

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Lowy To Discuss Papillomavirus in Mider Talk, Feb. 13 in Masur

By Jennifer Michalowski

Researchers are making progress in the development of a vaccine that could help prevent one of the most common cancers

among women worldwide. The vaccine targets human papillomavirus (HPV), a common virus that causes benign and malignant diseases of the skin and mucous membranes. HPV is recognized as the major cause of



Dr. Doug Lowy

cervical cancer, which kills more than 200,000 women each year.

SEE MIDER LECTURE, PAGE 2

A Big Project Goes Mega

Business Software System Grows New Arm

Almost 2 years ago, the *NIH Record* reported on the campus' major unseen construction project—the NIH Business System, or NBS, which was conceived to replace a homegrown system called the Administrative Database, a software behemoth that was involved in virtually every business transaction in which NIH engaged. Since then, the NBS has merged with the Enterprise Human Resources and Planning project—that is, it grew a new arm—and the overall effort is now known as the NIH Business and Research Support System.

When we last checked in, NIH was about to choose between two options for modernizing the way in which it conducts adminis-

SEE BUSINESS SYSTEM, PAGE 4

HIGHLIGHTS

1
NIH'ers Have a 'Bug' To Pass

'02 Budget Signed At Almost \$23B

3
NHGRI Bolsters Minority Research

5
Cancer Info Service Marks 25 Years

9
NINDS Student Named Rhodes Scholar



10
MI Program Recruits Leaders

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Curiosity at the Core of Success

MLK Speaker Says 'Enthusiasm for Learning' Is Key Ingredient

By Carla Garnett

Although NIH is not in the business of spreading infections, scientists here have a bug they should pass along far and wide, according to Dr.

Freeman Hrabowski III, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and keynote speaker at NIH's 2002 observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. Hrabowski said the nagging curiosity that is common to researchers ought to be contagious—particularly to the nation's young people.

"In a society that places so much emphasis on athletics, so much emphasis on rap music and on pop culture, how do we create an environment in which children want to be curious and want to be smart?" he asked. "I believe it's that enthusiasm for learning that is at the core."

Speaking on the day before what would have been King's 73rd

SEE MLK PROGRAM, PAGE 6

President Signs '02 Budget for NIH

NIH will get nearly \$3 billion more in fiscal year 2002 than it did in 2001, thanks to an appropriation bill signed by President Bush on Jan. 11. House and Senate conferees approved a \$23.285 billion budget for '02 (14.7 percent above '01), but the final program level settled at \$22.888 billion (14.4 percent increase) after \$100 million was taken out for a global AIDS/malaria/tuberculosis fund, and other taps. The increase marks the fourth payment on an effort, begun in 1998, to double the NIH budget within 5 years.

The budget bill emerged after eight continuing resolutions (CRs) had kept the agency funded—at the '01 level—since the beginning of the '02 fiscal year last fall. That's well short of the record 21 CRs required before NIH got its 2001 appropriation, said Anne Houser of NIH's legislative office. She added that the '02 bill "is the first since FY 1998 for a Labor, HHS, Education appropriation—other recent years have been omnibus bills including many other appropriations bills."

The largest individual appropriations among the institutes and

SEE NIH BUDGET, PAGE 8



Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III

FEW Hosts Talk On Medical Directives

Dr. Anne C. Thomas, a nurse practitioner specializing in elder care issues, will lead a discussion on "Communicating Your Final Wishes: The Medical Directive and Living Will," on Tuesday, Feb. 12 from noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 6. The talk is hosted by the Bethesda chapter of Federally Employed Women. Come learn about the documents that help record your advance medical directives and healthcare decisions for end of life care. The meeting is open to the public. RSVP by Feb. 8 to Yvette Porter: portery@od.nih.gov or call 435-1058. Sign language interpreters will be provided. For other reasonable accomodation, contact Claire McCullough by Feb. 7 at cm27q@nih.gov or call 435-8601.

MIDER LECTURE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At the upcoming G. Burroughs Mider lecture, Dr. Doug Lowy, chief of the Laboratory of Cellular Oncology, NCI, will speak about candidate HPV vaccines that have produced encouraging results in animal studies and early clinical trials. He will present his talk, "Papillomavirus Virus-like Particles: For Vaccines Against HPV and Other Diseases," on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

The virus-like particles that Lowy will discuss are based on the outer structure of the papillomavirus. When a papillomavirus replicates inside a host cell, two proteins, L1 and L2, assemble to form a capsid that protects the viral genome. Of these, L1 is the major protein, occurring in each capsid at 30 times the frequency of L2.

In 1992, Lowy, his colleague John Schiller, and others discovered that when the L1 protein is expressed in cells, the protein subunits come together to assemble a structure that is non-infectious, but morphologically indistinguishable from the virus itself. They called these structures virus-like particles (VLPs).

Importantly, VLPs bear enough structural similarity to actual papillomaviruses that the antibodies the body produces against them are the same antibodies that protect against HPV.

Lowy will speak about candidate vaccines composed of VLPs, which have shown excellent protection against papillomavirus-induced disease in animals. HPV VLPs have also been well tolerated and produced strong immune responses in early human trials. Large-scale efficacy trials are planned for the near future.

Lowy will discuss other potential uses for VLPs, as well. Proteins associated with human diseases unrelated to HPV infection can be linked to papillomavirus-like particles. These VLPs can then be used as vaccines to induce autoantibodies against the disease.

Lowy has made considerable contributions to the current understanding of papillomaviruses. He has served on a wide range of editorial and advisory boards and consults on papillomavirus vaccines for the World Health Organization. The Institute for Scientific Information lists him as a highly cited researcher in the microbiology field. And he has received a number of awards for his research, including several Public Health Service awards and an NIH Director's Award.

Lowy received his M.D. from New York University and trained in internal medicine at Stanford University and dermatology at Yale University. He is board-certified in both specialties.

