

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Pilot IDeA Program Announced

ACD Hears Plan to Broaden Distribution of NIH Grants

By Carla Garnett

Although NIH funds medical research or research training in every state in the union, nearly half (23 states plus Puerto Rico) are not participating in research as fully as NIH would like. To help these regions increase their capacity for medical research, NIH will launch a pilot Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program to begin this fall, according to NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, who broached the topic in her report at the 82nd meeting of the advisory committee to the NIH director (ACD) on June 7.

"We have designed a new program of planning and feasibility grants that will be awarded to consortia of institutions of higher education from these states," Kirschstein said, describing the Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN), a subcomponent of the IDeA program that has been developed to enhance the capacity of institutions located in states that have not fully participated in medical research, and that are eligible for participation in IDeA.

Providing Seed Money

IDeA is not new, Kirschstein explained. The program was established in 1993 by the National Center for Research Resources to help regions compete better for NIH funding. In fact, the president's budget request for NIH in fiscal year 2002 includes a total of \$135 million for the IDeA program, which is an increase of \$35 million over FY 2001. The increase will bring NIH's support to a total of \$75 million for BRIN, which will provide \$2 million a year for 3 years to

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June Dedications Honor Lawmakers

By Rich McManus

Bldg. 1 Plaza Dedicated to 'Mr. Health'

At the direction of Congress, NIH on June 12 dedicated a newly decorated plaza in front of Bldg. 1 in honor of former Rep. Paul G. Rogers, who represented Florida in the House of Representatives for 24 years before retiring in 1979 as chair of the House subcommittee on health and the environment. The only outdoor honor for a lawmaker on a campus studded with buildings named for politicians, the plaza was embraced by the honoree himself as conjoining longtime interests in health and the environment; Rogers is as well remembered for legislation mandating clean air and safe drinking water as he is for backing the National Cancer Act, Heart, Lung and Blood Act, the Health Manpower Training Act, and a host of

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Former Rep. Paul G. Rogers—"Mr. Health"—sits atop main feature of new plaza in his honor.

Stokes Honored by Lab Building Dedication

The Louis Stokes Laboratories Bldg. was dedicated in honor of its namesake June 14 on a sunny plaza just outside the 6-story award-winning facility, which will play host to scientists from nine institutes. The building honors a man who rose from humble origins in



Former Rep. Louis Stokes admires freshly minted plaque in his honor.

public housing to a 30-year (1968-1998) career representing Ohio in Congress, during which he championed biomedical research that improved the lives of all Americans, particularly minorities.

"Three years ago, I was absolutely surprised and stunned when Rep. John Porter (chair of the House appropriations committee with NIH oversight, on which Stokes served) told me that the Louis Stokes Laboratories would be established on this campus," said Stokes. "I had no idea what it would be like having a

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Asian Heritage Programs Combine Cuisine, Performing Arts

PHOTOS: BILL AND ERNIE BRANSON



Janet Nguyen (l) and Ihsia Hu demonstrate the art of calligraphy.



Customers pore over selections from the Korean Corner restaurant. Dishes from a variety of Asian traditions were available to a large lunch-hour crowd.

Indian dancer crouches during dance.



Employees of Bethesda's Tako Grill serve Japanese food at the lunch-hour event on May 11.



Filipino dancers gesture toward the audience.



Performing a traditional Japanese tea ceremony are members of Urasenke Tradition of Tea, Washington Branch. Proceeds from the luncheon were donated to the Children's Inn at NIH.



A Chinese dancer (above) performs with veils during the Asian Heritage evening program. At left, a member of the Cambodian dance troupe strikes a dramatic pose.



In the Filipino dance segment, a swordsman comes to the aid of a princess.



A Balinese dancer in traditional headdress balances a cup.

Healthy Children, Teens Needed

The National Institute of Mental Health is seeking healthy children, ages 6-17, to participate in a mood and emotion study. Your child may not be eligible if he/she has medical or psychiatric problems, takes prescribed medications, or has any first-degree relatives with psychiatric problems.

Participation involves 3-day screening and evaluation, 2-day follow-up evaluation, MRI, physiological and psychological testing, and 1 month of at-home ratings. Compensation is provided. Call 496-8381.

FAES Announces Fall Courses

The FAES Graduate School at NIH announces the schedule of courses for the fall semester. The evening classes sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will be given on the NIH campus.

Courses are offered in biochemistry, biology, biotechnology (daytime courses), chemistry, imaging sciences, immunology, languages, medicine, microbiology, pharmacology, psychiatry, statistics, toxicology, administration and courses of general interest.

It is often possible to transfer credits earned to other institutions for degree work, and many courses are approved for category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award.

Classes will begin Sept. 24; mail registration ends Aug. 31 and walk-in registration will be held Sept. 5-11. Tuition is \$100 per credit hour, and courses may be taken for credit or audit. Courses that qualify for institute support as training should be cleared with supervisors and administrative officers as soon as possible. Both the vendor's copy of the training form and the FAES registration form must be submitted at the time of registration. Note that FAES cannot access training forms entered in the NIHTS system; a signed hard copy (vendors' copy of SF182 form) is needed in order to process registrations for classes.

Catalogs will be available in the graduate school office in Bldg. 60, Suite 230, the foundation bookstore in Bldg. 10, Rm. B1L101, and the business office in Bldg. 10, Rm. B1C18. To have a schedule sent, call 496-7976 or visit <http://www/faes.org>.

