

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Poor Are Poorer, Rich Are Richer

Too Soon To Call Welfare Reform A Success, Wilson Warns

By Rich McManus

When Harvard sociologist Dr. William Julius Wilson came to Masur Auditorium to give the NIH Director's Lecture on May 16, he was unsparing in his portrayal of how badly those earning the lowest wages have fared during the past quarter century. With reauthorization by Congress of the welfare reform bill that was enacted in 1996 coming up soon, he warned of pitfalls in interpreting the so-called "success" of reform. But he was not so stern that he could not joke. Challenged by an audience member to delineate what exactly the people at NIH could do to influence meaningful reform, Wilson quipped, "Action? At NIH? I thought you were a science agency."



Harvard's Dr. William Julius Wilson accepts commemorative plaque from NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein.

Drollery was in short supply, though, for most of his talk. Using data drawn from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and from his own research, Wilson painted a grim picture of the country's poorest citizens losing ground—despite an overall economic boom—while the wealthiest

SEE WILSON, PAGE 8

HIGHLIGHTS

1 Opportunity Seen Amid African AIDS Tragedy

NIH Breeds Inspired Teachers

2 Anyone Remember Westwood?



3 Grantees Are GM Cancer Laureates

9 New Way To Get Office Supplies

12 CIT Offers Summer Curriculum

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Different Culture Warrants Different Approach

Hill Lecturer Hopes 'Dilemmas' of AIDS in Africa Will Spur Renaissance

By Carla Garnett

In many crucial ways, AIDS in Africa is different than AIDS in the United States. So said Dr. Malegapuru William Makgoba, president of the Medical Research Council of South Africa, who delivered the second annual James C. Hill Memorial Lecture, "The HIV/AIDS Pandemic: An African Dilemma" on May 15. The differences, he contended, present a number of problems unique to the continent and require different approaches to prevention and treatment of the disease.

"I particularly chose the word dilemma," Makgoba began, "because it brings a sense of risk, a sense of reality, a sense of uncertainty, a sense of intrigue and a sense of excitement and challenge—all of which characterize the endeavor of scientific research."

The picture he then painted of HIV/AIDS in Africa is far worse

SEE HILL LECTURE, PAGE 6



Dr. Malegapuru William Makgoba of South Africa gives the Hill Lecture.

Life After the Lab

Ex-Postdocs Thrive on Switch to Teaching

By Rich McManus

It might be a good thing that Lipsett Amphitheater was not that crowded for a talk given May 11 by two ex-NIH postdocs who have gone on to new careers in teaching; after all, they seemed more engaged, more vitalized, a tad more riddled with life than perhaps the average young NIH scientist, especially the beleaguered postdoc caricatured in those *NIH Catalyst* cartoons drawn by Dent.

The Dent guy is hollow-eyed, doubt-ridden and despairing of his career choice. Drs. Susan Gagnon and Christine Hrycyna—the speakers at "Scientific Careers in the New Millennium—Teaching," a seminar for fellows given by the Office of Education, ORWH and the fellows committee—were the anti-Dent: enthusiastic, warm, funny and delighted with the outcome of nervy forays outside the gilded cage of NIH science careers.

While Hrycyna opted to teach at the university level—she is just

SEE TEACHERS, PAGE 4

Tae Kwon Do Beginner's Class

The NIH Tae Kwon Do Club is offering a beginner's class for adults and mature teens starting July 9. The class will meet in the Malone Center (Bldg. 31C, B4 level, next to the NIH Fitness Center) from 6 to 8 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and will continue for about 2 months until participants can be integrated into the regular club training. Dues \$40 (3 months), \$30 uniform. Interested persons are welcome to watch regular training sessions. For information call Andrew Schwartz, 402-5197 or visit the club web site at <http://www.recgov.org/r&w/nihtae/kwondo.html>.

CIT Training Program Summer Term Begins

The CIT Training Program announces the start of its summer term of computer classes for NIH employees. Many popular courses are returning and there will be a number of exciting new offerings. Look for the full class list and course registration at <http://training.cit.nih.gov/>.

Among the additions are two new Oracle classes in early July. Uben Sandin from NIGMS will teach a course titled Oracle Forms. If you are already familiar with SQL, you may benefit from Oracle SQL Plus. In this class, Djamel Medjahed of NCI will teach participants to manipulate SQL commands and perform other tasks with Oracle. These new courses are complemented by several established database courses, including Relational Database Overview and Using SQL to Retrieve DB2 and Oracle Data.

Some new Internet offerings should interest those who develop or maintain a web presence at NIH. If you need a fast and easy way to create web pages, Joy Pinkney of CSR will be offering a class on FrontPage 2000. For veteran web page developers with HTML skills who want to integrate a database with a web presence, Curt VonAnken of NCI will teach ColdFusion Fundamentals.

Web developers in the government should be particularly interested in two classes coming up that deal with implementing Section 508 regulations for making web sites accessible to persons with disabilities. Section 508 and Web Accessibility: Introduction will go over the new standards and their implications for both technical and non-technical people, while the Technical Implementation class will look at specific problems and solutions for webmasters at NIH.

Genome Analysis via the Web, taught by Dr. Peter FitzGerald, brings another new offering that can help you take full advantage of the tools available on the web in conducting your research.

Anyone involved with networking computers at NIH could benefit from Multilayered Switched Networks. This class will offer cutting edge information on how to set up, configure and maintain this type of system.

One new class that is particularly relevant for current users of the OS/390 South System is Titan Transition - What's My Keyword. In this class, Charlotte Griffin will take you through specifics of the transition with an emphasis on the use of RACF in the new system.

Finally, for end users who want to stay on the cutting edge, Microsoft will be presenting What's New in Office XP. The class will cover many of the features of this newest version of Office for Windows so that you can begin to use them immediately as they become available. Also, both end users and

desktop support people can benefit from How to Install and Configure VirusScan 4.5.1. Whether you need to install this software on many machines at NIH, or you simply want to protect your home computer, this class will offer step-by-step instructions on installation and tips for proper configuration in a variety of settings.