He began work at NIH in 1970 as a research associate in the laboratory of Wallace Rowe, where he studied mouse retroviruses. After a 2-year absence from NIH to obtain residency training,

Lowy came to NCI in 1975, joining the Dermatology Branch as a senior investigator. His work on mouse retroviruses was gradually replaced by research on ras oncogenes and papillomaviruses. In 1995, he was named deputy director of the Division of Basic Sciences and Center for Cancer Research.

The G. Burroughs Mider Lecture is an NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series event. For information and accommodation, contact Hilda Madine, 594-5595. ■

Dr. Mary Ann Guadagno has moved to the Center for Scientific Review to become the new scientific review administrator for the epidemiology and disease control 3 study section. She comes from the National Institute on Aging, where she coordinated grant reviews for its behavior and social science of aging review committee. Guadagno earlier served as a survey statistician at the National Center for Health Statistics and analyzed consumer expenditure survey data for the Department of Agriculture. Before joining the federal government, she was director of research for Nationwide Life Insurance Co. and an assistant professor in family social science at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul. Guadagno received a Ph.D. in economics from Ohio State University, where she developed her interests in questionnaire and survey research design, memory and social economic status, and respondent error in national health surveys.



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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Rm. 5B41

Phone 496-2125
Fax 402-1485

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

Editor
Richard McManus
rm26q@nih.gov

Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

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Genome Grantees Discuss Minority Participation in Research

By Geoff Spencer

Holding to a commitment developed at an April 2000 meeting, the National Human Genome Research Institute recently held a workshop to help extramural grantees increase the number of underrepresented minorities participating in genomics and ethical, legal, and social implications (ELSI) research.

The program "Strategies for Increasing the Number of Underrepresented Minorities Participating in Genomics Research," included representatives from academic institutions and professional societies who



Ed Smith, an associate professor at Virginia Tech, was a meeting participant.

have had success in creating programs that train minorities for careers in biomedical research. NHGRI staff members also attended to exchange information with grantees and offer them support.

"NHGRI has not been successful in the past recruiting minorities," said Dr. Francis Collins, director of

NHGRI. "The very nature of genomics and ELSI research demands inclusion and diverse points of view.

"We want the best and brightest from all the groups of the world," he continued. "We must knock down the barriers and make the field of genomics a welcome one."

Collins charged the participants to work together to develop creative opportunities and training programs at their institutions to make the field of genomics a diverse one.

Dr. Cliff Poodry, director of the Minority Opportunities in Research Office at NIGMS, said there are many untapped recruiting opportunities for connecting with the pool of minority students from majority and minority institutions.

"Currently, a reasonable goal is to have 10 percent minority participation on any [training] grant," said Poodry. "This is reasonable because in biology and chemistry, minorities represent 12.5 percent of bachelor degrees." According to Poodry, these students are not pursuing medicine but entering graduate school.

Completion rates for minority students in Ph.D. programs are currently only 6 percent nationally. However, one-half of the minority students entering graduate school do not complete their doctoral studies. If there was a way to retain these students, the number of minorities completing their doctoral studies would immediately double, predicted Poodry.

One way of tapping the pool of minority students, he suggested, is to "start speaking to faculty at

undergraduate institutions to recruit students for graduate school.

"You have to show them the excitement of the future," he said, "and their faculty must be sure that these kids are going to be taken care of by a grant and that they'll have exciting opportunities."

Poodry encouraged attendance at scientific meetings that cater to minority students such as the Society for Chicano and Native Americans in Science and the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. "These meetings are a wonderful way to make a human connection with the students," he said. "Offer to speak at these meetings or their universities to excite them about the future of science and how they can contribute. Go look at their posters and get them excited talking about their science. I want kids of all groups to be a part of this. It can be done. No excuses!"

The meeting included presentations by program representatives from universities and professional societies who shared their strategies for building minority-training programs. Dr. Richard I. Morimoto of Northwestern University discussed the need for a high level of institutional commitment; establishing partnerships with other universities to create a pipeline of students that would benefit both institutions; and, most important, the involvement of faculty at all levels of the training program. "The magnitude of the recruitment effort must be matched by the retention effort through mentoring," said Morimoto.

Dr. Gayle Slaughter of Baylor College of Medicine agreed that mentorship is a key component for any successful minority training program; in order for students to succeed, she said, they must have academic support. Students at Baylor have faculty mentors as well as a full range of academic services, including individualized course plans, a tutoring and resource library, minority speaker seminars and professional development workshops.

Mary Ellen Jackson, program coordinator for the Meyerhoff Program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, insisted grantees follow these strategies when establishing programs, but cautioned that it takes time to see results.

"We began the program in 1990, and we're just now beginning to see the fruit of our labors," she said. "We have our first graduate student graduating this year and will have six next year."

Grantees also were given advice when considering minority students for their programs. "Don't put stock in minority GRE scores," advised Dr. Steven Soper, professor of chemistry at Louisiana State University, speaking about the cultural bias of such standardized tests. "Pay attention to grade point averages, extracurricular activities and interviews." ■

Tae Kwon Do Beginner's Class

The NIH Tae Kwon Do Club is offering a beginner's class for adults and mature teens starting Feb. 11.

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 are \$40 per quarter and a uniform costs \$30. 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/nihtaekwondo.html>.

Sailing Club Open House, Feb. 28

The NIH Sailing Association will hold an open house on Thursday, Feb. 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. at FAES House on the corner of Old Georgetown Rd. and Cedar Ln. Have you longed to cruise on the Chesapeake Bay? Would you like to learn to sail? Does the idea of racing sailboats appeal to you? Can you imagine being part of a group of fun, skilled sailing instructors, enthusiasts and boat owners? Check it out at the NIHSA open house. Admission is \$5 at the door and includes pizza and sodas; \$2 for beer or wine. Drop by if you are interested in instruction and sailboats for charter, racing, cruises or parties.