Surgeon General To Present Diggs Lecture

U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher will present the 7th annual John W. Diggs Lecture on Monday, July 23 at 11:30 a.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The topic will be "The National Strategic Plan for the Elimination of Health Disparities."

The program is sponsored by the Speakers Bureau of the NIH Black Scientists Association in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' minority scientists advisory committee and Office of Special Populations and Research Training, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, the NIH Office of Equal Opportunity, the Office of Research on Women's Health, and the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

The lecture is open to the public. NIH summer students are encouraged to attend. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For other reasonable accommodation, call Michael Chew at 402-3681, TTY 1-800-877-8339.



NIAID's Malaria Vaccine Development Unit, located on Twinbrook Parkway in Rockville, officially opened recently. It will develop, evaluate and produce malaria vaccine candidates for clinical trials. Renovation of the building includes additional office, conference and laboratory space featuring state-of-the-art equipment. Joining Dr. Anthony Fauci (r), NIAID director, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from l) Dr. Louis M. Brandt, chief of NIAID's Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, who first proposed the idea of a malaria vaccine development unit at a policy retreat in the mid-1990s; Dr. Thomas Kindt, director of NIAID's Division of Intramural Research; Dr. Margaret Liu, senior advisor in vaccinology for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; and Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, acting NIH director. The second phase of the renovation, scheduled to be completed in the fall, will house the Laboratory of Immunopathology. During the program Fauci said, "With up to a half billion people contracting malaria each year, it is clear that we need new tools to fight malaria. The development of a malaria vaccine is an urgent public health priority, one that NIH—and public and private sector organizations—are aggressively pursuing."

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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

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Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

Bioethics Group Wrestles with Stem Cell Issue

The bioethics interest group's last meeting of the spring semester on June 4 displayed in microcosm a larger debate that has lately concerned ethicists, patients, Congress and the administration: how to balance the excitement over the potential of embryonic stem cell research with held views that such research is fundamentally immoral. As in the larger impasse, well-represented in the media as the Bush administration continues to guide NIH on the issue, each side in the debate looks at the other over a seemingly unbridgeable abyss. Perhaps the only thing both sides can agree on was expressed by Dr. Gerald Keusch, director of the Fogarty International Center, who responded: "What's healthy is that the issue is being debated."

The meeting—basically just an open discussion where any attendee, and even a reporter, was welcome to hold forth—featured two guest speakers from the Christian tradition: Rector David Bird of the Episcopal Church in Georgetown, and Dr. Sister Mary Taylor, a Roman Catholic nun from Georgetown University's Center for Clinical Bioethics. There were also scientists around the table, eager to get on with a promising new avenue, as well as the father of a young girl with Parkinson's disease who gave a carefully reasoned and passioned account of his daughter's unwillingness to be the beneficiary of any therapy that might have cost an embryo its existence.

"Ethics and science are not often in agreement," observed Taylor, who noted that "ethics is what we ought to do in light of who we say we are."

In Catholicism, and in views expressed by Pope John Paul II, no potential medical benefit is worth the destruction of a human embryo, she argued. The ends cannot justify the means. Rector Bird followed her halfway to that conclusion: "It is indisputable in the traditions of Judaism and Christianity, at least I think, that God wills anything other than human healing...we cannot hide behind regulations in pursuit of that goal." But she could be "couldn't disagree more" with the pope's view that potential benefits of stem cell research must outweigh the rights of the embryo. "Episcopalians still look for a good end, even in cases of

abortion," she observed that "science, in my experience, is (morally) neutral," and that an individual's conscience must ultimately guide his or her actions. She is obliged to inform our consciences as we go along."

Dr. Shiva P. Singh resisted Taylor's reliance on moral absolutes: "Catholics believe that (moral stances) should be definitive, provisional and infrequent," to which Taylor responded with a laugh, "My tradition has

never said that."

The father of the Parkinson's patient said that his family's ethical guidepost was actually medicine's, as expressed in the Hippocratic Oath: "Do no harm." "The possibility of evil (in research that destroys human embryos) is enormous," he said. "(My daughter) does not want to be even a small part of unleashing the whirlwind...Where will it all end? That's the fear...It was a painful decision to reach, it wasn't easy. And I admire her for it."

The topic of Nazi experimentation on Jewish prisoners during World War II came up, and their victimhood was compared to that of human embryos that might be destroyed in stem cell research. The big difference between then and now, explained Keusch, is that "here there is a debate; there (in Nazi Germany) there was no option at all."

Keusch's opinion is that only public oversight of research involving human embryonic stem cells can preserve ethical standards in a field being pursued, relatively unbounded, for now in the private sector.