If you have expertise in an area you think would make an interesting training course, feel free to call CIT; the center will work to offer the support you need to make the experience a rewarding one.

As always, classes are available free of charge to NIH employees and other users of NIH computing facilities. To obtain full course information or to register for classes, visit <http://training.cit.nih.gov/>. Feel free to call CIT at 594-6248 (GOCIT) if you wish to discuss course registration, teaching a class or other training issues. ■

A year after he was named acting director of the Environmental Toxicology Program, NIEHS's Dr.



Christopher Portier (l) has been chosen to head the program on a permanent basis. "I think he's very knowledgeable and he has done a good job for us," said NIEHS director Dr. Kenneth Olden. "I think it's exciting, and I am optimistic." Meanwhile, Dr. John Pritchard

(below) will fill the newly created slot of associate director for research and will coordinate research efforts between the intramural and extramural branches and the National Toxicology Program. As ETP director, Portier is also associate director of NTP; Olden is the director. Olden said the addition of Pritchard will lighten some of the load for Portier and will allow



Pritchard to focus on overseeing and coordinating research efforts. Olden said merging the research efforts of intramural, extramural and NTP has been one of his objectives for some time. He said the result will be better science all the way around.

Awards Ceremony Welcomes All

All NIH'ers are welcome to join NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein at the 2001 NIH Director's Award Ceremony. This year's event will honor recipients of the NIH Director's Award and NIH Director's Award for Mentoring, as well as winners of the Commissioned Corps Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Outstanding Service Medal. The ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11 in the Natcher Bldg. auditorium.

NCI Develops Web Design Guidelines

In an effort to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of federal government health information on the World Wide Web, the National Cancer Institute has developed a comprehensive set of web design guidelines based on research studies in the field. The Research-Based Web Design and Usability Guidelines represent several years of intense effort by NCI to identify web design-related research and compile a practical set of guidelines. These guidelines, located on NCI's Usability.gov site (<http://usability.gov/guidelines>) will be used primarily by web masters and designers throughout government to improve online services.

"With more and more patients, researchers and the public seeking health information online, it is critical that NCI and other government web sites be highly intuitive, easy-to-use and accessible to the public," said Janice Nall, chief of NCI's Communication Technologies Branch. "If we are to realize our goal of reducing the cancer burden on the nation and building a healthier, better informed America, then the 'business as usual' approach to online health communications must change. Far too much time and money have already been spent designing, then re-designing web sites that aren't effective in helping the public access health and scientific information."

Currently, NCI maintains some 130 web sites across the institute, managed by more than 50 web masters. When factoring in all health agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services, that number rises to approximately 2,000 sites managed by over 400 web masters.

The guidelines will complement NCI's popular Usability.gov web site, which was launched earlier this year. While originally designed to help NCI staff improve the presentation of cancer-related information to cancer researchers and the public, both Usability.gov and the Research-Based Web Design and Usability Guidelines are applicable to anyone who designs and manages information web sites.

"For the first time, a comprehensive list has been compiled that bases its conclusions on available research results, not best guesses," said Dr. Susan Sieber, director of NCI's Office of Communications. "While there are various web guidelines that offer advice, that advice is often based on designers' preferences rather than solid research into what works best for users."

The guidelines—more than 50 in all—will replace the existing web design and usability guidelines that NCI published in 1999.

As more research is analyzed and becomes available, NCI plans to publish a larger set of some 400 research-based guidelines. ■



Only the bones remain of the old Westwood Bldg., occupied on a rental basis by NIH for many years, but now undergoing renovation. Retiree Asher Hyatt, who was at the old Division of Research Grants from 1967 to 1997, sent along these photos, asking, "I wonder if Dr. Kirschstein can identify her old office?" The building, on Westbard Ave. in Bethesda, has been gutted and is being converted into an apartment house.



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Grantees Win GM Cancer Awards

All five winners of the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation's three annual prizes for 2001 are NIH grantees, and all were invited to give talks at a scientific conference on "Mechanisms of Metastasis" held June 6 in Masur Auditorium. The prizes amount to \$750,000.

This year's Alfred P. Sloan, Jr. Prize—honoring the most outstanding recent basic science contribution to cancer research—was awarded to Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn of the University of California, San Francisco, for her pioneering research on cellular structures called telomeres. NIGMS has supported Blackburn's work since 1978. She is professor of biochemistry and biophysics at UCSF.

Working with a single-celled pond water creature called *Tetrahymena* in the early 1980s, Blackburn and her then-graduate student Carol Greider discovered an enzyme called "telomerase." This enzyme, they found, rebuilds the chromosomal telomeres of *Tetrahymena*, and also of animal and human cells. Telomeres, structures reminiscent of shoelace caps ("aglets") at the tips of chromosomes, are involved in a number of basic cellular processes and have intriguing associations with cellular aging and cancer. Blackburn's studies have led scientists to believe that telomerase, which is active in normal human cells for only a short time after birth, becomes reactivated in cancer cells, and promotes cancer cell growth.

Winning the Charles F. Kettering Prize, which recognizes outstanding contributions to cancer diagnosis or treatment, were Dr. David Kuhl of the University of Michigan and Dr. Michael Phelps of UCLA, who were involved in the development of positron emission tomography (PET).

Kuhl, professor of radiology, chief of the division of nuclear medicine, and director of the PET Center at the University of Michigan, was an early developer of cross-sectional scanning machines to examine patients' brains. Phelps, now Norton Simon professor and chair of the department of molecular and medical pharmacology at UCLA School of Medicine, and his colleagues developed the first PET scanner at Washington University in St. Louis more than 25 years ago.

Kuhl has had grants from NCRN and NINDS in PET scanning, and from NCI in cancer research training in nuclear medicine. Phelps has had support from NIMH and NHLBI in PET scanning studies.