BUSINESS SYSTEM, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trative processes: buying from the commercial market an enterprise resource planning (ERP) package, or developing a "homegrown" application, such as the current Administrative Database (ADB). Until March 2001, the NBRSS project focused on the feasibility of these options. After extensive study, a decision was made to replace the ADB with an ERP—a single system that will link the NIH administrative and scientific support functions, including some not currently available through ADB.

The Oracle ERP software package chosen to configure the NBS will coordinate financial management, property, travel, service and supply fund, research and development contracts, and acquisition. In a fully integrated ERP system, each business transaction instantly updates data in all related areas. Successful implementation of the NBS will increase the efficiency of NIH business processes, and ultimately enable better administrative support for science.

After Oracle won the ERP sweepstakes, the project entered its second phase—system implementation. This involved representatives of all the institutes and centers, and the Office of the Director, and included a project management team and work teams for each affected area—property, travel, service and supply fund, research and development contracts, and acquisition.

A contractor, KPMG Consulting, provided staff to complement the NIH implementation team with their knowledge and experience.

Until recently, the project has been in the design mode, which included development of models for each business process. Participants have examined current business practices, eliminated those no longer essential, and taken advantage of best practices embedded in the NBRSS software. The result is a "map" of the future business process.

The Enterprise Human Resources and Planning project was initiated by the Department of Health and Human Services to replace its existing human resources (HR) and payroll system (called IMPACT) with a new product based on PeopleSoft's web-based HR management system for the federal government.

The new system will provide a tool for: managers to deploy their workforce strategically; HR staff to carry out their functions efficiently; and DHHS to enhance HR/payroll operations, reduce its dependence on paper and minimize duplicative systems. The PeopleSoft system will eventually handle HR actions for all of NIH's civilian employees.

Currently, the NBS teams have finished the design, review and approvals of the future processes and are forging ahead into the next phase—configuration. This is comprised of two pilot sessions where the Oracle software and NIH workflow procedures will be configured and tested.

Experts will fine-tune the system during these tests. Financial management will be the first module to go live with the new NBS system; its rollout is scheduled for September.

The EHRP team has recently installed a development version of the PeopleSoft product and plans a phased approach for implementing it across the department during the coming year.

To learn more about the NBRSS project as it unfolds, visit <http://nbs.nih.gov>. ■

Dr. John E. "Jack" Jones, Jr. recently joined the Center for Information Technology as chief IT architect for NIH.

Initially he will focus on enterprise systems critical to the NIH mission. His goal is to optimize the usefulness of current IT systems and services to support that mission. Jones, who served as chief IT architect for Sandia National Laboratory and most recently as senior advisor for cybersecurity to the secretary, Department of Energy, looks forward to working closely with the institutes and centers.



Seminar on Role of Hill Staff in Research

A STEP Administrative Strategies Forum on the topic, "Congressional Staffers and Their Role in the Politics of Biomedical Science," will be held on Thursday, Feb. 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. in Lister Hill Auditorium, Bldg. 38A.

Do you ever wonder how congressional set-asides got set aside? Does more money for disease X mean less money for disease Y? While many factors influence biomedical science, funding decisions direct research and drive progress like no others. The seminar will explore the relationship between players in the decision to fund or not to fund research—congressional staffers, advocacy groups and NIH staff. Issues to be addressed include: Who are congressional staffers and how do they become educated about scientific issues? How do staffers evaluate/prioritize and integrate scientific information? How do the interactions among interested parties affect our working lives at NIH? Attendees can earn ESA credit and pre-registration is required. NIH VideoCast will be available.

Cancer Information Service Marks 25 Years

By Peggy Vaughn

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service, employees from CIS offices nationwide banded together to create a unique and colorful quilt. First displayed at a national meeting in Seattle last October, the anniversary quilt is now on tour, traveling to each of CIS's 14 regional offices.

The quilt is an apt symbol of 25 years of commitment and caring, said CIS Acting Director Mary Anne Bright.

"For a quarter of a century, the CIS has provided cancer patients, their families and health professionals with the latest and most accurate cancer information," she said. "This quilt, sewn by many caring hands, reflects the immense pride we have in our history and our mission."

That history begins in 1976. Just as NCI was exploring ways to better cancer communications, the news was filled with reports of Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy's son Teddy being diagnosed with sarcoma. Inspired by the Kennedy family's ability to obtain the most up-to-date, lifesaving treatment for a cancer that was, at the time, largely incurable, NCI outlined a new mission in cancer communications.

"The goal was to equip people with the kind of reliable, science-based information needed to become active participants in their own health care," Bright said.

CIS quickly became NCI's link to the public. Responding to 47,000 phone calls during its first year, the agency strove to interpret and explain research findings in a clear and understandable manner. Since 1976, CIS has responded to 9 million inquiries, principally over its toll-free 1-800-4-CANCER telephone number.

"CIS is unique among public health information sources in that it addresses all kinds of cancers," said NCI deputy director Dr. Alan Rabson. "It set the gold standard among all health agencies by responding to patients, caregivers and the public in a way they can easily understand."

Last year, CIS information specialists working in offices located throughout the United States served users nationwide and in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Logging in nearly 400,000 telephone requests for information last year, CIS provides service in English and Spanish or via TTY for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. Callers also have the round-the-clock option of listening to taped messages about the most frequently-asked-about cancer topics.

About two-thirds of CIS's 400-plus employees are directly involved in handling toll-free calls, said Linda Slan, a CIS project officer.

"Our staff uses a variety of references, including NCI's PDQ database of state-of-the-art cancer treatment and clinical trial information to answer

calls about cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and survivorship," she said.

"They're a committed and highly professional workforce."

About 70 percent of the calls, which average 12 minutes in length, are from women. The majority of callers seek information about breast cancer, from treatment options to information about clinical trials. CIS staff provides personalized attention and keeps all calls confidential, Slan said.

