 21, would have been a senior and returning guard on the reigning championship team. Instead her teammates now remember her by wearing a patch with the inscription "TY" on their shorts and shooting shirts, leaving a chair open for her on the bench, her locker untouched. Young died in a

SEE ALCOHOL FORUMS, PAGE 8

Varmus To Leave NIH in December

NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus on Oct. 7 notified the President by letter, and all NIH'ers by email, that he will leave NIH at the end of this year to accept a job as head of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. His brief message to employees lauded their "spirit of commitment to the goals and standards of this remarkable agency." More coverage will follow.

HIGHLIGHTS

1

NIH Observes Hispanic Heritage Month

More Givers Sought in CFC Effort

3

NIAID Hosts Symposium on Emerging Microbes

9

American Indian Training Needs Examined

12

Symposium Honors NIDDK's Gorden

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

October 19, 1999
Vol. LI, No. 21

Hurricane Can't Dampen Determination

Hispanic Heritage Month Observance Focuses on HIV/AIDS

By Carla Garnett

NIH's 1999 observance of Hispanic Heritage Month held on Sept. 16 tackled two tough opponents, one unexpectedly—Hurricane Floyd, an unwelcome intrusion into the

area that produced drenching rains and kept turnout low at the event. However, bad weather couldn't diminish the battle with the program's prime target—HIV/AIDS, which continues its deadly advance into minority communities nationwide. As the event's 1999 theme emphasized, "Awareness of HIV Infection in the Hispanic Community" is a top priority.

'Think Globally'

According to data presented by Dr. Gary Nabel, director of NIH's Vaccine Research Center who gave an update on

SEE HISPANIC HERITAGE, PAGE 6



Dr. Carmen Zorrilla of the University of Puerto Rico discusses HIV/AIDS.

Collins Leads Hootenanny

Silent Majority Targeted in CFC Campaign

By Rich McManus

Combining the high ambition of the Human Genome Project with a critical examination of past NIH giving patterns, NHGRI director Dr. Francis Collins led a spirited kickoff of the annual Combined Federal Campaign on Sept. 30 in the Natcher Bldg. that featured HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, former



HHS Secretary Donna Shalala and NHGRI director Dr. Francis Collins perform duet.

Washington Redskins Art Monk and Charles Mann, and emotional testimony from two NIH'ers who have known the benefits

SEE CFC KICKOFF, PAGE 4



Dr. Paula F. Flicker recently joined the staff of NIGMS as a program director in the Division of Cell Biology and Biophysics, where she will manage grants dealing with cell attachment, the extracellular matrix and the biophysical properties of proteins with prosthetic groups. She will also administer postdoctoral fellowships in cell biology. Flicker is a biophysicist and electron microscopist who comes to NIGMS from Vanderbilt University, where since 1989 she served on the faculty of the department of molecular biology. Prior to joining Vanderbilt, she served as a research associate at the University of California, San Francisco, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, in the department of biochemistry and biophysics.

Y2K DAY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

organizations will help you sort through the rumors and get the facts about their Y2K preparation activities. "This event is our chance to show that NIH and its surrounding community are ready for Y2K," said Alan Graeff, NIH's chief information officer.

The Center for Information Technology is sponsoring the Y2K Awareness Day as a "one-stop shopping" event to help NIH'ers understand what actions have been taken by NIH staff and by community organizations to ensure that the new year starts out right.

You may be asking yourself whether basic services such as power, water and telephone will be available. NIH has invited several companies and

Y2K Awareness Day, Oct. 29

Have fun while you learn how to be prepared for Y2K at work and home!

- Learn about NIH readiness.
 - Hear from Pepco, Washington Gas, WSSC, Bell Atlantic, the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association, Montgomery County government, the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (subway/bus), and the NIH Federal Credit Union.
 - Visit the information booths of the above organizations and Crestar Bank, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, several computer companies, a travel agency, and others.
 - Be one of the lucky ones to win a prize.
- For more information, visit <http://y2k.cit.nih.gov> or email y2k@nih.gov.

associations including Pepco, the WSSC, and Bell Atlantic to talk about their Y2K status. Others have been invited to discuss topics such as banking issues, the availability of emergency services, and bus and subway service. You'll be able to ask one-on-one questions and collect literature from any of the information booths from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

You might also say to yourself, "Okay—I can make it in to work. Will I be able to work? Will NIH be open for business?" NIH's own panel will include a presentation from Graeff on Y2K readiness and its effect on payroll services, personal computers, computer center services, networks and telephones, computer security concerns and biomedical equipment. He'll also talk about NIH contingency plans and preparation for "day one," or New Year's weekend. Juanita Mildenberg, deputy director of the Division of Engineering Services, Office of Research Services, will talk about the readiness of infrastructure components such as elevators, heating, ventilation and automated building systems. A speaker from the Clinical Center will describe efforts to ensure uninterrupted care to patients.

Anyone in the NIH community—employees,

contractors and patients—who wants to know more about preparing for Y2K at home and at work is invited to the all-day festival. For more information, check the Web site at <http://y2k.cit.nih.gov>. At the site, there is an opportunity to submit questions for the panelists in advance. Email questions and requests for reasonable accommodation to y2k@nih.gov. ■



At the annual NIGMS awards ceremony recently, institute director Dr. Marvin Cassman (c) recognized two employees with the NIH Award of Merit. Tondalayo Royster (l) was cited for her outstanding service as an administrative technician in the NIGMS administrative office. Evelyn Fine (r), a payback specialist in the Division of Extramural Activities, was cited for providing invaluable expertise and leadership to NIH staff who monitor the payback requirements of the National Research Service Award legislation. The NIH Award of Merit is the highest honor that can be granted by an IC director.