As the meeting wound down, Bird noted that he represents a more liberal tradition than Catholicism. Concluded Taylor, "I'm delighted that this conversation has taken place." —Rich McManus ■

APAO Receives APAnet Award

The NIH Asian and Pacific Islander American Organization (APAO) recently received the DHHS Asian Pacific American Network (APAnet) Special Award. It was presented to Lucie Chen, APAO president, at the second annual DHHS APAnet Leadership Training Conference and Awards Ceremony at the Parklawn Bldg. APAnet's mission is to advance interests and address issues of Asian Pacific Americans within the department and in the APA community. APAO was honored for its implementation of the White House Initiative for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, its support of other Asian Pacific American organizations, and sustained commitment to cultural and workforce diversity. Also winning recognition were NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, and Prahlad Mathur, APAO vice president. To find out more about APAO, visit www.recgov.org/r&cw/apao. ■

NIH Library Offers Training

The NIH Library in Bldg. 10 invites all employees to attend training classes on how to use electronic resources effectively, including how to access full text journals, order and receive articles via email, and how to set up a literature alert service. For details, call 496-1080 or go to <http://nihlibrary.nih.gov/training.htm>. ■



Dr. Shiva P. Singh recently joined NIGMS as a scientific review administrator in the Office of Scientific Review, where he will manage the review of applications to the Division of Minority Opportunities in Research, as well as other research training, program project and center grant applications. He comes from Alabama State University, where he was chair of the department of biological sciences and director of the university's biomedical and research training programs, including the NIGMS Minority Biomedical Research Support and Minority Access to Research Careers programs. His research interests focused on the immunochemical structure of the outer membrane proteins of gram-negative bacteria, the expression of HIV epitopes in Salmonella, the genomic fingerprinting of pneumococci, and infection and antimicrobial resistance in patients with spinal cord injury.

Healthy Children Needed for NIMH Study

NIMH is seeking healthy children, ages 6-17, to participate in reviewing film clips included among which will be humorous, sad and spooky clips. Your children may be eligible if they do not have a history of psychiatric problems or take any prescribed medications. Participation involves one outpatient visit and a possible second visit. Compensation is provided. Call 496-8381.

ACD MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

each region that is determined to be under-performing in NIH-funded medical research. Following the 3-year period, an evaluation will determine if the consortia's grants are eligible for a 3-year renewal.

Several ACD members raised questions about BRIN. "This is a dangerous direction potentially," cautioned Dr. Thomas Cech, president of Howard Hughes Medical Institute. "It could rock the foundation of the review process. Throwing funds on infertile ground is not going to result in anything...Maybe some of these states have pockets of excellence in certain areas that can be nurtured. I'm sure they do. The question is how do we use this money to nurture these areas of excellence."

Kirschstein reiterated that the program is a way to determine if ground in these areas is fertile for medical research or not within 3 years. If in that time, a state consortium's projects do not flourish, then the grant will not be renewed.

Emphasis on Clinical Research

Also announced during the day-long meeting was NIH's new authority to offer loan repayment to individuals who agree to pursue clinical research activities. Similar to the loan repayment program begun in 1989 to individuals studying HIV/AIDS, the loan repayment program for clinical investigators would offer about \$100,000 per year for a participant's educational debt and tax liability. The program—open to extramural scientists—would begin as a pilot for about 260 individuals and could be put in place as soon as Oct. 1.

"The reason for launching it as a relatively small pilot is that we have found that such loan repayment programs are labor-intensive [to administer]," Kirschstein said, explaining that each participant enters with NIH into a contractual agreement that must be carefully monitored and all funds closely tracked. "We're very excited about this program and we see it as one more incentive to move people into clinical research." An additional loan repayment program for investigators studying health disparities is also in developmental stages, she reported.

Several other funding mechanisms—K23 awards, for early career mentors; K24 awards, for mid-career mentors; and K30 awards, curriculum grants for teaching protocol development—are also part of NIH's efforts to reinvigorate its clinical research portfolio.

"The ultimate outcome is that better trained clinical investigators will be more successful in the grants process," said NIH deputy director for extramural research Dr. Wendy Baldwin. "That's the goal, but that takes a long time. Obviously we will have to re-evaluate these programs before we get there."

Genomicists' Work Never Done

Based on a paper, "Human Genome and Beyond," published in *Nature* in February, Dr. Eric Lander, director of the Whitehead Institute/MIT Center for Genome Research, gave the committee an update on the 15-year-old Human Genome Project. Far from being over now that the human genome map is 95 percent complete, Lander said, a great deal more work must begin to interpret what the data mean.

Aside from the incredible information already gleaned from the project, Lander said "there's one other thing you learn from the genome and it's not about the biology, per se, it's about doing the biology, doing the biomedical research. The other great lesson we can learn from this experience is the tremendous importance of the way we built scientific community. The notion that we should invest in creating scientific infrastructure is not something that was well established 15 years ago. Now I hope it's become religion to all. We can be so much more efficient by having databases, by sharing tools. We also learned the tremendous importance of international cooperation."

Describing the genome as "the world's greatest epidemiological study," Lander said in order to fulfill the promise of genomics the work should not pause simply because the map is nearing completion. He identified several areas such as gene description, comparative genomics, structural genomics, chemical genomics and medical and population genomics that still need exploration. He also said a prodigious amount of bioinformatics will be required to interpret the findings.

"Well, are we there yet?" he asked, rhetorically. "Certainly not. A tremendous amount more investment in infrastructure is still needed. A genomicist's work is never done."

Update on Personnel Issues

Other research advances Kirschstein mentioned at the meeting include extramural studies that found that heart cells can regenerate, and that bone marrow cells can be made into heart muscle cells—both studies done by the same team—and an intramural NIDCD study on the genetic basis of musical pitch.

Budget issues were addressed as well, with particular attention directed to planning for the so-called "soft landing" year—the fiscal year after Congress's 5-year effort to double NIH's budget concludes.

Presiding for the third time over the ACD, Kirschstein said farewell to outgoing ACD members, including Lander and Drs. Steven Chu of Stanford University, Yank Coble of Jacksonville, Fla., and Shirley Tilghman, who was elected president of Princeton University on May 5. Four new members will be named to the ACD in time for its next

meeting.