Sharing the Charles S. Mott Prize, which honors the most outstanding recent contribution to discovery of the cause or ultimate prevention of human cancer, were Drs. Frank Speizer and Walter Willett, both of Harvard University. They were recognized for creating and sustaining the Nurses Health Study

and two companion studies, the data from which have generated important epidemiological findings in cancer research. They have examined the relationship between dietary fat and breast cancer and the roles of oral contraceptives and hormone replacement therapy in cancer and risk factors for colorectal cancer.

Speizer is Edward H. Kass professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, codirector of the Channing Laboratory at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and professor of environmental science at Harvard School of Public Health. He has enjoyed grant support from NCRN, NIEHS, NHLBI and NCI. Willett, who is Fredrick John Stare professor of epidemiology and nutrition, chair of the department of nutrition at HSPH and professor of medicine at HMS, has been funded by NCI, NEI, NHLBI and NIDDK.

The GM Cancer Research Foundation, established in 1978, has so far awarded more than \$11 million to 92 scientists in an effort to focus worldwide attention on cancer research. ■



NIH's participated with Department of Health and Human Services representatives in the June 2 Race for the Cure in Washington, D.C. The 5-kilometer run/walk was sponsored by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to raise funds for assistance to breast cancer patients and breast cancer researchers. Shown are (from l) Kendra "Kim" Westervelt, NHLBI; Mike Lonetto, HHS Office of the Secretary (OS); Terrell Halaska, HHS-OS; Ann Agnew, HHS-OS; Andrea Gabossy, NCI; Brett Davis, HHS-OS; Tracy Self (holding sign), HHS-OS; HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson; an unidentified racer; Houston Baker, NCI; and Amy Schraven. (Picture courtesy of Judy Baker.)

TEACHING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

finishing her first year as an assistant professor at Purdue University—Gagnon and a fellow ex-NINDS postdoc, Dr. Suzanne Dashiell, took advantage of a special partnership between NIH and the Montgomery County Public Schools to make the career switch. They are participants in an intensive program called Training Teachers for Tomorrow, which is designed to recruit potential first-class pedagogues; it bypasses the traditional route of requiring a state teaching certificate before allowing newcomers to face pupils. The rookie teachers commit to teaching for 3 years, agree to take in-service courses leading to professional certification within 2 years, pay no tuition and earn a full salary with all benefits. NIH agrees to hire back the

individuals to their labs of origin during the summer, and the county throws in extra support for the newbies, including mentors.

The program answers a growing national need, identified by the National Research Council, for science and math teachers. It began last fall and, according to NIH deputy director for intramural research Dr.

Michael Gottesman, is attracting more and more NIH postdocs. "About a half dozen (current NIH postdocs) are interested in the program, and we've taken them on tours," confirms Sandra Shmookler, an official with Montgomery County Public Schools. Those expressing interest in the program can get time off from work to visit county schools where they are welcome to shadow teachers, visit classrooms and see if the teaching life suits them.

Gagnon, who teaches science at Montgomery Blair High School, has a personality that makes the switch seem appropriate; she regaled the Lipsett audience with such tales as scrapping a lesson plan on Bohr's Law in favor of discussing menstrual cramps, breaking up the occasional fight, owning up to who does her eyebrows, and dealing with students who are homeless.

"Some of the kids who go to Blair are extremely underprivileged," she recounted. "We take so much for granted in the largely affluent atmosphere at NIH."

Although she admits that teaching is "sometimes

like babysitting" with classroom deportment "verging on anarchy occasionally," she insists, "There are a lot more positives than negatives—I wouldn't be (teaching) if there weren't. Teaching is challenging on many levels; had I stayed in research, I would never have grown in this way...I am very busy, and haven't missed research for a second. You can put 24 hours a day into this if you want to."

Teaching can be "damned funny," she added. "The kids are into all of this posturing and being tough, but it's really very funny. I feel like I'm making a difference in their lives; there's so much crap that they're dealing with all the time."

Her first semester was rough, she concedes, and she almost didn't go back. "I changed my expectations, and got to know the kids. That connection is what is essential. Now things are going very well. It's actually fun—it's good."

Gagnon came to NIH in July 1998 and spent 2 years in the molecular immunology section of NINDS' Neuroimmunology Branch. "I loved it at NIH," she says. "I just knew that I would not stay in research forever, for several reasons. For one thing, it's pretty tough to find a job and once you do you spend most of your time stressing out and writing grants. I have no desire to do that. Also, I think my personality is better suited to teaching...Science is great, but there is a whole other world out there that I know nothing about, and that's equally—if not more—interesting to me right now."

She found out about the county-NIH partnership via email from a colleague, who alerted her to a meeting about Training Teachers for Tomorrow (TTT) on campus. "I went to the meeting, it sounded like a great opportunity, so I applied."

Gagnon intends to teach for at least a few more years, but is leaving the door to the long-term open. Though she is back in her old lab for the summer, she doesn't rule out the possibility of another career switch. "If I am presented with another education-related position, I may look into it."

Dr. Suzanne Dashiell, whose doctorate is in medical pathology, left NINDS' Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology after 2 years (though she is still a special volunteer here and will work in her old lab this summer) to become a science teacher. She's now at Forest Oak Middle School in Gaithersburg, where she teaches five periods daily to eighth graders.

"Since I am a people person, I was not completely happy being in a lab all day and not interacting with a lot of people," she said. "Although I really enjoy the lab bench, I felt like I needed a career where I could express my humorous and youthful personality. More importantly," she continued, "I wanted a job where I would feel like I was making a difference in people's lives on a daily basis. Research can be



Former NIH postdocs Dr. Susan Gagnon (l) and Dr. Christine Hrycyna spoke about their new careers recently in Lipsett Amphitheater.

rewarding, but the rewards are delayed...Teaching kids is perfect if you want to make an immediate difference...Nothing gives me greater joy than a student who appreciates what I do."