NIH RECORD

Published biweekly at Bethesda, Md., by the Editorial Operations Branch, Division of Public Information, for the information of employees of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. The content is reprintable without permission. Pictures may be available on request. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the director of the Office of Management and Budget through Sept. 30, 2000.

NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Rm. 2B03

Phone 496-2125
Fax 402-1485

Web address
<http://www.nih.gov/news/NIH-Record/archives.htm>

Editor
Richard McManus
rm26q@nih.gov

Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

The NIH Record reserves the right to make corrections, changes, or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with the policies of the paper and HHS.

♻️ *The Record is recyclable as office white paper.*

NIAID Presents Symposium on Emergent Microbes

The incidence of emerging diseases is increasing worldwide. Well-known microbes such as the tuberculosis bacterium are developing new strains with advanced survival tactics. Other microbes such as HIV and hantavirus have evolved as pathogens relatively recently. Both of these conditions present new threats to the population and unique challenges to researchers. On Thursday, Nov. 4 in the Natcher Conference Center Auditorium, NIAID will present "Confronting Emergent Microbes: Forging New Paradigms," a symposium in honor of the centennial of the American Society for Microbiology. ASM is



Dr. Clifton E. Barry III

the oldest and largest single biological science organization in the world, with over 42,000 member scientists, physicians and health professionals. ASM's mission to improve public health through understanding of basic life processes coincides with NIAID's research effort to prevent, diagnose and treat immunologic and infectious diseases.

The past 100 years have seen amazing advances in the identification and treatment of many diseases. Others, such as polio and smallpox, have been virtually eradicated. However, some diseases once under control are now re-emerging as public health problems. The microbes that cause them have become resistant to current drugs and therapies.

"Emerging diseases pose a significant threat to the world's population. As the new millennium approaches, the battle plan has changed. Researchers are now rethinking their lab strategies and developing novel approaches to new questions," says Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of NIAID and moderator of the symposium. Dr. Carol Nacy, past president of ASM, will introduce the program.

Scheduled speakers include Dr. Clifton E. Barry, III, chief of NIAID's tuberculosis research section; Dr. Bruce Walker, director of the AIDS Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital, and associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School; and Dr.



Dr. Bruce Walker

Thomas E. Wellems, chief of NIAID's malaria genetics section.

Barry's talk, titled "Integrating Genomics and Chemistry to Produce New Antibiotics for the Treatment of Tuberculosis," will explore the recently sequenced *M. tuberculosis* genome for potential targets for new antibiotic strategies.

Walker will speak about "Progress in the Immunologic Battle Against HIV."

His lab has studied the effect of HIV-1 T-cell responses on viral load. They have shown that treatment of acute HIV infection with combination antiviral therapy leads to the induction of potent immune responses similar to those seen in long-term non-progressors.

Wellems will present "A Chronicle of Tropical Health and Transport Molecules: Malaria, Chloroquine and Drug Resistance." Chloroquine was once the frontline drug used to treat malaria. Over the years, however, the drug has become ineffective against the most serious parasite causing human malaria, *Plasmodium falciparum*. Wellems is leading NIAID's research effort to understand drug response mechanisms as a basis for new antimalarial treatments.

A reception will follow the program. For more information call 496-5717. ■



Dr. Thomas E. Wellems

Children's Inn Needs Weekend Volunteers

Weekend volunteers are needed to staff the Children's Inn, especially on holiday weekends. Weekend resident volunteers typically serve one or two times every couple of months, managing the inn from 6 p.m. Fridays through 3 p.m. Sundays. Split shifts are also available. A full-time staff member is onsite and/or call at all times.

The two-person, overnight teams are most frequently married couples, two friends, mother/daughter pairs, etc. However, individuals may volunteer to manage the inn as well. The teams receive inn operations and procedures training and reside at the inn during their weekend experience as onsite hosts, facilitators and managers. The weekend is the best time to find out just how special the children and their families are. To help, call Laura King, director of volunteers, 496-5672. ■

Race, Walk Benefit FOCC

The 8th annual Great Pumpkin Chase 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk to benefit the Friends of the Clinical Center (FOCC) will be held Sunday, Oct. 24. The race will start at 9 a.m. at the National Naval Medical Center, across Rockville Pike from NIH. FOCC is a private, nonprofit, charitable organization that provides emergency financial aid to NIH patients and their families. Registration information is available on the NIH R&W Web site: <http://www.recgov.org> or by calling 496-6061 or (301) 348-2036.

CFC KICKOFF, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of CFC in their own lives.

The highlight of the festive noontime ceremony was an audience sing-along with a folk tune penned for the occasion by Collins, who strapped on an acoustic guitar and performed a duet with Shalala on "Sing With Me, for CFC." Gamely wearing official CFC polo shirts, the two romped through several verses (see sidebar) to close the kickoff.

But as light as the ditty was, there was a serious side to the affair: most NIH employees don't give to the CFC, particularly newcomers to the agency, who

tend to assume that those with longer tenure and higher grade levels ought to bear the burden of giving, reported Shalala.

"The good news is that last year's campaign,

under the leadership of Pat Grady of the nursing research institute, set a new NIH record for the CFC, collecting \$1,176,346," Collins said. "The bad news is that only 48 percent of employees participated in the campaign. So we set a record by getting more money from fewer people. A major emphasis this year is to reach out to those who didn't participate in the past."

Collins said he was embarrassed to discover that, among all the operating divisions within HHS, NIH finished "dead last" in participation level. He quipped, "Those guys at FDA weren't *much* better. Still, this doesn't make us feel particularly proud." There is also a wide variation in participation levels across NIH's own institutes and centers, he continued, ranging from a low of 29 percent at one to "an impressive 97 percent at Dr. Harold Slavkin's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research."