"I cannot thank you all enough for your wise counsel and service to NIH," Kirschstein said, leading a standing ovation for Tilghman, who assumed her new duties officially on June 15.

Announcing personnel changes closer to home, Kirschstein welcomed Drs. Paul Sieving and Barry Kramer. Sieving was appointed director of the National Eye Institute; Kramer was named NIH associate director for disease prevention and will continue as head of the Office of Medical Applications of Research. Longtime NIH'er Dr. Donna Dean was announced as acting director of the newest institute, the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering. The search for a permanent NIBIB director is expected to be under way later this summer. Kirschstein also mentioned that the search committee for a director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is "working assiduously" to replace former NINDS director Dr. Gerald Fischbach, who left earlier this year for Columbia University. The next ACD meeting is scheduled for Dec. 6. ■

Diabetes, Eye Disease Undiagnosed In Mexican-Americans

A research study of the Mexican-American population over age 40 found that the rate of diabetes in this group is 20 percent—almost twice that of non-Hispanic whites—and that 15 percent of those with diabetes did not know they had the disease before their participation in the study. The findings suggest that increased efforts to improve diabetes detection in Mexican-Americans may be warranted. These data are reported in a paper published in the July 2001 issue of *Diabetes Care*, a journal of the American Diabetes Association.

Of the 15 percent who were newly diagnosed with diabetes, 23 percent had early to moderate diabetic retinopathy, a potentially blinding eye complication of diabetes, and another nine percent had advanced diabetic retinopathy and were in immediate danger of losing some vision. The study was sponsored by the National Eye Institute and the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

"These findings serve as a 'red flag,'" said NEI Director Dr. Paul Sieving. "The longer a person has untreated diabetes, the more likely the disease will cause complications. In fact, diabetes increases the risk of blindness 25-fold over the general population. People with diabetes should be encouraged to seek regular eye care to increase the chances of early detection and timely treatment of diabetic eye disease."



Reporter Sally Squires (l) accepts on behalf of the Washington Post health section the NIH Alumni Association's Public Service Award for 2001. Alexander Adler (r), who nominated the paper, presented the award at the association's annual meeting June 2. Adler, the founding editor of the NIH Record, is a member of the association's board of directors. He called the Post's health section "an important weekly publication that is a model for health communication." He said the award recognizes the section's "comprehensive coverage of research findings and changes in health care delivery, and its clear explanations of how medical evidence is weighed and how ethical issues are evaluated in real-life situations." The award, the association's most prestigious, has been given since 1993. The first recipient was the late Rep. William H. Natcher of Kentucky. Other recipients include former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, Rep. Constance Morella of Maryland, Dr. June E. Osborn, president of the Josiah Macy Foundation, and Dr. Robert Butler, founding director of the National Institute on Aging. Members of the NIH Alumni Association include current staff members, retirees and those who have left NIH for work in other organizations. The association promotes the interests of NIH and provides service to its members. For more information call the NIHA office at (301) 530-0567.

'Science in the Cinema' Begins

The Office of Science Education kicks off this year's free 6-week film festival "Science in the Cinema" on Thursday, July 12. Once a week, a popular film with a medical science theme is screened. Following each movie, an interactive discussion with the audience is led by an expert on the subject depicted in the film. Each event is held in Natcher Auditorium, and seating is on a first come, first served basis. All films will be shown with captions; interpreters and real-time captioning will be available for the post-film discussions. Check <http://science-education.nih.gov/cinema> for this year's schedule. ■

Language Study Needs Healthy Children

Healthy children, ages 5-8, are sought by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to participate in a study comparing language organization with that of children with epilepsy. Your children may be eligible if they speak English as their first language, do not have a learning disability, attention deficit disorder or any serious medical condition and do not wear braces or glasses (contacts allowed).

Participation involves 2-4 outpatient visits over 1 year. Compensation is provided. Call Lynn at 402-3745.

ROGERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other keynote laws promoting health.

Remembrance was the order of the day as a host of congressional colleagues, former employees, current associates and—via letter—five Presidents, including George W. Bush, extended congratulations and salutations that ranged from the heartfelt to the humorous.

Held beneath a tent erected over the plaza itself, which sheltered guests on a warm morning, the event was emceed by NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, who described Rogers as a “tireless and generous advocate of NIH.” She recalled two landmark laws that bore Rogers’ signature: the National Cancer Act of 1971 and the Research on Aging Act of 1974. Of the former, she said “no other act has had such a profound impact on the health of all Americans...The war is not yet won, but we’ve made great strides against this group of

diseases we call cancer, and you, Paul, helped make this happen.”

The Research on Aging Act helped apply research muscle to such ills as osteoporosis, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and arthritis, Kirschstein noted. Yet Rogers’ influence in Congress was only part of his legacy, she said. “He has continued to be a major player in setting the research agenda of this nation. With his boundless energy and

incredible passion, he knows how to get things done.”

Recently retired Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.), who led the effort in Congress to double NIH’s appropriation in the period 1998-2003, and who is now Rogers’ colleague in the law firm Hogan & Hartson, said, “Paul is my mentor and my model. We are all soldiers in his army of admirers. He made the war on disease among the highest priorities of our nation...Paul was right for our country. He provided by example, by persuasion and by leadership that health issues deserved greater attention, and his advocacy earned him the title ‘Mr. Health.’ If anyone has influence in this town of influence, it’s Paul Rogers. He’s the whole package.”