Like Gagnon, Dashiell sees her share of knuckleheadedness, and warns that ill-prepared teachers can be "eaten alive." The two women have high expectations of their students, though, which tends to lift ambitions in the classroom. "I found if you respect and be kind to the kids, they will be respectful and kind back to you," Dashiell said.

She learned about the TTT program from the county's advertisements, Dashiell said, and from television stories about it.

Both Dashiell and Gagnon say their career changes provoked mixed reactions from family and peers. "The people in my lab reacted well compared to my parents," laughed Gagnon. Said Dashiell, "Many people were shocked because I invested so much time and effort in getting a Ph.D. and then switched to a career where a Ph.D. is not needed. Some were disappointed because being a scientist at NIH was impressive and highly revered, and to go to a profession that has somewhat lost its respectability and appeal was a bitter pill for some of my family and friends to swallow." But peers had always told her she'd make a good teacher, and Dashiell listened. She says she remains committed to teaching, "but it is possible I will pursue other options like teaching different grade levels."

Going the older-kid route was Dr. Christine Hrycyna, who left NCI a year ago after 6 years of research in the Laboratory of Cell Biology headed by her advisor Dr. Michael Gottesman. A biochemist by training, she spent a year methodically choosing a new career as an educator, finally landing at Purdue's department of chemistry. Now responsible for virtually everything about her new lab, she says, "It's like running a small business. You have to be a jack of all trades...It's not like anything I could have expected—I thought I'd have more time to do experiments myself. But the other duties are also fun."

She has the usual round of committee responsibilities, office hours to maintain, grants to write, grad students to recruit, train and mentor, and lab equipment to buy (the federal surplus program has outfitted her with some excellent ex-NIH equipment, she noted) but finds life in West Lafayette, Ind., refreshing with its affordable housing, comfortable university-town culture and world-class sushi: "There's a Subaru and Isuzu plant in town, and a local Japanese restaurant flies in fresh sushi daily."

Hrycyna says teaching undergraduates "is incredibly rewarding. It's hard to express how much I enjoy it. They want to be engaged, and to have their interest sparked."

Shmookler of MCPS cherishes the close relation-

ship the schools have established with NIH: "We love NIH," she said. "We're delighted with this partnership. We always want the best and brightest minds in our classrooms—after all, they whet the appetites of the next generation of science students, too."

She is willing to do most anything to satisfy the curiosity of a would-be teacher. "We can let interested people do some substitute teaching, or spend a week in the classroom to see what it's like. We try to make it as easy as possible...Teaching is hard. Most of the kids are wonderful, but it can be a challenge. We want people to see how it really is (before they make the switch)."

To learn more about the TTT program in Montgomery County, call Mary Grace Snyder at (301) 972-5792. Postdocs interested in testing the waters with a visit to county schools should contact Gloria Seelman (who has more than 30 years of classroom experience, and used to run the magnet program at Blair, Shmookler said) in the Office of Education, 402-2469. ■

NIDDK's Rice Wins Drug Research Award

Dr. Kenner Rice, chief of NIDDK's Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, received the 2001 Nathan B. Eddy Award, a major international prize for drug dependence research. The award, which includes a medal and \$10,000, was presented to Rice in Scottsdale, Ariz., in June at the annual meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD).



Dr. Kenner Rice

The award memorializes Dr. Nathan B. Eddy, a pioneer in the drug dependence field and a former section chief in the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, NIDDK's first incarnation. Eddy coordinated the early research on analgesics for the Public Health Service beginning in the 1930s. The lab Rice leads is the contemporary successor to Eddy's section.

Since coming to NIH in 1972, Rice has primarily conducted research in medicinal chemistry. He has focused on learning how neurotransmitters work in the central nervous system. From that basic understanding, he and his lab developed substances aimed at preventing and treating drug abuse.

Rice's career has been productive. So far, he has written or coauthored more than 475 papers and 33 issued patents. He has created probes to explore how opioids, cocaine, cannabinoids and phenylcyclidine (PCP)-like molecules act on their receptors. He has also mapped the location of cannabinoid receptors, shown that there are biochemical differences in the receptors of animals addicted to either morphine or heroin, and developed a drug that may eventually stop addicts from using cocaine. His invention of the NIH Opiate Total Synthesis has made it possible to make synthetic opiates on a large scale.

The Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award is administered by CPDD, a nonprofit membership organization that is also a World Health Organization Collaborating Center for research and training in the field of drug dependence. ■

HILL LECTURE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

than even the direst predictions of a few years ago, when it was confirmed that sub-Saharan Africa had more cases of HIV than any other region in the world. Life expectancy—which had risen to the 70s from the mid 40s of earlier decades—has plummeted again in nations such as Botswana and Zimbabwe, Makgoba reported. South Africa, where Makgoba hails from, currently has one of the fastest growing HIV epidemics, according to the World Health Organization. That country alone is home to an estimated 4.7 million to 5.3 million people who are HIV positive, with 1,700 to 2,000 more people becoming infected every day. Every year, Makgoba said, about 60,000 HIV positive babies are born.

“Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, is engulfed by the HIV/AIDS epidemic,” he declared. “Almost all the socioeconomic improvements of post-independent Africa are being reversed if not wiped out by this epidemic.”

Disease Differences

Complicating Africa’s (and the rest of the world’s) response to the “explosive” nature of the epidemic’s spread, Makgoba pointed out, is that the disease looks a lot different in Africa than it does in the U.S. and other developed nations. That’s why approaches to AIDS that have worked in “northern” regions may not be as effective in sub-Saharan nations. He asked the audience to consider several unique features of HIV/AIDS in Africa:

Unlike in this country, where HIV-positive men for a long time outnumbered HIV-positive women (although infection rates now are growing faster among U.S. women

than men) during the epidemic’s early period, women in Africa are infected more than men there; specifically, younger women (including teenagers and other women of early childbearing ages) and older men are affected more.