Collins urged NIH'ers to apply the same approach to CFC giving as his institute has applied to the genome project. "The Human Genome Project has set explicit, aggressive milestones that we have consistently met or exceeded. We've been successful by establishing very concrete goals, then doing better than we thought we could." Relying on enthusiastic team spirit and hard work, he said, "We've sped up the time table (for completion of the human genome) by 3 years. I'd like to see that whole thing transferred over to the CFC."

Similarly, the sense of altruism that drew many

researchers into the field of human health forms a "natural connection with the CFC," he said.

Admitting that audiences are tired of hearing his genome mantra—"Ahead of schedule and under budget"—Collins nevertheless hopes the CFC will end up "ahead of schedule and *over* budget. Let's get out there and do it. I think we can accomplish great things this year."

NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein called the CFC slogan—"Exercise Your Heart—Give. It All Comes Back to You"—a "wonderful theme because it joins together CFC with NIH's mission of public health." Noting that the human heart beats some 2.5 billion times in an average lifetime "without ever pausing to rest," she urged CFC keyworkers to "work tirelessly, like the heart" to make the campaign a success and "give strength to those who need our hearts."

She introduced Shalala as "the longest-lasting secretary of Health and Human Services, and the finest one we've ever had—also the most interested in NIH we've ever had—and I've known them all!"

Shalala said she volunteered to President Clinton to run the entire federal CFC for two reasons: "Number one, because I run the best agency in the entire government, and two, even though I'm the longest-lasting HHS secretary, I only have a year and a half left, and I wanted to do something enduring for this community. I really believe in federal workers and the contributions they make to their communities and to charity. More than half the dollars raised for charity in metropolitan

Scientist, Musician, Showman

Whether he is giving testimony before Congress on progress in the Human Genome Project or slinging a guitar in his impromptu rock band "The Directors," NHGRI director Dr. Francis Collins is a personable showman who clearly relishes the spotlight. Following the diminutive Shalala on the CFC kickoff program, the tallish Collins joked, "She and I represent diversity—vertical diversity."

Before launching into the tune he wrote for the occasion, he noted, "This is like summer camp—you don't get to go home unless you sing." Strumming a guitar, he taught the audience the chorus to this song:

Chorus:

Sing with me, for CFC

Exercise your heart, you must agree

That each day with a few pennies

You bring benefits to many

Have a heart, do your part

It all comes back to you

Verse 1:

You may say to yourself, "What has this to do



Former Redskins Art Monk (l) and Charles Mann flank Shalala as they sing Dr. Francis Collins' original composition, "Sing with Me for CFC."

PHOTOS: BILL BRANSON

Washington each year come from federal workers.”

She equated being a good professional with being a good citizen of the community, and urged younger workers in particular to get into the habit of giving. “We’ve got to put it into (young workers’) heads that you must give what you can, no matter what your salary. Our goal this year is to boost the number who give. That’s NIH’s assignment. You’ve never let me down in the past and I know you won’t let the world down.”

In brief talks, Elizabeth Dean-Clower of NCI, who chairs the employees concerned with disabilities committee, spoke of the value of horseback riding therapy for children, and NHGRI management

analyst Don Bordine gave moving testimony about his 11-year-old son Roger’s struggle with a rare form of cancer.

“There were two emotional lights in the darkness,” during his son’s grueling 48-month course of therapy, said Bordine, and both relate to CFC: a week-long stay at Camp Fantastic, and a flight by the whole Bordine family to an aircraft carrier so that

Roger could steer the ship off the coast of San Diego



Don Bordine spoke movingly of his son’s cancer therapy.

with me?”

*Every fall we get the call to give to CFC
But for those who God knows have a tougher lot
than we*

*Even though it’s not their ‘druthers’
Their hope depends on others
We’re their sisters and their brothers
CFC*

Verse 2:

*Have a look at the book, there are many needs to see
Kids and moms, folks like us, both here and overseas
We’re a team together now, led by our Secretary
Let’s build our spirit on her
She will make you really wanna
There’s no one quite like Donna
CFC*

After several Pete Seegerish “one more time”s, the song ended, but Collins wasn’t finished yet. “The ceremony isn’t over until the short lady sings,” he joked, then stage-whispered to Shalala, “Do I still have a job?” The event ended with Redskins Mann and Monk tossing beanie-baby style stuffed animals into the crowd.



Monk signed autographs for many NIH’ers before and after the program, pausing to talk genially with anyone who approached him.

and see Top Gun pilots land jets aboard the craft; the Make-a-Wish Foundation sponsored that journey. Shalala in particular seemed touched by Bordine’s tale of gratitude, and it was up to Collins to tell the story’s epilogue: “Roger was treated here at the Clinical Center, and is now disease-free.”

Redskin Art Monk, who with teammate Charles Mann signed autographs on everything from T-shirts, to dollar bills, to CFC songsheets for a long line of fans—most of them women—prior to the program, said NIH could be like the world-champion Super Bowl Redskins of old if employees work hard and dig deep. Noting that the federal CFC goal is \$42 million, and HHS’s share is \$3 million, Monk said, “This is your game, and you are the players—you make up the team. You have a fantastic leader in Secretary Shalala. She needs your help so the team can execute what she wants done. I wish you well for this upcoming season.” ■

New Appointments in OD

There have been several new appointments made in the Office of the Director recently.

Frederick Walker became the new executive officer for OD, replacing Steve Benowitz, on Oct. 1. Walker has a long background in human resource management at NIH, serving most recently as director, Division of Senior and Scientific Employment, Office of Human Resource Management. He has also been acting deputy director of OHRM for the past year. He was the OD personnel officer from 1982 to 1990, among other posts at NIH.