"The service is free and nobody is in a hurry," she said. "We'll work with you as long as you have questions to ask. We usually follow up the call by mailing relevant literature to the caller. Along with sharing information, we offer some much needed emotional support."

That personal touch is also available on LiveHelp, a newly added CIS instant messaging service for people with access to NCI's web site www.cancer.gov. Staffed by CIS information specialists from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time Monday through Friday, the service answers questions about cancer and helps callers navigate the NCI web site. As with the toll-free telephone number, about 80 percent of the message center users are patients and their families, but the service is also popular with health professionals.

"It's been interesting in that we've had a significant number of people from foreign countries using LiveHelp," Slan said. "They want to know about the latest treatments and technologies used here in the U.S."

Hoping to bridge the cancer information gap among minority and underserved medical groups that may not access the toll-free line or NCI web site, CIS collaborates with national, state and regional organizations under its Partnership Program.

"This program brings cancer information to people who do not traditionally seek health information over the telephone or who may have difficulties doing so because of educational, financial, language or other barriers," Bright said.

CIS is also something of a laboratory for communications research. Working with behavioral science and academic researchers, technology experts and regional organizations, it helps shape initiatives to better communicate healthy behaviors and risks to a variety of audiences.

While CIS adapted to become a multi-channel, and even global, information service over the years, the mission behind NCI's voice remains constant.

"While technology changes, our goal remains the same—to successfully reach the public with the most accurate cancer information possible," Bright said. ■



CIS Acting Director Mary Anne Bright cuts anniversary cake, with CIS quilt in the background.

MLK PROGRAM, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

birthday and a week before the national holiday in the civil rights leader's honor, Hrabowski related a story about the late Dr. Isidor Isaac Rabi, who won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1944. Apparently when Rabi was growing up in New York City, the mothers of his friends in the neighborhood made a practice of questioning their children after school. "What did you learn today?" they would want to know. Rabi's mother, however, always sought something different from him. "Did you ask a good question today?" she would ask. Later in his life, when asked how he became such an outstanding scientist and scholar, he would reply that inadvertently his mother had been responsible. "Asking good questions made me become a good scientist," he reportedly said.

Similarly, Hrabowski said, he can recall his own upbringing and early education, growing up in segregated Birmingham, Ala., in the 1960s.

"When I was a child I used to get goosebumps doing math problems," he said, adding that his son, upon learning this tidbit about his father's childhood, has dubbed him a "mega-nerd." I tell him, 'But mega-nerds can pay their bills.' How do we help every child have that curiosity that drives them to work through the problem, and that sense of exhilaration when they finally figure it out? There's something very special about that."

Hrabowski is a prime example of the positive impact strong role models can have on children, regardless of the child's impoverished environment and circumstances. As a youngster, he saw friends of his—the now well-known four little Alabama girls who were waiting for church to begin—killed by a hate-crime bomb. While still an adolescent, Hrabowski became a civil rights leader who, along with several other children, was once swept along to jail with King and other peaceful protesters. He recalled what King told his young followers who, understandably scared at being detained in such a way, peered out forlornly through jail bars.

"Today we celebrate the life of a visionary, someone who understood well the theme of this program,

'Unity in Diversity: We Shall Overcome,'" Hrabowski said. "I remember Dr. King telling us then, 'What you do today as children will have an impact on children yet to be born. Hold your head up and remember that you're special.' As I think about the significance

Program planning committee chair Levon Parker of NINDS emceed the King observance.



of celebrating Dr. King's birthday, I can't help but think that nothing should be more important to us as a nation than the future of our children. It will be the children who will determine what life is like in the years to come...The very essence of his work focused on making sure that every child had dreams and had whatever it would take to reach those dreams."

NIH's annual celebration began with music, both intramural—the NIH Preschool Song & Dance Troupe performed to the delight of the audience—



Crowd Pleasers: Members of the NIH Preschool Song & Dance Troupe perform with abundant enthusiasm.

and extramural—UMBC's Gospel Choir sang the patriotic "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and a popular favorite, "I Believe I Can Fly," which they dedicated to their president Hrabowski. In addition, a litany was read in several languages by NIH'ers, showing the diversity of the agency's workforce.

"As a civil rights leader, Dr. King clearly recognized the value of respecting the diversity of American citizens," said Lawrence Self, director of NIH's Office of Equal Opportunity, who was marking his first MLK observance at NIH. "Throughout his life he struggled for equality, justice and fairness for everyone. I believe here at NIH that we understand the value of diversity, and I know we are committed to fostering an environment that respects the individual. Let us reaffirm our commitment to treat one another respectfully, with civility and decency."

NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein introduced Hrabowski as a longtime friend for whom she has tremendous respect. "I'm delighted to share with you in this celebration of the legacy of Dr.

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON

Acknowledging how far the nation has progressed in the last few decades, keynote speaker Dr. Freeman Hrabowski (r) noted that in the sixties when he was young he never considered that he might be president of a predominantly white university nor would Americans have ever thought that NIH acting director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (c) and NIH acting deputy director Dr. Yvonne Maddox (l) would be leading NIH.





NIH deputy director for intramural research Dr. Michael Gottesman (l) greets Hrabowski.

Martin Luther King Jr. and pay tribute to his special contributions to our society," she said. "I have great admiration for Dr. Hrabowski and for Dr. King as they turned their devastating struggles for human rights into efforts to benefit mankind."

In addition to serving as UMBC president, Hrabowski is an author who has documented success stories and strategies of young African American students, many from poor families that are often living in dire situations.

"Think about a little girl who grows up in poverty, surrounded by illicit drug activity, but who somehow gets from her parents and from her church and other role models in her life the notion that she can move from that environment through hard work to become a chemical engineer," he said. "Think about that vision and what it takes to go from one step to the next step. How do we pool resources so that any one of those children is as likely as any other to become a scientist? That's the challenge we face in our country."

