

nih record



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Pioneer Awards Allow 'Off-Road' Exploration

NIH Roadmap in Gear for 3rd Year

By Carla Garnett

In the many conversations NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni held with some of the top minds about the future of medical research, he heard several themes constantly. One in particular, however, seemed to echo from almost every corner: To really transform the field, the most creative scientists must feel free to...color outside the lines.

Nearly 3 years later, the people charged to implement the agency's strategy for the 21st century are making sure NIH's future directions are not limited to the tried and true. The NIH Roadmap is crafted not only to uphold the conventional, but also as an "off-road vehicle," a way to escape the well-traveled paths of the traditional model of research and explore "high-risk" science. It follows then that one of the Roadmap's most successful ventures so far—the NIH Director's Pioneer Award program—was "born to be wild."

According to NIGMS's Dr. Judith Greenberg, the awards "are designed to support individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose pioneering approaches to major challenges in biomedical research. The program was developed in response to the perception that the NIH peer review system tends to be conservative and that as a result NIH only funds 'safe science.' The Pioneer Awards complement the more traditional NIH grant mechanisms and enable NIH to diversify its portfolio to support

SEE ROADMAP, PAGE 4

Ramos Offers a Stitch in Time

Dr. Rose Ramos of NIEHS heard there was a shortage of prom dresses in the post-Katrina Gulf Coast region. The thought that there might be one young lady who was unable to attend her prom because she couldn't find a dress inspired Ramos to offer her expertise.

In March, Ramos read in the *Washington Post* about Prom Dress Express, an effort organized by a high school student in Beltsville, Md., to collect and distribute used prom and pageant dresses to high school students along the Gulf who couldn't find or couldn't afford a dress. The discovery led Ramos to Cabrini High School, an all-girls Catholic school in New Orleans. One-third of the students' families lost all their possessions during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Ramos learned of two students who were unable to find dresses that fit or conformed to the school's strict dress code.

Working with a long list of measurements, a rough sketch for one dress and a magazine cut-

SEE RAMOS, PAGE 6



Project Manager Barbara Rodriguez with Mumar Aguilar, cagewash assistant foreman

Foundations of Research

From Cagewasher to Project Manager

By Belle Waring

Twelve years ago, when Barbara Rodriguez came to the Veterinary Resources Division, ORS, she knew nothing of scientific research. But after 1 year as a cagewasher, a couple of things became clear: "We are the foundations of research," she says.

She also realized that she could make a career out of it. Combining hard work with continu-

SEE CAGEWASHER, PAGE 8



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

briefs

NIH IntraMall Showcase, June 21-22

Come celebrate the 8th annual NIH IntraMall Summer Showcase, which will be held Wednesday and Thursday, June 21 and 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Clinical Research Center on the 3rd and 5th floor pedestrian bridges. The event will display the award-winning electronic purchasing system designed exclusively for NIH to simplify purchasing and speed monthly credit card reconciliation.

Since opening in June 1998, the IntraMall has become a leading NIH web site for using government purchase cards to locate, buy and track purchases from 210 of its most frequently used vendors, offering over 9 million laboratory, office and computer items.

The newest functions will also be demonstrated. The IntraMall now transfers credit card financial obligations to the NIH cost accounting system at the time the order is logged. Budget managers now have current CAN accuracy for purchases made and/or logged via the IntraMall. Training on the new system and automated reconciliation will be available at the show.

Register for the event and the free lunch at <http://intramall.nih.gov/showcase>. A list of vendors can be viewed at <http://intramall.nih.gov/livevendors.html>. For reasonable accommodation to participate in this activity, call Pam Robbins, (301) 496-3688.

Events Benefit Children's Inn

Two upcoming events will help raise funds for the Children's Inn at NIH.

Enjoy a 50 percent discount on exclusive Doncaster and Elana fine women's apparel at the Doncaster Sample Sale Fundraiser, June 17-18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Tyson's Studio, 7700 Leesburg Pike, across from George Marshall High School. For directions call (703) 761-9452.

On June 27, from 5 to 8:30 p.m., the AFI Silver Theater and Cultural Center in Silver Spring will present *Superman Returns*. Join Hollywood producers John and Mindy Peters for a pre-release screening of this summer fun-flick. Tickets cost \$50 and benefit the Andre Sobel River of Life Program at the inn. The program provides emergency financial support to caregivers who have been devastated by their child's illness. Ticket price includes pre-movie reception with local super heroes, including star athletes. To purchase tickets, contact Jane Zhen at (301) 496-5672 or zhenj@mail.nih.gov.

Get Your NIH Record T-Shirt

Through the generosity of the R&W, its stores are now carrying a limited supply of official *NIH Record* T-shirts. The collector's item shirts feature drawings by cartoonist Richard Thompson, whose work appears regularly in the *Washington Post*. Be the first on the beach, boardwalk or boulevard this summer to be sporting a sign of your NIH affiliation. A second printing of the shirts, which cost only \$7.90, may be possible if the garments prove popular. Get yours today.