Dr. Paul Coates has been appointed director of the Office of Dietary Supplements. He has experience in academic research in biochemistry and more recently as deputy director of NIDDK’s Office of Nutrition Research Coordination, where he was involved with development of Healthy People 2010. He is currently leading NIH efforts to hold a national nutrition conference in 2000 with the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Stephen Groft, head of NIH’s Office of Rare Disease Research, is acting director of the Office of Medical Applications of Research while a search is conducted to replace Dr. John Ferguson, who retired recently. ■

HISPANIC HERITAGE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the "Search for an AIDS Vaccine," 16,000 new HIV infections occur daily in the United States and nearly one million Americans are infected with the virus.

As troubling as those figures are, they pale in comparison with global statistics, which estimate that as of December 1998, 22.5 million people are infected in Sub-Saharan Africa and 6.7 million in Asia. To put the AIDS threat in perspective, Nabel also shared the following graphic comparison: About 32.9 million people were killed in the major wars of the 20th century; so far, AIDS has killed 34 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa alone.

He also discussed the research steps involved in vaccine development in general, the mission of the VRC in this research and its role in developing AIDS/HIV vaccines. Nabel described the scientific challenges presented by the AIDS virus, which requires complex strategies in the development and testing of vaccines.

Dr. Carmen Zorrilla, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, shared highlights of her research on "Mother to Infant Transmission" of HIV. She discussed labor duration, mode of delivery used during delivery, all of which have been found to have a bearing on rates of HIV transmission. Zorrilla also compared European transmission prevention strategies, which rely more on Caesarean delivery, with American prevention approaches that focus more on drug regimens such as AZT.

"Why do we have the same declines in transmission rates when we have such different approaches and strategies to prevention and delivery?" she asked. Her studies seek to find the answers to this and similar questions.

Zorrilla also touched briefly on several ethical

issues she has faced in her research and treatment of women with HIV. For example, before the effects of powerful drug treatments such as AZT on fetuses were



Dr. Gary Nabel

known, should pregnant women with HIV have been given the therapies? The question caused much hand-wringing early in the epidemic, she recalled. According to results from several clinical trials, she said scientists now are able to say with confidence that women living with HIV should be offered optimal retroviral therapy regardless of pregnancy status.

'Act Locally'

In addition to exploring the impact of HIV/AIDS worldwide and urging more education in minority communities in particular, the NIH Hispanic heritage program—organized by a committee led by the NIH Hispanic Employee Organization—also looked inward to efforts in and around the agency to better serve all the health and health education needs of the nation's Latino population.

"The 1999 Hispanic Heritage Month observance offers us the opportunity to reflect upon many contributions that Hispanics have made to the nation," said NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, in welcoming remarks. She represents NIH on the Health and Human Services minority initiatives steering committee, which oversees the department's Hispanic Agenda for Action (HAA); she also chairs an NIH Hispanic task force to implement HAA. "With tremendous growth predicted in the Hispanic community, not only is it important that their health needs be addressed by clinical and scientific research efforts, but it is also equally important to make efforts to ensure that there are health professionals and scientists from this community involved in all ongoing research and treatment efforts. I speak for the NIH leadership in assuring you we are intimately involved in several initiatives to address underrepresentation of Hispanics in biomedical research and health disparities between minority and majority populations."

Mechanisms NIH is using to improve Hispanic representation in its workforce, and in science in general, include the National Hispanic Youth Initiative, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities internship program, and the Loan Repayment Program of NIH's Office of Intramural Research, which Kirschstein said has been so successful that NIH is attempting to export it to colleagues at universities and academic institutions. In addition, she noted, an NIH Academy "to help fill the pipeline with people who can and will do outstanding science" is in developmental stages, under the auspices of the Office of Intramural Research.

"We are committed to the challenge," Kirschstein reiterated. In conclusion, she said NIH can be particularly proud that one of its initiatives—the Office of Research on Minority Health—had been singled out for mention by President Clinton in this year's proclamation of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Carlos Ugarte (l), coordinator of the NIH Hispanic Communications Initiative, and Dr. Carlos Caban, president of HHS's Hispanic Employees Organization, report on NIH efforts to reach out to the community.



Reach Out

Carlos Ugarte, coordinator of the NIH Hispanic Communications Initiative, and Dr. Carlos Caban, president of HHS's Hispanic Employees Organization (HEO), also reported on NIH efforts to reach out to the community.

"It was clear to all of us early on," Ugarte said, "that if we were going to have a significant impact on these health disparities, then taking action in the area of communications is vitally important."

Just over a year ago, he recalled, the HCI—an unprecedented initiative, both at NIH and department-wide—was formed within the NIH Office of Communications and Public Liaison with the goal of improving the health of the Hispanic community by providing "solid, credible and timely health information to the Latino community nationwide." Since its establishment, Ugarte noted, HCI has launched and maintains a Spanish language Web site on NIH's home page that garners about 2,500 hits each month—"and that's without virtually any promotion of the site"—and contributed NIH health information to several editions of *El Pulso De La Salud*, a Spanish language newspaper supplement.

Caban discussed HEO, a voluntary group that was chartered in 1981 by HHS to advise the department

on issues of concern to its Hispanic employees. The organization also serves as the umbrella for individual agencies' Hispanic employee organizations under HHS; NIH, for instance, established its HEO branch in 1995. The HHS-HEO goal since 1990, he said, has been to develop a customer service model to help



Dr. Marta Leon-Monzon

improve quality and delivery of the department's services to the nation's more than 35 million Latinos.