Reflecting on recent world events, Hrabowski also pointed to the nation's history of success during challenging times. "Our diversity is our greatest strength," he said. "We are who we are today because people have come from all over the world and brought different perspectives and strengths from the beginning of this nation. We face problems, yes. But anytime this country has faced problems in the past, we have pooled resources and brain power and whatever it took and solved those problems. Therein is the hope of this country."

"We are at a defining moment in the development and evolution of our nation," he concluded, noting that in the sixties when he was young he never considered that he might be president of a predominantly white university nor would Americans have ever thought that Kirschstein and Dr. Yvonne Maddox would be leading NIH. "It is a moment when the world is looking to see exactly how we will face tomorrow. NIH represents one of the greatest ideas that has ever existed. Think about it. Billions of dollars devoted to the notion that all people should be healthy. The world looks at you, our nation looks at you. I challenge NIH to be the leader you have been for some time. Set the example for us all. Each of us has the opportunity, as an individual and as a group, to make such a

difference in the lives of others. The work you do here is noble. Whether you are a scientist or not, you are devoted to saving lives. There's no issue more critical to any family than the health of its members. You're saving lives of people not even born yet."

Before the program concluded with the traditional singing of "We Shall Overcome," Maddox, NIH acting deputy director, echoed Hrabowski's sentiments on progress made in the nation, and at NIH, by diverse groups of people working in unity.

"If we are honest when we look back at where we started," she said, "then we must admit that we have made tremendous strides toward freedom. I know that sometimes the haunting words of the old spiritual 'We Shall Overcome...Someday' seem to lose their meaning and feelings of hopelessness often arise. However, as Dr. King did, I too counsel us against despair, and encourage us to keep the faith in his cause...Many times, 'someday' seems far in the distant future, but I've learned that someday often comes sooner than you think, if not as soon as you hoped. Our responsibility is to plan for someday, to be prepared for someday, to be ready to meet someday head on. Because in reality, someday is often today." ■

New Lactation Center Opens

A new lactation center opened Jan. 8 at the NIH campus near Poolesville. It was developed to meet the needs of nursing moms at the NIH Animal Center.

The NIH Lactation Program is a free service offered by the Work and Family Life Center to all employees. It is designed to help ease the transition back to work for women who are breastfeeding their babies. Services available through the program include: prenatal breastfeeding education classes; telephone support while on leave after the birth of a child; consultation about return-to-work issues; and lactation rooms.

With the addition of the new space, there are now 12 lactation centers on and off campus. They include Bldgs. 10, 31, 37, 38, 45, 49, Rockledge II, the Neuroscience Research Center at 6001 Executive Blvd., EPS/EPN, 301 Stonestreet, and on the Frederick campus. Each NIH lactation room is a clean, secure, private room equipped with table, chair and a fully automatic electric breast pump. Employees can either bring their own pump, or buy an adapter kit to use the NIH-provided pump. Use of the room is reserved in advance through one of the NIH on-site lactation consultants. Women who choose not to use the lactation rooms are still eligible to sign up for classes, phone support and consultation services. The ideal time to register for the program is in the third trimester of pregnancy.

The Division of Intramural Research of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development provided resources for the new center.

To enroll in the NIH Lactation Program, register for prenatal education classes, or get more information, go to <http://lactation.od.nih.gov/>, or contact one of the lactation consultants, Jane Balkam or Colleen Prorok by phone 435-7850 or email (balkamj@od.nih.gov) and (prorokc@od.nih.gov).

PTSD Study Recruits

NIMH is seeking individuals over 18 years old for an outpatient study that will determine if a combination of medications can rapidly improve post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms. Study participation includes thorough mental health assessment and treatment with medication. For more information call 1-866-627-6464.

NIH BUDGET, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

centers went to NCI (\$4.19 billion), NHLBI (\$2.576 billion) and NIAID (\$2.37 billion). The buildings and facilities budget—the real foundation beneath all those construction towers seen on campus—is just under \$310 million, but \$75 million of that is to be transferred to the global AIDS fund. The B&F appropriation also includes \$26 million for the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center, and “full scope language” for first and second phases of the center’s construction.

NIH’s newest institute, the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, gets \$112 million.

The appropriation bill, public law 107-116, also includes these particulars:

NCRR gets \$110 million for extramural facilities construction grants, including a \$5 million earmark for a chimpanzee sanctuary, and \$272 million is provided for General Clinical Research Centers; the NIH director retains the authority to transfer 1 percent of the budget for emerging needs; the bill retains identical human embryo language from the FY 2001 Labor, HHS, Education appropriations bill; the Office of the Director receives \$235.5 million, of which \$53.5 million goes to the Office of AIDS Research, \$10.3 million is for the Office of Rare Diseases, and \$17 million for the Office of Dietary Supplements. OD also gets funds to buy 29 new passenger cars, for replacement of an aging fleet.

With respect to bioterrorism, a separate appropriation from the Department of Defense provides \$2.5 billion to the HHS Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund, of which \$85 million is for bioterrorism-related research and development at NIAID, \$70 million for construction of biosafety laboratories at NIAID, and \$71 million for improving laboratory security at NIH and at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ■

Winter Blues Study Recruits

Do you hibernate in the winter? If you notice that you feel fatigued and down and that your sleeping and eating habits change in the winter, you may be eligible to participate in a research study on seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Diagnostic assessment and treatment consisting of light therapy, psychotherapy or their combination will be offered. There is no charge for participation in the study. Interested volunteers, 18 or older, are invited to call the Uniformed Services University seasonality treatment study for more information, (301) 295-9718. ■

Perception Study Needs Volunteers

The Uniformed Services University department of medical and clinical psychology needs healthy male and female volunteers, ages 18-80, to participate in a 2-hour study of perception. Payment is \$30. Call (301) 295-9679 to volunteer. ■

Kuczmarski To Direct NIDDK Obesity Program

Dr. Robert J. Kuczmarski recently joined the NIDDK Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition as director of the division’s Obesity Prevention and Treatment Program. He will coordinate a program of clinical research on the biomedical, behavioral,



Dr. Robert Kuczmarski

societal, environmental, pharmacological and surgical approaches to the prevention and treatment of obesity.