Former Rep. James Symington of Missouri joked that “the microbes of America always trembled at the approach of the deceptively dapper congressman from Florida...There was rejoicing in the bacteria camp when their relentless adversary Paul Rogers retired (from Congress).” He said the 20 members of Rogers’ House subcommittee “were really all



Rogers paid special tribute to NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein: “She deserves this nation’s gratitude, and I salute Ruth.”

PHOTOS: BILL AND ERNIE BRANSON



Former Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.) and Rogers prepare to greet guests at Natcher Bldg. reception.

working for Paul,” and that the committee “was almost biblical in nature and scope—‘Ask and it shall be given.’ Had Paul chaired the committee overseeing the Department of Defense, there would have been two nuclear-powered aircraft carriers on Lake Okeechobee. Were he in charge of public works, we would have filled Death Valley and built a bridge over the Gulf of Mexico. If he were in charge of agriculture, we’d all be up to our necks in soybeans. But he chose to battle the fourth horseman—the Apocalypse.

“Unfortunately,” Symington continued, “illness is less responsive to law than to science.” He said the Rogers’ committee wore as a badge of honor the epithet “Disease-of-the-Month Club,” and concluded, “Americans do a disservice to Paul’s memory by getting sick...Paul is living proof that public service does not end with public office. He has been a titanic civic leader and will always deserve the title Mr. Chairman.”

Another colleague, Steve Lawton, who had been counsel to Rogers’ subcommittee and now represents the Biotechnology Industry Organization, noted, “Once you work for Paul Rogers, you always work for Paul Rogers.” An awards ceremony in Rogers’ honor, he pointed out, “is hardly an unusual event. He has received many honors, and I strongly suspect that to Paul, this is the granddaddy of them all.”

Lawton named the other “congressional giants” memorialized on the NIH campus and pointed out that Rogers is “the only legislative committee chairman to be so honored.” During Rogers’ 8-year term (1971-1979) as chair, “there were threats to the fabric of NIH, some well-meaning and others not,” Lawton remembered. The Senate voted 91-1 in 1971 to separate NCI from NIH, but after 2 weeks of hearings during which Rogers tirelessly argued that such a move would threaten the interdisciplinary nature of biomedical research, the tide turned. “The final bill enhanced the NCI within the NIH, holding the institutes together, and ensuring collaborations with all the institutes and centers, and with their grantees,” Lawton said. He said there were

attempts to curtail training grants and the peer review system at NIH, but that Rogers' opposition to those efforts prevailed, and now, those two research facets are "statutory requirements."

Despite contentious hearings, Rogers showed "grace, courtliness and respect for others' positions," Lawton recounted. "The man has style." Both in Florida and D.C., among lawyers, consultants, trade associations and lobbyists, Paul Rogers "is our calling card," he continued. "Many people make their reputations in Washington based on the character of the people for whom they work, and their ethics...We owe Paul for lending us his reputation...Not a day goes by that we don't think of (Rogers). Not a week goes by that we don't ask ourselves, 'What would Paul Rogers do?' And not a month goes by that we don't have occasion to say, 'I used to work for Paul Rogers.'"

Predicting that Rogers' impact will reach far into the new millennium, Lawton concluded, "Thank you for being a mentor, at times even a father, to so many of us. You taught us how to think, to serve, and how to live. God bless you, Paul."

Rogers, 80, has been chairman of Research! America, a health advocacy group, for 5 years, and its president, Mary Woolley, called him "one of the

most persuasive people on the planet, and also one of the most kind and thoughtful—to me, he's the epitome of a statesman." She read notes in Rogers' honor from former Presidents Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, George Bush Sr., Bill Clinton, and from George W. Bush.

"I think you've all heard enough about Paul Rogers," joked the honoree, "but this honor, from the Congress of the United States and from the NIH, designating this plaza for me, is quite overwhelming. If I could just take them around with me everywhere I go," he said, gesturing at the dais, "we could put on a great show."

He thanked his family and guests (see sidebar), and asked all those who used to work for him to stand and be recognized. "I want this crowd to see the ones who did the work...I want to publicly express my thanks to Congress for its actions and to NIH, especially Ruth Kirschstein and her remarkable staff. Ruth's outstanding leadership—she has taken over here a number of times—is remarkable. She deserves this nation's gratitude, and I salute Ruth."

Rogers recalled that he knew Dr. James Shannon, the NIH director after whom Bldg. 1 is named, and shared his commitment to basic research. "Thousands of people have crossed this lawn into Bldg. 1,

from the young, with their desire for more education and knowledge, and their new ideas—from them right on to nationally acclaimed Nobel and Lasker laureates, whose wisdom has been tested and proved. All have shared their knowledge to fight disease, not just here but all over the world. NIH is rightly called the crown jewel of the federal government."

Like a newly energized lobbyist, Rogers declared that "delaying the onset of heart disease by just 5 years could save \$69 billion per year," and

that "if we could delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease by only 5 years, we could save \$50 billion every year. There really is new hope, and NIH is in the process of having its budget doubled, so more progress is expected in the future. Every man, every woman and every child benefits from research. Nothing is more bipartisan than the funding of NIH, and nothing has given me more pride than participating in the success of research. I hope each one of you here will remember and spread this message: Without research, there is no hope. No hope for diagnosis, for treatment, or to cure diseases. Research brings hope and research brings better health to our nation. Thank you, I am grateful to all of you."