While Americans battled the various social stigmas (“it’s a ‘gay’ problem” or “only IV drug abusers can get it”) that accompanied HIV/AIDS here in the early years of the epidemic, Africans are struggling with their own social mores and expectations, according to Makgoba. Although the first cases of the disease were among homosexual men, the epidemic in Africa has primarily affected the heterosexual population. About 74 percent of 219

NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci opened the lecture with a brief remembrance of his friend, the late Dr. James C. Hill, who served as NIAID deputy director from 1987 to 1995. This year marks the second year for the lecture given in Hill’s memory.



African women ages 16 to 44 who were surveyed said they depend on their partners for financial support; half of them do not believe they have the right to ask their partners to wear a condom during sex; and about 25 percent of them fear violent reprisal from their partners if they refuse to have sex. The prevalence of rape in Africa is three times the U.S. rate: 240 rapes per 100,000 in Africa versus 80 per 100,000 here.

In South Africa, approximately 35 percent of HIV-positive mothers who are breastfeeding will pass the virus to their newborn infants. “Those children who manage to avoid infection face the prospect of being orphaned,” Makgoba said. In the U.S., perinatal transmission has been virtually eliminated with the use of AZT and other therapies.

Threat to the Future

In Africa, the mortality pattern from AIDS is shifted more toward young people, he noted. That has forced African society to face what is potentially its most devastating dilemma.

“Today, the plague only exists in the subconsciousness of the descendants of Europeans,” Makgoba asserted, “while it boggles the consciousness of every African parent and child. The new African leadership has to stare and be witness daily to the deaths of young, gifted Africans. The youth of any nation is its future. The dilemma here is investing in education in the midst of great human losses.”

Also, in Africa, the spread of the disease is intimately linked with the continent’s burgeoning economic success and the opening of some African countries’ borders to commerce. Migration and the migrant labor system are keys to transmission as is the epidemic’s association with major transport routes (56 percent of truck drivers reportedly are HIV positive). In addition the epidemic grew far faster than the region’s initial response, Makgoba

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON



A former visiting scientist with NCI in the late 1980s, Makgoba is welcomed back to NIH by Fauci.

said, due in part to delayed reaction by the political leadership in many African nations.

"National denial seems to be entrenched in African society," he lamented.

When compared to America, Africa also has different patterns of transmission, higher rates of infection, the presence of different opportunistic infections and higher frequency of sexually transmitted infections that facilitate transmission.

A Role for NIH

Still, Makgoba stressed, "these different factors are no license for quackery, discredited, pernicious and dissident ideas, unethical practices or unscientific experimentation." While the HIV/AIDS pandemic could be considered only a cruel setback to a continent that has consistently improved its socioeconomic conditions over the past 30 years, he said the health crisis should also be viewed as an opportunity.

"The future of science lies in three areas—ethics, communication and attending to societal concerns," he predicted. "Will the HIV/AIDS epidemic define the African Renaissance in terms of innovations, morality and ethics? I believe Africa and its science will contribute to the knowledge base."

In that area, Makgoba said the U.S.—and the National Institutes of Health, in particular—can offer invaluable assistance to Africa by continuing to open its medical research enterprise to foreign investigators for the purpose of learning and sharing.

"You have an important role in mentoring," said Makgoba, an internationally recognized molecular immunologist who himself was an NIH visiting scientist from 1986 to 1988 in the National Cancer Institute. "One of the things you learn when you come to NIH is the integrity and excellence of science. There are not many other places you can learn those."

Let Africa Be Africa

He also cautioned would-be helpers who want to impose other nations' standards of ethics and research on Africa.

"You want to respect the partner with whom you are engaging in research," he noted, discussing the current ethical debates about providing to Africa treatment options that have not passed U.S. efficacy or safety tests, and about obtaining informed consent from potential participants in U.S. clinical trials that could take place in Africa. "Empowering a patient empowers the investigator."

Despite the sobering snapshot of HIV/AIDS in Africa and the forecast of the all-uphill battle ahead, Makgoba was able throughout his lecture to point to several ways that scientists and nonscientists can work together against the pandemic—the most important way being to keep information flowing.

"The need for science to be understood by the public, the need for scientists to communicate better, the need for the public to make choices about what science has to offer in their daily life, the need for the public to participate and shape the scientific process, the need for science to integrate the wealth of information have never been greater than today," he concluded. ■

HIV/AIDS in Mothers, Children Is Focus of Botswana Conference

A 4-day consultation to discuss HIV/AIDS research needs and opportunities was held recently in Botswana, Africa. More than 150 participants, including biomedical and social science researchers, health care providers, representatives of faith-based organizations and research funding agencies, and people living with HIV/AIDS gathered for the meeting, which was cochaired by NIH acting deputy director Dr. Yvonne Maddox and Dr. Ruth Nduati, a consultant pediatrician at the Kenyatta National Hospital, University of Nairobi.

The need for culturally appropriate education campaigns about prevention and treatment of the disease was among several key issues raised for future exploration. Also discussed was the need to ensure the safety and efficacy of anti-retroviral therapies, which are becoming more available in sub-Saharan Africa, and the fact that treatments and diagnostics considered "optimal" in the United States and other parts of the world may not be considered optimal in African conditions or among African citizens. In all, 28 plenary sessions and two scientific panels were convened.

"I expect this collaborative effort marks the beginning of many fruitful initiatives between the DHHS agencies and our African partners," said Maddox.

The conference was sponsored by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development with support and participation from the Fogarty International Center, the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also participated. NICHD has agreed to take a leadership role in the collaborative effort with African investigators and other interested organizations to help meet the research needs in Africa that were identified during the consultation.



In Botswana, Africa, for a 4-day consultation were (from l) Dr. Kenneth Bridbord, director of FIC's Division of International Training and Research; NIH acting deputy director Dr. Yvonne Maddox; and Dr. Jeanne McDermott, program director for AIDS, population, maternal and child health, FIC.