Prior to joining NIDDK, Kuczmarski was a nutritionist and health statistician for the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 1985 to 2001. In this

position, he had primary responsibility for the component of the National Health

and Nutrition Examination Survey III that assessed growth, overweight/obesity and body composition in humans. While at NCHS, Kuczmarski also coordinated efforts to revise the NCHS/CDC pediatric growth charts.

Kuczmarski has contributed to the development of reports related to nutrition and body composition in infants, children, adolescents and adults. He has authored or coauthored more than 50 refereed journal articles, numerous abstracts and book chapters and is a frequent speaker on the use and interpretation of body composition measurements, the prevalence and demographics of overweight and weight gain in the United States, and the new pediatric growth charts. He is a member of several professional and scientific organizations including the American Society for Nutritional Sciences, the American Society for Clinical Nutrition and the American Dietetic Association. He has served as a reviewer for many scientific journals.

Kuczmarski received his undergraduate degree in biology from Hiram College (Ohio) and his M.S. in public health and Ph.D. in nutrition from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Public Health. ■

Postpartum Depression Study

NIMH is seeking volunteer mothers ages 18-40 who have had one or more past episodes of postpartum depression following a full-term pregnancy, but are not currently depressed. Participants must be free of illnesses, medication-free and currently not breastfeeding. Volunteers may be asked to participate in a 6-month protocol investigating the effects of hormones on brain and behavior. All who complete the study will be paid. For more information call Linda Simpson-St. Clair, 496-9576. ■

NINDS Summer Student Wins Rhodes Scholarship

John Probasco, a three-time participant in the NINDS Summer Program for the Neurological Sciences, was recently chosen to receive a 2002 Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University in England.

"When I heard my name called I was overcome by a mixture of emotions, namely disbelief, shock and joy," said Probasco. "I see it as a form of recognition for what I have been able to do and a confirmation for what I hope to do in the future. I am excited with this opportunity to study in a new field in another country under a different system of learning."

The Rhodes scholarship was created in 1902 by the estate of British philanthropist Cecil Rhodes and is the oldest international study award available to American students. Probasco, a senior at the University of New Mexico (UNM)



John Probasco

majoring in biochemistry, is one of 32 U.S. students to receive the scholarship, which provides for 2 or 3 years of study at Oxford. This year's winners were chosen from 925 applicants endorsed by 319 colleges and universities nationwide, and were selected based on high academic achievement, personal integrity and leadership potential.

"This award is also recognition for the time and belief that others, such as Dr. Eric Wassermann and Mr. Levon Parker, have placed in me," said Probasco.

He spent the summers of 1998, 1999 and 2000 in NINDS's brain stimulation unit (BSU), working with Wassermann, and won the Exceptional Summer Student Award all 3 years for his work in human motor cortex physiology.

"John is an exceptionally bright and motivated kid who truly deserves this thing," said Wassermann, who heads the BSU and served as Probasco's preceptor in the summer program.

While at NINDS, Probasco learned the fundamentals of a variety of scientific methods, including general intelligence inventories to test cognitive function, transcranial magnetic stimulation to study the human nervous system, and learning tasks to test an individual's ability to learn a pattern of stimuli and appropriate responses. The program also allowed him to interact with students from across the country who shared his interest in neurology. He credits the program—which offers a unique opportunity for students to get hands-on experience working with leading scientists in the institute's intramural division—with helping him decide to pursue a career in medicine.

"I would not trade the summers I spent at NINDS for any other experience. Through the summer

program and the efforts of the preceptors, students are able to see first-hand how the principles and knowledge gleaned from basic science can be translated to medical reality. For this, there is no substitution," said Probasco.

At Oxford he will read for a bachelor of arts degree in a program that combines philosophy, psychology and physiology. The program explores the relationships between these three fields in relation to one's sense of self, personality and the link between mental health and physical well-being. In addition, the program offers the opportunity to study medical ethics. After Oxford, he plans to study for a medical degree and a Ph.D. in neuroscience, and then to pursue a career in science and public policy.

Currently Probasco works with a group of UNM researchers studying the cellular characteristics of oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy. Earlier, he received a Truman scholarship, an honor that recognizes students with leadership potential, intellectual ability and the likelihood of "making a difference."—Shannon E. Garnett



Shown here during an annual NIH student poster session, John Probasco (l), a three-time participant in the NINDS Summer Program for the Neurological Sciences, was recently chosen to receive a 2002 Rhodes Scholarship.

NIH Alumni Begin Volunteer Program

The NIH Alumni Association is embarking on a Volunteer Program initiative in 2002. Many opportunities exist at NIH and in Montgomery County where alumni can make a difference. Currently, the program is targeting retired or soon to be retired NIH'ers in the local metropolitan area.

Retirement can be thought of as having lots of free time. Instead, retirees can think of themselves as people with a vast amount of experience in a variety of areas. Volunteering is a rewarding activity for both you and the people with whom you interact.

The NIHAA has compiled a directory of opportunities such as volunteering at the Children's Inn and assisting in Montgomery County public schools. Retirees are invited to become involved. There will be a meeting in late April for all alumni interested in the Volunteer Program.

Are you giving back to your community? If not, now is the time to contact the NIH Alumni Association. Call Maggie Heydrick at (301) 663-6043 or email heydrick@mail.fred.net and join the Volunteer Program. Or visit www.fnih.org/nihaa.html.