A reception followed in the atrium of the Natcher Bldg.

Distinguished Guests Honor Rogers

A large crowd of friends, former colleagues, admirers, and even "my flyfishing buddies from Utah," was on hand June 12 for the dedication of the Paul G. Rogers Plaza in front of Bldg. 1. Among the guests were former HHS Secretaries Louis Sullivan, Margaret Heckler and Richard Schweiker, former NIH director Dr. James Wyngaarden, former Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana, Rep. John Mica of Florida, former Reps. Dan Mica (brother of John) of Florida, Bob Michel of Illinois, Andy Ireland of Florida and Peter Kyros of Maine.

The crowd was entertained by the Washington Symphonic Brass, whose talent was saluted by NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein: "Having played French horn myself for a number of years, I'm especially delighted to have you here."

At the center of the new plaza is a large stone onto which a plaque is affixed. It reads: The Paul G. Rogers Plaza / During his twenty-four years as a member of the United States House of Representatives, The Honorable Paul G. Rogers authored numerous laws to support and develop the mission of the National Institutes of Health. His lifetime of public service has been distinguished by tireless advocacy for public health and medical research, and is recognized by an act of Congress dated December 21, 2000, designating this plaza in his honor. "Without research, there is no hope." Dedicated June 12, 2001.



Steve Lawton



Former Rep. James Symington

vision used in the design" of the new labs. "The large, open working areas will lead to more communication and interaction," she predicted. "Researchers will greatly value the daylight and space" offered by the building. "It is a wonderful time to be in science," she said.

Dr. John Carpten of NHGRI seemed as overwhelmed by the structure as Stokes: "Coming from a small town in Mississippi—who would have thought," he began. He is a member of the African American Hereditary Prostate Cancer Project, an

international effort funded in part by the new National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), and is also studying the genetics of breast cancer. "I have always felt that great scientists can do great research in any environment. However,

great science is done in an environment that fosters interaction. And in this building, I'll only be a short walk from world-class collaborators...More buildings on campus should be modeled after this one."

NCMHD director Dr. John Ruffin noted that "Lou Stokes is not a scientist, but he has spent his life assuring that the less fortunate in society have access to the fruits of science." He called NIH's custom of hosting named buildings our "Hall of Fame. These monuments endure and inspire future generations to ensure that all share in the opportunities our nation affords...We now have a foundation on which we can ensure the health of future generations. We are most grateful for (Stokes') humanity. Today we

open a door...to a state of the art research facility, but more importantly, to myriad new opportunities...for all scientists."

With that, Kirschstein and Stokes raised the cloth covering the building's plaque as the choir sang "Wind Beneath My Wings."

Kirschstein called Stokes "my vocal ally in the fight to reduce disparities. I count Lou Stokes among my dearest personal friends. I testified (as NIGMS director) before his committee from 1975 to 1993. We were personal friends and allies in the struggle to increase the number of minorities trained to do biomedical research. It was probably the hardest struggle either of us has had."

Answered Stokes, "It is an honor, Dr. Kirschstein,

to have you present me on this occasion—we have a very special friendship. Our work has resulted in legislation that has bettered the health of all Americans."

He said the Minority Biomedical Research Support and Minority Access to Research Careers programs headquartered in NIGMS "produced thousands of minority scientists, researchers and physicians," and said of Kirschstein,

"You are indeed an institution within this institution, and it has been an honor to work with you."

Stokes called the event "a moment I will savor for all of my life." He credited the love of his family and friends as buttressing his accomplishments, and thanked each speaker, even unleashing his signature

laugh, which the crowd recognized with pleasure. He particularly thanked former Rep. Charlie Vanik (D-OH), who served for 26 years in Congress and is now a colleague of Stokes in the law firm Squire, Sanders & Dempsey. "Charlie took me by the hand and mentored me 32 years ago," Stokes said. "He said the appropriations committee needed its first African American, and got me on the committee. I want to publicly thank a great American—it couldn't have happened without you, Charlie."

Stokes also mentioned his close association with NIH's chapter of Blacks in Government, noting that although it fell outside of the scope of his professional duties, he was nonetheless attentive to the group. "NIH was always responsive to my concerns with respect to BIG."

Aware of the many awards the building has already garnered, he said it is "destined to certainly win many more awards. I must say, you are a magnificent architect, Frank Kutlak (ORS project officer for the building)."

He concluded, "I hope that out of this building will come the final fruits of my work, and that of many others, to eliminate disparities." He also hoped for "future medical research which will prolong life and benefit all mankind." Quoting George Bernard Shaw, he said, "Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations." Thank you very, very much."

Presented with a replica of the dedicatory plaque, he enthused, "Isn't this beautiful?" then retired to the building's lobby for a reception at which his friend, jazz bassist Keter Betts, performed with his quartet. ■



Dr. Louis Sullivan



Dr. John Ruffin



Stokes admires an autographed copy of a poster that commemorates the 4-year construction project that produced NIH's newest lab building.

Looking on is Frank Kutlak, an ORS architect and project officer for the building.