Dr. Patricia R. Robuck recently joined the NIDDK Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition as director of the Clinical Trials Program. There, she will be responsible for managing and coordinating clinical trials in digestive diseases and nutrition, including studies of chronic hepatitis C, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, esophageal varices, pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel disease, and irritable bowel syndrome. She will also serve on a trans-NIDDK work group designed to identify issues and policies within NIDDK's clinical trials program that would benefit from standardization. Robuck comes from FDA, where she directed the Clinical Research Grant Program from 1997 to 2001. In this position, she had responsibility for the clinical research grant program aimed at the development of products for rare diseases and disorders.

WILSON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

quintile of the population gets even richer.

At the outset, he declared his case against "faulty assumptions" made by those who think the 1996 reform was unerringly beneficial; he decried a tendency "to ignore competing explanations of why the welfare rolls have plummeted since reform." He sees his role as "using empirical evidence to examine assumptions about welfare reform...I hold to the view that we cannot make wise policy decisions without adequate information." That loosened the spigot.

Unlike most people surveyed in 12 European countries, Americans have negative feelings about impoverished people, he related. Whereas in Europe, poverty is infrequently attributed to personal shortcomings (structural problems such as a bad economy, social injustice or plain bad luck are more often blamed), more than 9 out of 10 Americans think lack of effort is somewhat or very important as a cause of poverty. "In the U.S., there is widespread support for the notion that most welfare recipients don't value hard work," Wilson stated. "Americans are especially critical of welfare recipients. There is a popular sentiment that these people are not pulling their weight."

Two themes characterize the "welfare ethos" in this country, he argued: While we concede that government has an obligation to help its neediest citizens, we tend to require that recipients must, first, behave in socially approved ways, and second, must prepare for work and accept jobs when offered. In other words, they are not free—like you and I are—to turn down work they might find distasteful.

"In the United States, it is the moral fabric of the individual that is seen as the core and root of the problem, and this idea resonates with the general public," Wilson said.

He described the period from the early 1970's through the mid-1990's as one of rising inequality, which contrasts sharply with the years following World War II, when "a rising tide did indeed lift all boats."

From 1947 to 1973, the lowest quintile of wage-earners experienced the highest average income growth, he reported. But that pattern changed in the early 1970's, when growth slowed. After this point, the higher quintiles grew continually, with the top 5 percent exceeding gains made during the previous period. However, the two lowest quintiles experienced annual stagnation or declines in income. During 1974-1996, real wages of those at the top climbed while the lowest-paid workers saw steady declines.

"AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) recipients were far worse off in 1995 than 1975," Wilson reported; there was a 37 percent drop in benefits during this period. AFDC and food stamp benefits declined an average of 26 percent during

1972-1992. "The erosion of AFDC benefits became a landslide after 1991," he continued. "Nine states cut benefits one or more times during that period."

Using the Department of Housing and Urban Development's standards for "decent, safe, sanitary housing of a modest nature" as a benchmark, Wilson said an AFDC-recipient family of three could not afford even such meager accommodations by the early nineties.

Peering into AFDC recipients' lives, he found that only a minority of them were black in 1995, and that they constitute "a very dynamic population, subject to frequent change." For example, three-quarters of those on AFDC rolls depart within 2 years, he found. "Permanent receipt of welfare is seen as anathema by many recipients." Only 15 percent of welfare recipients remain on welfare for 5 years or more. But welfare is more economically beneficial than keeping a job at the lowest end of the wage spectrum, he discovered, for many reasons including the cost of a work wardrobe, obtaining child care, commuting long distances to jobs, etc.

Yet work provides more than income; it also offers an "anchor in time and space" for people, a place to report to, a structure to which to belong. "In its absence, life is less coherent," he observed.

Wilson says that when President Clinton first introduced his proposal for welfare reform in 1993, Clinton argued that welfare reform "should not be undertaken in isolation, but joined with universal health insurance, job-creation efforts that pay decent wages, and programs that attend to child care and support issues."

Wilson called the Republican-crafted 1996 reform "the greatest shift in social policy concerning the poor since the Social Security Act of 1935" but admitted that dire predictions for its impact on the welfare poor have not materialized. "Caseloads have dropped from 12 million in August 1996 to 6 million now," he reported, and state budget surpluses have benefited child poverty in dozens of other ways. "But it is sensible to ask whether this success is related to the incredible economic boom in this country during which we have experienced strong growth, a decline in unemployment (long-term unemployment dropped from 2 million in January 1993 to 640,000 in 2001, and black unemployment, at 7 percent, is the lowest since BLS began keeping such statistics in 1972) and a rise in the minimum wage," Wilson said. "Now there are signs that the economy is slowing down, and this is unfortunate...if the good times could last just a few more years, there would be a significant positive impact."

Some groups, he said, are worse off since 1996; the bottom 20 percent of female-headed households has realized a decrease in disposable income. The number of children in poverty declined "only slightly" in the late nineties.

In a three-city study funded in part by NICHD, Wilson and colleagues have found there are "a significant number of women who have not fared well after leaving welfare, even in a booming economy...What will happen to these women when the economy turns down?"

Wilson says it's premature to declare welfare reform a successful experiment, and that "we must wait until the economy returns to normal or suffers stagnation" to get a reliable report card. Meanwhile, the media are ignoring a significant correlation his team has found: in the poorest neighborhoods, the children are constantly sick, largely due to unsanitary environments, poor access to health care, poor diets and other causes. Further, inadequate child care is the biggest stress on poor working women. "They have to worry about getting to work on time, or at all, versus caring for their sick children...Many employers are quick to attribute moms' tardiness or absence at work to lack of a work ethic."

He concluded, "It's important to realize that welfare reform has only been in place for a short period of time, and in a period of unprecedented economic good times. There's been lots of information on the good news of reform, but now it's time to increase the awareness of Americans to the bad news, especially if the economy does indeed turn sour."