Program's 44th Year

Management Intern Program Develops Leaders

If you're looking to change careers, the NIH Management Intern Program has a proven track record. Many of the interns have gone on to obtain high level managerial positions with NIH and other federal agencies. The program is interested in attracting outstanding men and women who have a clear interest in and a commitment to a career in public service.

They will complete rotational assignments that will introduce them to potential administrative career tracks in: grants and contracts management; information technology; legislative analysis; human



NIH recently welcomed six new management interns. They are (from l) Walter Mitton, Karen Dunlap, Pamela Love, Allison Stewart, Gregory Smith and Amy Zukowski.

resources management; science policy; program and management analysis; budget and finance; public affairs.

Management interns come from diverse career backgrounds and have held previous positions in administrative offices, intramural research laboratories, and patient care, among others. Laboratory personnel such as biologists, microbiologists, chemists and lab technicians who want to switch from the lab to administrative management may want to consider the program. Laboratory skills such as project

Information Sessions in February

Sessions will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the following dates and locations:

Date	Location
Feb. 5	Executive Plaza North/Conf. Rm. G
Feb. 6	Natcher (Bldg. 45)/Conf. Rm. H *
Feb. 12	Rockledge II/Rm. 9104/9100
Feb. 13	Neuroscience Center/Conf. Rm. D

*Teleconference with NIEHS (North Carolina), Nottingham Hall, Rm. 204A, and NIA, GRC (Baltimore), Rm. 1E03

The last information session will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Feb. 14 in Bldg. 10, Medical Board Rm. (Rm. 2C116).

management and evaluation; idea and literature research; teamwork; data collection, analysis and presentation; negotiation, problem solving and communication are abilities needed by NIH administrators and administrative managers.

Eligible candidates must be either: a current

employee of the Department of Health and Human Services; at the GS-5 level or above or wage grade equivalent; on a career or career-conditional appointment or on any other type of appointment that offers noncompetitive conversion during the application period.

This year's program will open on Feb. 11 and close on Mar. 11. The application process is online at <http://internships.info.nih.gov>. You may review the web site at any time, but applications may not be submitted until Feb. 11. ■

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>.

IT for the Non-IT Manager	2/8
Commissioned Officers Leave & Attendance	2/11
Mediating Employee Disputes	2/11-14
OPM Delegated Examining Unit Training	2/12-14
Budget Execution	2/12,13
Simplified Acquisitions Refresher for AO's	2/12
Creating & Maintaining Filing Systems	2/12
Time Management: Organizing Yourself	2/13,14
Speaking on the Job Part I: Improving Voice Quality	2/14,15
Professional Service Orders	2/14
Introduction to Marketing	2/19
Principles of Accounting II	2/19
Business Law	2/19
Introduction to Nutrition	2/20
Foreign Travel	2/20,21 & 2/25,26
Introduction to MS Excel 2000	2/20
Positive Approaches to Difficult People	2/20
Power Listening	2/21
Medical Terminology II	2/21
Business & Professional Speech Communication	2/21
Price Reasonableness in Simplified Acquisitions	2/21
Introduction to MS Access 2000	2/21

College Classes, Group Registration

HRDD/Montgomery College group registration night will be held Thursday, Feb. 7 at EPS, Rm. 8 from 5 to 7:30. Spring enrollment includes the following classes: Introduction to Nutrition, Introduction to Marketing, Medical Terminology II, Principles of Accounting II, Business and Professional Speech Communication, Business Law I.

Courses have prerequisites. Call HRDD at 496-6211 to schedule an appointment to take your English and math placement exams. ■

NIAMS Muscle Physiologist Podolsky Dies

Dr. Richard James "Dick" Podolsky, an internationally renowned muscle physiologist who made major contributions in the fields of muscle physiology and muscle structure, died Oct. 10, 2001, in Boston. He was 78.

He served as chief of the Laboratory of Physical Biology for more than 20 years. The lab was formerly part of the then National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases, but moved to the new National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases in 1986.

His contributions to muscle physiology laid the groundwork for scientists' understanding of muscle function and structure. He perfected an innovative technique for directly studying the internal components of muscle cells by carefully dissecting away the cell membrane. He was able to show that a calcium ion is necessary to activate the muscle and to regulate the level of contraction. Calcium is stored in an organelle, the sarcolemma reticulum, a specialized part of a cell. Podolsky showed that calcium is released from the sarcolemma reticulum when the muscle cell receives signals from the nerve and is taken back into the organelle once the signal ceases, firmly establishing calcium's role in the muscle contraction and activation process.

He also discovered that how a contracting muscle, when quickly released, restores itself to its original condition reveals a great deal about interactions between actin and myosin, two major proteins in the muscle cells.

During his later years, Podolsky was among the first to combine the leading-edge technique of fast-time x-ray diffraction—a technique for studying molecular structures based on how the x-ray waves bend and spread out when a specimen is exposed to radiation—and mechanical measurements on the living muscle, allowing him to track changes in the protein structures as the muscle lifts weight. His work also contributed to scientists' understanding that titin, a large fibrous protein that acts like a molecular spring, is responsible for the elasticity of resting muscle cells.

Born in Chicago in 1923, he studied at the University of Chicago for both undergraduate and graduate degrees, receiving his B.S. in physical science in 1946 and his Ph.D. in biophysics in 1952. He spent most of his research career at NIH, starting in 1962.

Podolsky will be fondly remembered as much for his scientific brilliance as for his gentle nature. He trained nearly 30 postdoctoral fellows, most of

whom are now well-established investigators in the field of muscle biology. He is survived by two sons, Alexander and Paul, a grandson and a granddaughter. ■



Dr. Richard Podolsky

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>.