**Chamber
Music Concert,
July 22**

The Rock Creek Chamber Players will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 22 in the Clinical Center's 14th floor assembly hall. The free public concert, sponsored by the recreation therapy section, will include John Marvin's *Journeys* for soprano, horn and piano; Persichetti's *Serenade No. 6* for trombone, viola and cello; Jolivet's *Chant De Linos* for flute, strings and harp; and Mozart's quintet for horn and strings. For more information call (202) 337-8710.

Former NICHD Lab Chief Dies in Accident

Dr. Alan Wolffe, former chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Embryology, NICHD, was involved in a fatal traffic accident while attending an international scientific meeting in Brazil.

He was a scientific leader at NICHD and NIH. He was famous for his landmark work in understanding the structure and functional properties of chromatin—the complex of DNA and a variety of proteins that help to pack the DNA into the cell's nucleus and regulate its biological activity.

"We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Wolffe," said NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander. "His leadership and vision attracted a group of outstanding young scientists to our institute and critical scientific investigation was conducted during his tenure in the laboratory. He will be deeply missed."

Wolffe began his NIH career in 1987 as principal investigator in the Laboratory of Molecular Biology, NIDDK. He then became chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Embryology in 1990. In 2000, he joined Sangamo BioSciences, Inc., as senior vice president and chief scientific officer. His company is setting up an educational trust fund for his children.

Donations in Wolffe's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Rett Syndrome Research Foundation.



Dr. Alan Wolffe

Seminar on Breastfeeding and Medication Use

In celebration of World Breastfeeding Week 2001, the NIH Lactation Program and the NIH Work and Family Life Center will host a seminar with Dr. Frank Nice, a nationally known expert on breastfeeding and medication use. Nice is a pharmacist director in the Public Health Service and assistant director of the Clinical Neurosciences Program at NINDS. He will provide practical information about commonly used prescription and over-the-counter medications, recreational drugs and herbs.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday, July 31 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Rm. 6C7. The first hour will be in a lecture format, followed by a half hour of questions and answers. Space is limited, so call WFLC at 435-1619 (TTY 480-0690) to preregister. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For other reasonable accommodation, contact WFLC. The seminar will be available in real-time and then archived on the NIH Videocast web site at <http://videocast.nih.gov/>. A videotape will also be available for loan from the WFLC resource collection in 31/B3C15. ■

Fire Prevention Slogans Sought

Fire up your imaginations and think up a nifty slogan for NIH's observance of National Fire Prevention Week. If you win the contest, open to everyone (except members of the sponsoring Emergency Management Branch), your idea appears on next year's commemorative posters at NIH, along with your name. You can enter as often as you like, and entries should be snappy one-liners about fire prevention. Be sure to print (legibly) or type your slogan on a sheet of white paper. If you submit multiple candidates, rank them in order of preference. Entries are due by Sept. 4. Send or fax entries to the fire prevention section, Bldg. 15G, Rm. 2. Fax number is 402-2059. For more information call 496-0487. ■

Healthy Women Needed

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is seeking healthy women ages 18-55, or 60 and older to participate in an ovarian function study involving five brief outpatient visits. Blood draws, ultrasound and an injection of a natural body hormone are involved. You may be eligible if you do not smoke or take any drugs including birth control. A past pregnancy is necessary. Compensation is provided. Call 594-3839. ■

Adults Needed for Study

College-educated, middle-aged adults are needed for a 2-day outpatient study at NIMH. Involves blood draw and routine clinical, neurological and cognitive procedures. A stipend is available. Inquire at 435-8970. ■



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>.

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
Fellowship Payment System	8/2
Creative Problem Solving	8/6-7
Introduction to Personal Computing	8/7
IMPAC II—Committee Management Module	8/7
Introduction to JavaScript Scripting	8/13
Commissioned Officers Leave and Attendance	8/14
Addressing KSAs and the Federal Rating Process	8/14
The Professional Office Manager I (FCRDC)	8/14-15
Professional Service Orders	8/15
IMPAC II—Institute Center Operations	8/15
Supervision and Group Performance	8/16-17
Introduction to Web Page Design with FrontPage	8/16
Introduction to Windows	8/21
Introduction to the Internet	8/22
Intermediate Internet	8/22
Creating Results Through Influence	8/28-30

OHRM Hosts Seminars for Summer Students

The Office of Human Resource Management's Human Resource Program Support Division will host a series of brown bag seminars for all NIH summer students. Topics, dates and locations are listed below. If you are interested in attending, RSVP with your name, IC and topic by dates shown via email to contact name(s).

NIH Employees Share Federal Career Experiences: Past and current NIH employees discuss how they entered the federal government and climbed up through the ranks, Bldg. 31, 6th fl. Conf. Rm. 10, Wednesday, July 11, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. RSVP to Alice Madia or Sheila Monroe.

Other NIH Student Programs: Bldg. 31, 6 fl. Conf. Rm. 6, Wednesday, July 25, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. RSVP by July 20 to Madia or Monroe. ■

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>.