During the question period, Wilson emphasized the powerful social and cultural effects of the environment in poverty, a topic that intrigues him. He also has recently published a new book, one that actually offers solutions rather than analysis, he joked; it's called *The Bridge Over the Racial Divide*, and "it aims to generate a sense of interdependence in addressing the concerns of ordinary families." Wilson also explained the rise in incarceration at the same time crime rates are dropping as evidence of national mean-spiritedness, and said he "doesn't expect major, significant changes" when welfare laws are reauthorized. "But I'm a perennial optimist." He wants some assurance that "every single leaver of welfare" is fully informed about access to other forms of government assistance outside of welfare when he or she officially leaves the rolls. ■

Nonsmoking Volunteers Needed

Are you a female nonsmoker, 18 to 35 years old, in good health and not on birth control pills? You may be eligible to participate in a study of commonly prescribed medications. The study involves multiple visits to the Uniformed Services University (next to the Naval Medical Center, across the pike from NIH) over a 3-month period. Earn up to \$880 and get a free medical exam. Call (301) 319-8204 for more information and a preliminary telephone screening. ■

Office Supply Delivery Offered

The Office of Logistics Acquisition Operations (OLAO) has contracted with the Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM) to provide NIH with online purchasing and next-day delivery of office supplies. The website, www.supereaglesupply.com is slated to come online in late August. Be on the lookout for more information about this important development.

NIH customers can look forward to a greatly expanded inventory of products to choose from as well as next-day delivery of office supplies right to their desks. Many have commented on recent changes in the self-service stores, especially the streamlining of selection of office supplies at on-campus stores. OLAO, which runs the Self-Service Stores, has introduced many of these changes in an effort to expand and better serve the needs of the research and scientific community.

While OLAO focuses greater attention on its services to the sciences at NIH, BISM will step in to cover the agency's office-supply needs. Making your online,

faxed or phone-ordered purchases through BISM will ensure that your office is in compliance with federal regulations regarding government purchases and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act. Stay tuned for more detailed information coming in mid-August. ■



On hand at the signing ceremony for the new office-supply purchasing contract are (seated) Tina Tiffany, Office of Logistics Acquisition Operations contracting officer, and Fred Puente, president, Blind Industries and Services of Maryland. Looking on are (from l) Paul Becker, director of sales, BISM; David Ramos, acting deputy director for administration and acting director, OLAO; Ed Wilgus, acting director, Division of Station Support Acquisition; and Ricardo Gomez, OLAO program analyst.

FAES Announces Concert Schedule

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences has announced the performers and dates in the 2001-2002 season of its Chamber Music Series. The concerts are Sundays at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. For ticket information call 496-7976 or visit www.faes.org.

Oct. 14	Louis Lortie, piano
Nov. 4	Mendelssohn Quartet
Nov. 18	Royal Irish Academy of Music Strings with John O'Connor, piano
Dec. 16	Richard Goode, piano
Jan. 13, 2002	Randall Scarlata, baritone with Cameron Stowe, piano
Jan. 27	Takacs Quartet
Feb. 10	Brazilian Guitar Quartet
Mar. 10	Altenberg Trio
Mar. 24	Richard Stoltzman, clarinet and John Peter Stoltzman, piano
Apr. 7	Emmanuel Pahud, flute and friends

CSR's Jakubczak Retires After 36 Years of Federal Service

By Don Luckett

"From peasant to Ph.D." Dr. Leonard Jakubczak marvels at the life, which began in a community of Polish immigrants in Buffalo, N.Y. His parents didn't have a lot of money, but they had a lot of determination. "You're going to college," they said, and his fate was sealed.

He has many memories to recall, now that he has retired from the Center for Scientific Review after 36 years of government service. At CSR, he was scientific review administrator of the visual sciences B study section.

"I'm retiring for health reasons," he explains with surprising spunk. "I'm healthy, and I want to enjoy the rest of my life!" It's not that he hasn't enjoyed his career. He is just embracing the next stage of life as he has all the others. Jakubczak enters this stage with some insight, since he conducted and coordinated research on the psychophysiology of aging for many years.

His interest in psychology was developed at St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, where he received his bachelor's degree before earning his master's in psychology from the University of Toronto. Ironically, it was his interest in a young woman that helped focus his career on gerontology. While in St. Louis visiting the girlfriend who later became his wife, he learned that Washington University had just received funding from the National Institute of Mental Health to launch the first graduate program on the psychology of aging. Jakubczak seized the opportunity to join the pioneers in this new field of research. He studied the effects of aging and hormones on behavior and received his Ph.D. there in 1962.

He then accepted a Public Health Service post-doctoral fellowship and worked in the section on aging within the Laboratory of Psychology at the National Institute of Mental Health. After studying thermal regulation and aging for 3 years, he moved to the Jefferson Barracks Veterans Administration Hospital in St. Louis, where he headed the Gerontological Psychology Research Laboratory and directed research on the influence of aging on the regulation of food intake and activity levels. During his 13 years there, he also was a lecturer and research associate in gerontology in Washington University's department of psychology. He eventually became an adjunct professor of psychology there. He held similar appointments at the University of Missouri in St. Louis.

His career came to a crossroads in 1978 as he contemplated the next stage in his life. After a productive period of conducting his own research, he became interested in research administration where he could nurture the research efforts of others. Jakubczak jumped at the opportunity to

enter the year-long NIH Grants Associate Program. He spent the next 10 years at the National Institute on Aging, where he oversaw portfolios of extramural grants for the Cognitive and Biopsychology of Aging Program and later for the Neuropsychology of Aging Program. To broaden his administrative



Dr. Leonard Jakubczak

skills and further apply his expertise in neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, Jakubczak took charge of CSR's visual sciences B study section in 1989. This group reviews grant applications related to the visual central nervous system.