Using Secure Email in the Exchange Messaging Environment	2/6
Remedy - Customer Service Tool	2/6
Introduction to the Helix Systems	2/7
Basic Security for Unix Workstations	2/7
NIH Data Warehouse Query: Travel	2/7
Statistical Analysis of Microarray Data	2/8
Budget Tracking	2/11
NIH Data Warehouse Analyze: Budget & Finance	2/11
PowerPoint Topics: Graphs, Links and More	2/12
Getting a New PC? - Understand the Technical Terms	2/12
NIH Data Warehouse Query: Budget & Finance	2/12
Practical Web Page Development for NIH Researchers	2/13
Investment Review	2/13
Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server 2001	2/14
Installing and Using VirusScan	2/14
Dealing with Worms, Viruses and Defaced Web Pages	2/14
EHRP/PeopleSoft Hands-On Workshop for NIH Human Resources (HR) Staff	2/14
Introduction to HTML	2/15
Creating Presentations with PowerPoint 2000 for the PC	2/19
Cost-Benefit Analysis	2/20
Bioinformatics and Genomics with S-Plus	2/20

Senior Leadership Program Announced

The Human Resource Development Division is currently accepting nominations through Feb. 22 for the spring session of the 2002 NIH Senior Leadership Program. Targeted at IC teams of 4-6 senior scientific and administrative leaders, the program focuses on competencies that were identified as critically important to meeting NIH's scientific goals.

The program combines case studies, interactive discussions, experiential learning, assessment data, development planning and a 3-day residential retreat at the Aspen Wye River Conference Center. The curriculum includes sessions led by scholar-practitioners and leaders and individual feedback sessions.

For more information, visit the HRDD web site at <http://learningsource.od.nih.gov/main.pdf> or contact Joyce Laplante at 496-6211 (email Laplantj@od.nih.gov). ■



Dr. Peter Perrin has joined the Center for Scientific Review as a scientific review administrator for one of its new fellowship study sections. His section (F-10) evaluates fellowship applications related to basic and clinical aspects of respiratory, cardiovascular, digestive and renal systems. Perrin received his Ph.D. in parasitology from the University of Pennsylvania, studying the molecular basis of granuloma formation in response to *Schistosoma mansoni* infection. He continued his research there as a postdoctoral fellow before conducting research for the Naval Medical Research Institute. He also became an assistant professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Employee Assistance Available to NIH'ers

There is an ancient Chinese curse that says, "May you live in changing times." The curse reflects the turmoil that always accompanies social change. We live in tumultuous times; never before has so much changed so fast, particularly after the events of Sept. 11, and with such dramatic implications for the entire country. We face an unsettling amount of individual change as shown by the array of transitions in individual lives: marriage, divorces, health problems, relocations, family strife, retirements, etc.

In the workplace we are also confronted with change—ever advancing technologies, new policies and procedures, reorganizations, career transitions, and constantly shifting duties and reporting responsibilities.

The Employee Assistance Program at NIH has been established to help employees deal with the effects of these transitions in their lives. Everyone experiences personal and work concerns from time to time, and many situations improve with access to professional consultation. The EAP can help NIH'ers deal with the impact of



The EAP staff includes (from l) Craig Kalman, Eva Chen, Dr. Mike Bowler, Emma Mixon and intern Marta Conteras.

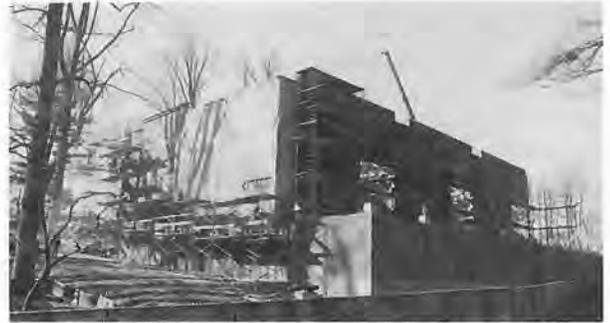
changes through provision of confidential individual and group consultation sessions. EAP consultants also provide specialized services such as stress management, job coaching, transition management and anger management. Brochures describing these services are available at the EAP office in Bldg. 31, Rm. B2B57. You can reach EAP by calling 496-3164 or visit <http://www.nih.gov/od/ors/ds/eap> for detailed information about services.

The program specializes in disability management, providing help for employees whose medical issues (e.g. emotional illness, substance abuse, chronic medical problems) may be affecting their ability to do their jobs and/ or causing difficulty in their personal lives. This will continue to be a central part of the EAP program.

Employee assistance is also available to students and trainees at NIH as well as to managers and employees. EAP is staffed by three counselors: Dr. Michael Bowler, Craig Kalman and Eva W. Chen, who can be reached at the number listed above. ■

Have Turner's Syndrome?

If Turner's Syndrome is affecting you or someone you know, call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY 1-866-411-1010) for information on two important studies. Take part at no cost. ■



New Buildings on Northwest Side—The exterior brickwork is almost complete on the new North Substation (above), an electric supply facility that will eventually provide power to the Clinical Research Center, now under construction. The substation is nestled in woods along Center Drive, just opposite the Cloisters (Bldg. 60). Neighboring the power station will be NIH's new fire house, Bldg. 51, the excavation for which (below) is well under way. The new fire station will replace an obsolete and small facility near the center of campus. The new station will occupy part of what used to be parking lot 10K, near the county fire house at the corner of Cedar Lane and Old Georgetown Rd.



Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series—held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10—features Dr. Douglas R. Lowy on Feb. 13; he will give the annual NIH Director's G. Burroughs Mider Lecture on the subject "Papillomavirus Virus-Like Particles: For Vaccines Against HPV and Other Diseases." He is chief, Laboratory of Cellular Oncology and deputy director, Center for Cancer Research, NCI (see story on p. 1).

On Feb. 20, Dr. Georgia M. Dunston, professor and chair, department of microbiology and founding director, National Human Genome Center, Howard University College of Medicine, will talk about "Biomedical Significance of DNA Polymorphisms."

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