Paramount among HEO objectives currently is to recommend ways to increase Hispanic representation in the HHS workforce and various department committees, Caban noted. Over the last 4 years, the percentage of Latinos employed in the department has risen only 0.2 percent, from 2.7 percent in 1995 to 2.9 percent in 1999, he pointed out. "That's not a lot of improvement for that amount of effort in that amount of time," Caban said. In contrast, the civilian labor force is 10 percent Hispanic and



Hispanics account for 6 percent of the federal workforce.

To help get the word out to Hispanics about HHS program and policy issues relevant to Hispanics, recruitment efforts, and job and funding opportunities within the department, as well as other federal employment issues, the group established an email listserv that continues to grow and publishes electronic updates several times a month. Caban also said the HHS-HEO will continue to monitor the progress of the secretary's Hispanic Agenda for Action and other issues relevant to Hispanics. He also recommended the HHS Hispanic home page (<http://www.hhs.gov/about/heo/hispanic.html>) as a source of further information.

Throughout the program, however, the theme of education—whether about a global health crisis affecting the Latino community, or about addressing health care disparities between majority and minority populations or about opportunities for Hispanics in science and research—rang true.

"We have to protect our youth and we have to teach our parents," stressed program moderator Dr. Marta Leon-Monzon of NIH's Office of AIDS Research, president of NIH's HEO. "It's very important to have big conferences and big meetings, but if we don't get to the houses and we don't get to the families, then the message is lost."

Presentations were also given on the NIH Bone Marrow Center and a number of HIV/AIDS community programs. In a novel effort to present the gravity of the threat of HIV/AIDS to the Hispanic community, the heritage celebration concluded with a play, *No Le Digas a Nadia* [Don't Tell Anybody] by the Gala Theater and La Casa del Pueblo. The play tells the story of five women who have become infected with the HIV virus through different modes of transmission. It depicts the effect transmission has had on their lives and aspirations, as well as upon their children, one of whom was born HIV positive. Importantly, it concludes with emphasis on the prevention of virus transmission.

A reception in the Clinical Center lobby followed the program. ■

Actors from the Gala Theater and La Casa del Pueblo conclude the Hispanic heritage celebration with a play, No Le Digas a Nadia [Don't Tell Anybody], which tells the story of five women who have become infected with the HIV virus through different modes of transmission.

PHOTOS: BILL BRANSON

Radiation Therapy Workshop Set

A medical physics meeting titled "Workshop on Biological Effects and Outcome Analysis for 3-D Therapy," will be held Friday, Oct. 22 at Rockledge 2 (reachable by campus shuttle bus), Rm. 9100 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Jointly conducted by the American Association of Medical Physicists and the Center for Scientific Review's radiation study section, it will feature seven presentations. Cochairs are Drs. Stephen A. Sapareto and Andrzej Niemierko. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Strudler, 435-1716.

ALCOHOL FORUMS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

horrific auto accident in July, the victim of a drunk driver.

Young represents but one of many whose lives have been harshly affected by alcohol. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism wants to maximize public awareness and understanding of alcohol abuse and alcoholism through a new initiative. NIAAA, the Charles F. Kettering Foundation and an associated network of National Issues Forums (NIF) have collaborated to bring attention to the nation's alcohol-related problems—an annual \$167 billion economic burden to the United States.

Kettering, a nonprofit foundation, engages in research to understand the way civic democracy functions or fails to function. Initiated by Kettering in 1982, NIF consists of a voluntary, nonpartisan, nationwide network of citizens and their organizations. Thousands of issue forums are held annually by diverse groups such as high school and university students, law enforcement officials, community leaders, literacy volunteers and public librarians.

The object is deliberation—helping citizens learn how to take responsibility for their community, come together as a public, talk through the issues that concern them, and act together to address a specific subject. Through a neutral moderator, participants learn to weigh the advantages, disadvantages, costs and tradeoffs of basic choices about the issue at hand.

Each year, the NIF program selects three topics and develops issue books. The books jump-start deliberation by offering a framed issue. Considering the overwhelming problems involved with its use and abuse, alcohol has been chosen as an issue for 2 years. "Alcohol: Controlling the Toxic Spill," is being presented during 1999-2000.

NIAAA director Dr. Enoch Gordis noted the significance of the latest NIF series including alcohol use and the public's attitude toward alcoholism. "A thoughtful national discussion of this issue will contribute greatly to a better understanding not only of the problem of alcohol use, abuse, and alcoholism, but its direct relevance to individual health, and by extension, the well-being of our communities."

Communities and organizations involved in NIF operate their own programs and decide what issue they deliberate. In the case of Purdue, alcohol was already at the top of the university's NIF agenda. The death of Tiffany Young only solidified its commitment to the issue. And Purdue is not alone.

From South Dakota to Georgia, dozens of issue forums are focusing on alcohol. As one NIF moderator said, "Alcoholism is a major issue in our state, as it is around the country. It impacts the justice, corrections, and medical systems, human service providers as well as ordinary citizens."

Kettering President David Mathews presented a copy of the NIF issue book



The issue book Alcohol: Controlling the Toxic Spill encourages public consideration of alcohol-related problems at National Issue Forums held nationwide.

on alcohol to Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, a former member of the Kettering board of trustees.

During the NIF 1999-2000 program, organizations and communities involved in alcohol issue forums will report their participants' overall impressions, attitudes and questions to the institute. This feedback further assists NIAAA's efforts in assessment of the public consensus regarding alcohol.

NIAAA will also continue to share its biomedical and behavioral research with Kettering and the issue forums. "This is a strong avenue for our institute to provide science-based information to the public policy development process," said Gordis.