In addition to helping scientists advance their research, Jakubczak will be remembered by many NIH'ers as the one who helped them in Toastmasters when he served as president of the NIH club and later as the area governor and district lieutenant governor of the organization. He recently explained how he was drawn to the next stage in life: integration. He has developed an interest in genealogy and wants to continue exploring the many branches of his family tree. In retirement, he plans to study Russian so he can conduct further research for writing a partial history of his family. Otherwise, he will not make a retirement task list. He notes that "being is more important than doing" in this stage of life, and he cannot wait to be more free from what psychoanalyst Karen Horney calls the "tyranny of the shoulds." From his study of aging, however, he knows the challenges and risks ahead. Still, he looks forward to being "more of a freelancer in life and giving this new stage a try." It's hard to imagine a better way to go. ■

Stress Hormones, Depression Studies

The Clinical Neuroendocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking people with current or past depression, as well as matched normal controls, to participate in an evaluation study at the Clinical Center. Participants should be 18 to 65 years old; medically healthy; nonsmokers within the past year; and able to participate in studies involving at least one night's stay at the Clinical Center. Eligible volunteers will receive a physical evaluation, metabolic studies and participate in studies for possible heart disease in depression. They will also be paid. For more information, call 496-5831 or 496-1892 voice mail #1 for Dr. June Cai. ■

Female Volunteers Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch, NIMH, is seeking female volunteers ages 18-55 to participate in studies of the effects of menstrual cycle hormones on brain and behavior. 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 offered participation in one or more 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.



HRDD Class Offerings

The Human Resource Development Division supports the development of NIH human resources through consultation and provides training, career development programs and other services designed to enhance organizational performance. For more information call 496-6211 or visit <http://LearningSource.od.nih.gov>.

Creating Distinctive Customer Service	7/10-11
Scientific and Technical Editing	7/10-11
Scientific and Technical Writing	7/11-13
Emotionally Intelligent Leadership	7/12
Fellowship Payment System	7/12
Introduction to Web Page Design - HTML	7/12
NIH Retirement Seminar—CSRS	7/16-18
IMPAC II—CRISP Plus	7/16
Adobe PageMaker Production 1 (Dual Platform)	7/18
IMPAC II Peer Review Module	7/18
Adobe PageMaker Production 2 (Dual Platform)	7/19
Winning Negotiations	7/19-20
Federal Resumé Writing	7/23
The Leadership Edge	7/24
Federal Supply Schedules	7/24
Advanced Web Page Design	7/24
Consolidated Purchasing Through Contracts	7/25
Buying From Businesses on the Open Market	7/26
Intermediate MS Access 2000	7/30
Managing The Federal Employee	8/2-3
Neurolinguistics for the Modern Scientist	8/2-17



Two NIH'ers recently received recognition for volunteerism at a state awards ceremony. Maryland Lieutenent Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (c) presided over the Governor's 18th annual Volunteer and Service Awards ceremony in Baltimore. Angela M. Magliozzi (l), women's health program manager in NIAID, received a certificate for her role as chair of the 2001 Montgomery County Women's Fair committee, and Genia H. Bohrer, senior management analyst, ORS, received a certificate for her role as team leader for the fair's program of the day. Both women are active members of the Bethesda chapter of Federally Employed Women. The governor's office on service and volunteerism gave this year's awards during the International Year of Volunteers 2001, so designated by the United Nations, to begin the new millennium by celebrating the contributions of volunteers around the world.

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>.

Fundamentals of Cold Fusion	6/28
Creating Presentations with PowerPoint	6/28
Advanced Presentations with PowerPoint 2000	6/29
Creating Presentations with PowerPoint	7/3
Introduction to HTML	7/5
Data Warehouse Query: Budget & Finance	7/9
Relational Database Overview	7/10
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	7/10
Genetics Computer Group (GCG) Sequence Analysis	7/10-12
Oracle Forms	7/11
Basic Security for Unix Workstations	7/11
Producing Graphs with SAS	7/11-12
Titan Transition - What's My Keyword	7/12
Introduction to the Helix Systems	7/12
Data Warehouse Query: Human Resources	7/13
Creating Presentations with PowerPoint	7/13
Section 508 Compliance for Procurement Personnel	7/17
Section 508 and Web Accessibility: Introduction	7/17
Section 508 and Web Accessibility: Technical Implementation	7/17
Introduction to HTML	7/17
Data Warehouse Query: Human Resources Fellowship Payment System	7/18
Oracle SQL Plus	7/18
Section 508 Compliance for Procurement Personnel	7/18
An Introduction to TCP/IP	7/18
Macintosh Tips and Techniques	7/18
XML	7/19
Advanced Presentations with PowerPoint 2000	7/19
Budget Tracking	7/19
Introduction to Networks	7/20
NIH Enterprise Directory (NED): Admin. Officer and Technician Training	7/20
Introduction to HTML	7/20
Data Warehouse Query: Technology Transfer	7/24
Understanding Your CIT Bill	7/24
FasTrac Overview	7/24
BRMUG - Macintosh Users Group	7/24
Using Secure Email in the Exchange Messaging Environment	7/25

Alumni Endorse New Parking Garage

The NIH Alumni Association's board of directors recently forwarded to NIH leadership a resolution endorsing construction of a new parking garage on the campus' northwest quadrant. The resolution points out that such a garage is in the President's budget request for NIH for the year 2002, and urges that it be built to satisfy employees, alumni and neighbors, all of whom endorse the facility. The document asks NIH to make the garage "one of its highest priorities for the year 2002." ■

Workshops for Women in Science

HRDD announces a new series of workshops specifically designed for women in science. Many women scientists at NIH have identified skills development in negotiating, networking and mentoring as being critical to their success. The workshops will help women develop skills that could lead to increased visibility and career opportunities. The first workshop, Negotiating Workshop for Women in Science, will be piloted in July with women scientists from NCI. Dr. Julie White, an internationally prominent speaker, seminar leader, consultant and author, will be the workshop leader. If you are interested in bringing these or similar workshops to your IC, contact Vickie Baldwin at 496-6211.