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
Macintosh Tips and Techniques	7/18
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
Section 508 Compliance for Procurement Personnel	7/18
An Introduction to TCP/IP	7/18
Advanced Presentations with PowerPoint 2000	7/19
Budget Tracking	7/19
Introduction to Networks	7/20
NIH Enterprise Directory (NED): Administrative Officer and Technician Training	7/20
Introduction to HTML	7/20
Data Warehouse Query: Technology Transfer	7/24
Understanding Your CIT Billing	7/24
FasTrac Overview	7/24
BRMUG - Macintosh Users Group	7/24
Using Secure Email in the Exchange Messaging Environment	7/25
Outlook 2000 Tips and Tricks	7/25
NIH Biowulf - a Supercluster for Scientific Applications	7/25
LISTSERV Electronic Mailing Lists: Hands-On Workshop for General Users	7/25
Creating Maps with SAS	7/25
KMIG - Knowledge Management Interest Group	7/25

Research Festival Calls for Poster Abstracts

The 15th annual NIH Research Festival, the yearly showcase for the intramural research programs, will be held Oct. 2-5. The festival organizing committee, cochaired by Dr. Peter Lipsky, NIAMS, and Dr. J. Carl Barrett, NCI, is now accepting submission of poster abstracts by all NIH staff and FDA/CBER staff from the Bethesda campus.

Posters in any area of research conducted at NIH will be considered for presentation but the committee is requesting a limit of one poster submission per presenter. The deadline for online poster submission is 5 p.m., Monday, Aug. 6. Applicants will receive email confirmation of receipt of poster abstracts and will be notified of acceptance by email in mid-August. For a preliminary schedule of events and the online poster registration form, visit the festival web site at <http://festival01.nih.gov>.

For more information about poster registration or the festival, contact Paula Cohen, 496-1776.

Sailing Club Open House, July 14

Old salts and landlubbers alike are invited to the R&W Sailing Club picnic and sail Saturday, July 14 from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. (rain or shine) at the Selby Bay Sailing Center. Cost is \$5 for R&W members and includes food, drink and demonstration sails in the club's 19-foot Flying Scot sailboats. Fall sailing classes begin in August so this is a good chance to preview the boats and meet the members before signing up. Directions to Selby Bay and other information about the open house and sailing club are at <http://www.recgov.org/r&w/sailing>.

STOKES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

building bearing my name...on the campus of the greatest biomedical research institution in the world. It is totally overwhelming."

Stokes and his wife Jay came to campus several weeks before the dedication to survey the edifice for themselves, he related. "We walked around here in total amazement. My wife commented, 'Just think, from a little boy growing up in the projects in Cleveland, to having a building named after you at the National Institutes of Health.' That really summed it up for me. This is a magnificent and beautiful building."

The dedication, made festive by the performances of the Howard University Jazz Ensemble and the Morgan State University Choir, who entertained

arriving guests, began with a stirring invocation by the Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., who was once copastor with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. "Give every person who labors here the wisdom and knowledge to go on in the struggle to prevent pain and suffering, and to create a greater, a better quality of life," he intoned.

Emceeing her second dedication event of the week, NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein noted that Stokes had founded the

Congressional Black Caucus's health brain trust, and introduced Stokes' successor in that role, Dr. Donna Christian-Christensen, a physician who represents the U.S. Virgin Islands in Congress.

"This is a well-deserved tribute and honor for a great role model and inspiration to all of us," said Christian-Christensen. "We will do our very best to continue your legacy of hard work, and of hope. Although he is retired, his caring and his work for us continue. Our hope is that the studies conducted here will extend health care for all, and eliminate disparities."

Former HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan, during whose term (1989-1993) NIH created both the Office of Research on Minority Health and the Office of Research on Women's Health (serving "communities whose medical needs were and still are underserved," noted Kirschstein), said, "Like so many of you, I am an unapologetic admirer of Lou Stokes. Also like him, I am a strong supporter of biomedical research, and am committed to the continued improvement of the health of the American people. Lou Stokes helped to provide the billions of dollars that our nation has allocated to biomedical research, over his 30 years in Congress. He was always available to his local and national constituencies. He was a good listener, a good strategist and a good negotiator. His word was his

PHOTOS: BILL AND ERNIE BRANSON



Stokes flashed his trademark smile and laugh at the dedication ceremony, saying the event was "overwhelming."



Intramural scientists Dr. Maria Morasso of NIDDK and Dr. John Carpenter of NHGRI testified to the new building's science-friendly atmosphere. Both predicted great accomplishments for science in the new structure.

bond—you could take it to the bank. And we did, many times."

Sullivan added that Stokes "has a well-developed sense of humor. He has a unique laugh, with a low and slow start that expands until it envelops his whole being in rhythmic, catatonic spasms. Those who hear it are always on alert to provide emergency resuscitation." Continuing on a light note, Sullivan said, "Like me, he has a sophisticated, cerebral hairline. I am sometimes mistaken in the halls of Congress for Lou Stokes."

He concluded, "Our nation is better because we have a Lou Stokes. I am a better person for knowing Lou Stokes."

Kirschstein observed that this is the first building on campus named for an African American. "Like

proud parents, we feel each new addition to the campus is special," she said, noting the recent completion of the Vaccine Research Center, the still-growing Clinical Research Center, and the anticipated Neuroscience Research Center. She pointed out that the building incorporates environmentally

friendly features and energy-saving elements that have already earned a \$2 million rebate from the electric company. She further credited the advice of graduate students from Howard University's School of Architecture, who consulted on the project back in 1994; they recommended the "neighborhood" concept of lab arrangement to promote collegiality. The school's dean and several of the 10 students who advised on the project attended the dedication.

Two scientists who are moving into the new building testified to its appeal. Dr. Maria Morasso of NIDDK admitted that it was "bittersweet to leave Bldg. 6," but said scientists "appreciate the new



Rep. Christian-Christensen