For more information about alcohol and related research, see the NIAAA Web site at www.niaaa.nih.gov; for more details on the National Issues Forums visit www.nifi.org. ■

Chamber Music Concert, Oct. 31

The Rock Creek Chamber Players will perform at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 31 in the 14th floor assembly hall at the Clinical Center. Reservations are required for this free public concert, sponsored by the recreation therapy section. The program will include Schubert's Quartet Movement in C minor; Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, Op. 21, performed by Ensemble 2100 and conducted by Joel Lazar; and Johann Strauss Jr.'s *Emperor Waltz* arranged by Schoenberg. For reservations and information call (202) 337-8710. ■

Study of Uveitis and Pregnancy

If you are in your first 6 months of pregnancy and have uveitis or a history of uveitis, consider taking part in a new study at the National Eye Institute. NEI provides eye exams, evaluation and treatment as needed at no cost to you. You will remain under your personal doctor's care while in the study. To find out if you qualify, call 1-800-411-1222. ■

NIGMS, IHS Host American Indian Training Needs Meeting

NIGMS, along with the Indian Health Service, recently brought together American Indian scientists from around the country for a 2-day meeting to discuss the research training needs of American Indians.

The participants were asked to recommend ways NIH can improve its relationship with the American Indian community and foster better working partnerships that will lead to more American Indian biomedical researchers. They discussed topics ranging from credibility with the American Indian community to the needs of new basic science investigators and students.

Tentative recommendations included encouraging



Richard Harrison, chief of NIDA's Contracts Review Branch and a member of the Osage Indian Tribe, opened the meeting with a traditional welcome, in which he expressed gratitude for the gifts and knowledge that are currently enjoyed throughout the American Indian community.

tribes to participate in research as applicant organizations; supporting and extending successful training activities of American Indian scientific societies, including programs targeting pre-college students; and enhancing the outreach activities of existing clinical and community-based research programs.

"NIH is fortunate to have had the benefit of such a large, broadly constituted delegation of representatives from the American Indian community," said Dr. Michael Martin, director of the Division of Physiological Systems at the Center for Scientific Review. "They have given us new insights and described opportunities that NIH can take immediate advantage of, as well as those that we can

Leo Nolan (r), assistant to the IHS director and a member of the St. Regis Mohawk Indian Tribe, said, "These types of collaborations with NIH are critically important to improving the health status of our American Indian and Alaskan Native communities."

Shown with him is meeting facilitator JoAnn Kauffman, a member of the Nez Perce Indian Tribe.



incorporate into our long-term planning."

The meeting, which hosted more than 30 panelists and as many as 60 observers, was described by Dr. Clifton Poodry, director of NIGMS' Division of Minority Opportunities in Research, as "the first step in a process that will foster a stronger relationship with American Indian communities. It has already begun catalyzing interactions among NIH institutes and between NIGMS and IHS that will help us address a particularly challenging area of underrepresentation," he said.—Danielle Wittenberg



Panelist Sophia Cleland, a Lakota Indian and graduate student in genetics, shared with meeting participants the programs and initiatives that have worked to encourage her to pursue a career in science. She expressed the need for more research programs that are culturally sensitive to the American Indian community.



NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (third from l) welcomed participants and stressed the importance of partnerships between NIH and the Indian Health Service. Seated with her are panelists (from l) Dr. Michael Martin, a Cherokee Indian and director of the Division of Physiological Systems, CSR; Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, a Rosebud Sioux Indian who is associate director of the Center for Native American Health and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Arizona Prevention Center; and Dr. Clifton Poodry, a Seneca Indian and director of the Division of Minority Opportunities in Research, NIGMS.

Heart Disease Study Recruits

The Heart Disease Risk Factors in African-Americans Study is investigating the relationship of obesity to heart disease risk factors in healthy, nondiabetic African American men and women who are normal weight, overweight and obese between ages 18-55. Specifically, the study is looking at risk factors for triglyceride concentration and the triglyceride-related risk factors of unhealthy cholesterol (low density lipoprotein), good cholesterol (high density lipoprotein) and body fat distribution. The study is searching for new participants. There will be a series of four outpatient visits to the Clinical Center for body fat analyses, an electrocardiogram, blood tests including cholesterol profiles, oral glucose tolerance test and intravenous glucose tolerance test.

If interested, call 402-7119 for more information. All subjects will be compensated. ■



Marianne Henderson has been named chief, Office of Division Operations and Analysis in the NCI Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics. She has worked at NIH since 1988, initially as a biologist in the NCI Laboratory of Genetics. Henderson has worked from 1995 to 1999 as lead scientific program specialist for the NCI Division of Basic Sciences. She designed and implemented the prototype Annual Research Directory for DBS. Since its publication, other divisions of NCI and institutes of NIH have used it as a template to publish their own directories. She also served as a consultant for the design of the annual reports and directory information in a searchable Web-based format for the intramural program at NCI.

Lipsky Named New NIAMS Scientific Director

By Janet Howard

Dr. Peter E. Lipsky was recently appointed new scientific director at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. He will plan and administer the NIAMS research program on translational (bench to bedside) research in arthritis, musculoskeletal and skin diseases, as well as basic research in biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, structural biology and pharmacology related to these conditions.

"Lipsky is a renowned rheumatologist and immunologist who brings a broad laboratory and clinical scientific perspective and expertise to NIH," said NIAMS director Dr. Stephen I. Katz. "We welcome him back to NIH, and look forward to his leading the NIAMS Intramural Research Program into the next millennium."

From 1971 to 1975, Lipsky was a clinical associate in the Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, NIAID. Since 1975, he has been on the faculty of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, where he has held several positions, including director of the Harold C. Simmons Arthritis Research Center and Harold C. Simmons professor of arthritis research. Additionally, he was professor of internal medicine and microbiology and served as codirector of the immunology graduate program and director of the rheumatic diseases division.

At UTSW, Lipsky was the principal investigator for a study of a biological agent that would block tumor necrosis factor, a component of the immune system that triggers the inflammatory response experienced in rheumatoid arthritis. This study of the drug infliximab (Remicade) found that 52 percent of patients had reduced signs and symptoms of the disease. "All patients in this study had advanced disease, which makes these results even more noteworthy," remarked Lipsky. In addition to studying Remicade, he has been investigating a Chinese herb known as the "Thunder God Vine" to treat rheumatoid arthritis. "We want to find out if the drug will stop the disease before it causes painful and possibly debilitating joint damage," said Lipsky. "This might be the first drug that could offer a single therapy for people with advanced rheumatoid arthritis."

"Peter is a world-renowned researcher and educator who is highly respected, not only in the area of rheumatology, but also for his contributions and

leadership in other basic and clinical sciences," said Dr. Brian Butcher, executive vice president of the Clinical Research Organization of New Orleans, Inc. "His broad understanding and excellence in science was acknowledged by his peers when he was selected as editor of the prestigious *Journal of Immunology*."

From 1992 to 1997, Lipsky was editor-in-chief of that journal. He has also served on the editorial boards for *Arthritis and Rheumatism*, the *Journal of Rheumatology*, the *Journal of Clinical Immunology*, and *Clinical Immunology and Immunopathology*. He also serves on the board of directors of the American College of Rheumatology and is past president of the Clinical Immunology Society. From 1991 to 1995, Lipsky was an advisor on the NIAMS board of scientific counselors, and from 1996 to 1999, he served on the National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases advisory council.

He has published extensively and is a member of many professional societies including the American Association of Immunologists, the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians. He is also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Lipsky received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University. He earned his M.D. from New York University School of Medicine and is board certified in internal medicine and rheumatology. ■



Dr. Peter E. Lipsky

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>.

Developing Information Technology	
Performance Measures	10/25
ISPF: Batch and Dataset Overview for WYLBUR Users	10/25
BRMUG Macintosh Users Group	10/26
Fundamentals of Unix	10/26-27
Hands-On Web Animation	10/26, 28
DWQuery: HR Workforce Demographics & Personnel Actions	10/27
NIH Biowulf-Supercluster for Scientific Apps	10/28
Y2K Awareness Day	10/28
ALW Common Desktop Environment	10/28
Remedy—Customer Service Tool	10/28
NIH Data Warehouse Budget Tracking Mini	10/28
Creating Composite Images with Photoshop	10/29
DWAnalyze: Budget & Finance	10/29
Introduction to the Helix Systems	11/1
Programming with Perl Objects	11/1, 2, 3, 8
Getting Started with C	11/1-4
Designing Effective Scientific Slides	11/2

David Rall, Long-Time Director of NIEHS, Mourned

Dr. David Platt Rall, 73, a cancer researcher who simultaneously headed both the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the National Toxicology Program, died Sept. 28 in Bordeaux, France, as the result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident 10 days earlier. He was 73 and resided in Washington, D.C.

For 19 years, before his retirement in 1990, Rall headed NIEHS, located in Research Triangle Park, N.C., and held the rank of assistant surgeon general in the Public Health Service.

Dr. Kenneth Olden, the current director of NIEHS and NTP, said, "The study of how the environment affects our health has lost a pioneer.

Dr. Rall established the credibility of our two federal environmental health organizations and set the pace. His name is synonymous with environmental health research. In our current research on human susceptibility to the environment and on alternative test methods, we are standing on his broad shoulders. I personally valued his advice and support during my tenure and will miss him very much."



Dr. David Platt Rall

More recently, Rall chaired the World Health Organization's Program on Chemical Safety, and held a variety of other positions including foreign secretary of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, board member of the Environmental Defense Fund, and a member of the board of scientific counselors of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health. He was an officer of the Collegium Ramazzini, an organization devoted to the scientific study of occupational and environmental health globally, which is establishing a scholarship fund for environmental health students from underdeveloped nations. Rall was also a board member of the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and scientific director of the Hawaii Heptachlor Study.

A native of Naperville, Ill., where his father was president of North Central College, Rall received a bachelor's degree there in 1950, followed by M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Northwestern University in 1952. He interned at New York City's Bellevue Hospital on the Cornell division before joining the National Cancer Institute in 1954.

At NCI, his early research led, among other things, to methods for preventing the spread of leukemia to

the brain. Meanwhile, he became increasingly interested in the dilemma that anti-cancer drugs—in the doses needed to be effective—tend to be highly toxic and may even predispose patients who are successfully treated for a first cancer to develop a later malignancy.

That in turn kindled his interest in using studies of laboratory animals to predict toxic effects in patients and then in systematically exploring the impact of chemicals in the environment on the health of people in various occupations and in the population at large. This made him a logical choice to head NIEHS.

Later, he became the first director of the National Toxicology Program, which was headquartered at NIEHS. According to Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, who was NIH director at the time, "The program succeeded only because David Rall agreed to head it." Fredrickson called him "a consummate public servant" for having developed "one of the world's greatest institutions for environmental science" in the face of technical difficulties and the frequent hostility of industry.

In much the same vein, Rep. David Obey (D-Wisc.) remembered the many occasions on which Rall testified before the House appropriations committee on behalf of his institute. "Dr. Rall was committed to scientific excellence," said Obey. "He was respected for that in industry as well as in the labor and environmental movements. But he was not a bloodless researcher. He never forgot that the main problem we were trying to solve was what disease did to real live human beings and real families."

In his scientific career of nearly half a century, Rall was principal or sole author of some 180 scientific papers and the recipient of many national and international honors. His work, according to Prof. Ellen Silbergeld of the University of Maryland, confirmed him as "truly the intellectual and ethical founder of modern environmental medicine. His wisdom nurtured the careers of all of us."

Rall's first wife, Edith Levy Rall, died in 1987. He is survived by his widow, Gloria Monteiro Rall, two children, Jonathan David Rall of Irvine, Calif., and Catharyn Elspeth Ertel of Siegsdorf, Germany, two grandchildren, Jennifer and Lisa Ertel, and an elder brother, Dr. Edward Rall of Kensington, Md.

Plans are being made for a memorial service. ■

Asthma Study Needs Volunteers

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. ■

New Standards for Contracting Workforce?

The Bethesda/Medical chapter of the National Contract Management Association is hosting a brown-bag lunch seminar Wednesday, Oct. 20 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Executive Plaza North, Conf. Rm. H to discuss implications for the contracting workforce if new educational standards become effective Jan. 1, 2000. Speaker is Tony Baumann, procurement policy analyst for the Office of Federal Procurement Policy specializing in issues of interest to the acquisition workforce. For more information contact Sharon Miller, 496-8611.

Symposium To Honor NIDDK's Gorden

A scientific symposium, "The Human Face of Science: A Tribute to Phillip Gorden, M.D.," will honor the NIDDK director's accomplished career at NIH on Monday, Oct. 25 from 9 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. in the Natcher Conference Center. As a diabetes researcher, clinical director in the NIDDK



Dr. Phillip Gorden

Division of Intramural Research, and, for the past 13 years, director of NIDDK, Gorden has combined a keen interest in basic research with a special commitment to applying state-of-the-art knowledge to alleviate human suffering from disease. In his 33-year career, he

mentored many young investigators who admired his astute clinician's skill, wide-ranging knowledge and practical approach to problem solving.

"Phil has been an outstanding role model for physician scientists. His main goal has always been to cure sick people, and to ease suffering when cure isn't possible. For Phil, the commitment to medical research comes from being a compassionate physician helping his patients. In addition, he has always been a loyal friend and supportive mentor to his colleagues," said Dr. Simeon Taylor, symposium organizer and chief of NIDDK's Diabetes Branch.

The symposium will highlight Gorden's many scientific contributions, which span the field of endocrinology: insulin action, receptor-mediated endocytosis, pathophysiology and epidemiology of type 2 diabetes, insulin resistance and obesity, islet cell defects in type 2 diabetes, prevention and treatment of diabetes and its complications, hormonal resistance states, and multiple endocrine neoplasia. Featured speakers include Drs. Peter Bennett (NIDDK); Jean-Louis Carpentier (University of Geneva); Jeffrey Flier (Beth-Israel Deaconess Hospital); C. Ronald Kahn (Joslin Diabetes Center); David Nathan (Massachusetts General Hospital); Jesse Roth (scientist emeritus, NIDDK); Allen Spiegel (NIDDK); Simeon Taylor (NIDDK); and Roger Unger (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center).

A reception for Gorden will take place in the Natcher Conference Center foyer after the symposium at 4:40 p.m.

To register for the symposium, call (301) 493-9674. ■

NIH Hosts 'Share the Health'

NIH will host "Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to its Neighbors" on Saturday, Nov. 6, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Natcher Conference Center.

Community members will have an opportunity to collect pamphlets on a variety of health issues, visit NIH's Web site and its links to many sources of health information, attend free seminars on nutrition, diabetes, stroke and arthritis, see computer and Web TV demonstrations, take tours of the National Library of Medicine, learn about volunteer opportunities, and hear what elected officials are doing to promote health within the community.

The event features a keynote presentation by Rep. Connie Morella (R-Md.). Bring the entire family and learn how to lead a healthier lifestyle. Call Terry LaMotte or Jessica Harrison of Palladian Partners at (301) 650-8660 for more information, or visit <http://health.info.nih.gov/forum99/>. ■

Health Benefits Fair, Nov. 4

In conjunction with the 1999 Federal Employees Health Benefits Program open season, which runs from Monday, Nov. 8 through Monday, Dec. 13, the Retirement and Benefits Service Center is sponsoring a Health Benefits Open Season Fair. The fair will be held in Bldg. 1's Wilson Hall on Thursday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives from most of the plans available to NIH'ers will be on hand to answer questions about their 2000 benefits.

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series—held (usually) on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10—gets a little frisky in coming weeks, appearing on both a Thursday and a Tuesday. The Thursday event is Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. in Masur, and features Dr. Timothy J. Mitchison, professor of cell biology and cochair, Institute of Chemistry and Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School. He will discuss "Biochemical and Small Molecule Approaches to Dissecting Mitosis."

The Tuesday talk, on Nov. 2 at 3 p.m. in Masur, is by Dr. Leland H. Hartwell, president and director, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and professor of genetics, University of Washington. He will lecture on "Studying the Fundamentals of Cancer in Yeast."

The series returns to its normal Wednesday slot on Nov. 3, when Dr. Allen Steere, professor of immunology and rheumatology, and professor of medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine, speaks on "The Elucidation of Lyme Arthritis." This is the NIH Director's Second Astute Clinician Lecture.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 594-5595. ■

Psoriasis Study Seeks Volunteers

National Cancer Institute researchers seek adults who want to try a promising new medicine as part of a research study.

If at least 10 percent of your skin is covered with psoriasis, you may qualify. There is no charge for study medication or for taking part in the 3-month study. To find out if you are eligible, call 1-800-411-1222. All calls are confidential.