FAES Announces Concert Schedule

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences has announced the performers and dates in the 2006-2007 season of its Chamber Music Series. This is the series' 39th year. The concerts are held at Congregation Beth El at 8215 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, and all performances will be Sundays at 4 p.m.

Oct. 29	Trio Di Parma
Nov. 12	Mihaela Ursuleasa, piano
Nov. 19	Miriam Fried, Jonathan Biss, violin and piano
Dec. 10	Peter Serkin, piano
Feb. 4, 2007	Vivane Hagner, violin
Feb. 18	Marina Piccinini, Emanuele Segre, flute and guitar
Mar. 11	Auryn Quartet with Roger Tapping, viola (<i>performing two of the six Mozart viola quintets and one of the three Britten quartets at each concert—see below</i>)
Mar. 18	Auryn Quartet with Roger Tapping, viola
Mar. 25	Auryn Quartet with Roger Tapping, viola
Apr. 15	Amit Peled, Alon Goldstein, cello and piano

Tickets for individual concerts may be purchased 2 weeks before the performance, or on the day of the concert. Cost is \$28 for adults; \$12 for students, fellows and postdocs. A 10-performance subscription costs \$250 (\$100 for students, fellows, postdocs). For more information call (301) 496-7976 or visit www.faes.org.

nih record



Dr. John Niederhuber became acting director of the National Cancer Institute on June 11.

Niederhuber Named Acting NCI Director

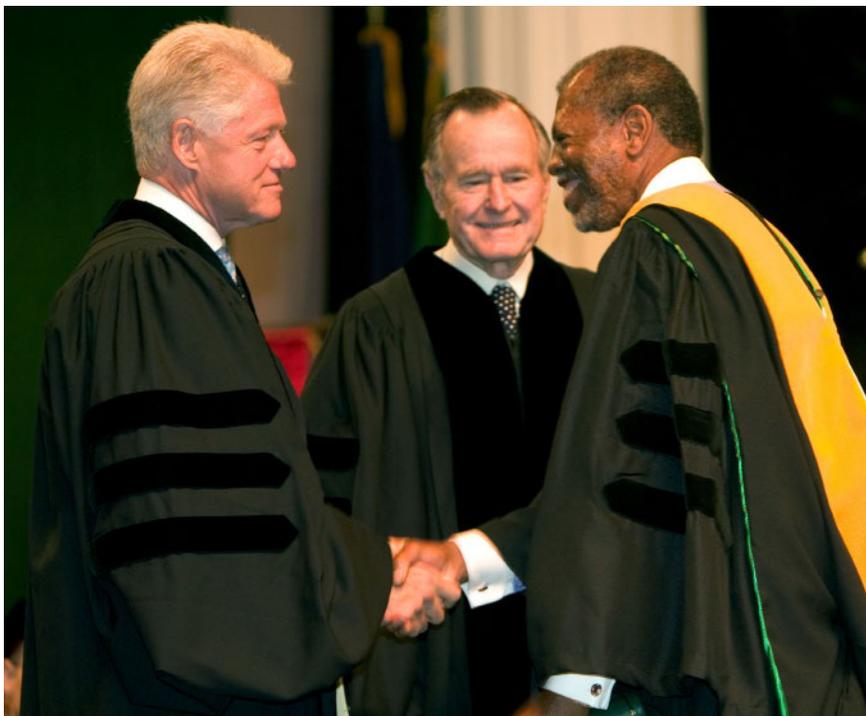
The National Cancer Institute has a new leader: Dr. John Niederhuber, who became its acting director June 11.

Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach, NCI director since 2002, resigned his position effective June 10. He will continue to serve as acting commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration and as a senior adviser to HHS Secretary Michael Leavitt.

Niederhuber, who joined NCI last September as deputy director for translational and clinical sciences, has longstanding ties to the institute across a four-decade career as a cancer surgeon and researcher. He has been an outside adviser, grant reviewer and, from 2002 to 2005, chair of the National Cancer Advisory Board.

Niederhuber's academic career includes service as director of the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center and as a professor at Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Michigan.

In a message sent to the NCI staff just after the announcement, he wrote: "Your professionalism and your sense of mission have infused every lab, clinic and office at NCI, and will most certainly make this a rewarding and exciting time for all of us."

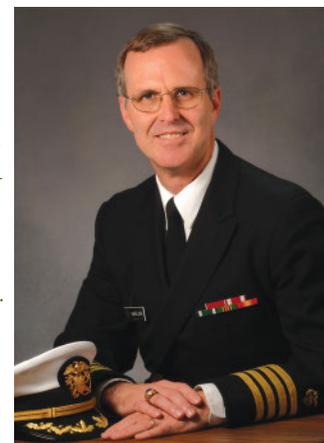


Olden Receives Honorary Doctorate from Tulane

Dr. Ken Olden (r), former NIEHS director, was awarded an honorary doctorate of science from Tulane University on May 13. The honor was made even more special because he shared the podium with two former Presidents, George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton. Olden was honored for his "extraordinary achievements in linking environmental health sciences with public health, and bringing attention to health disparities and environmental justice." Since stepping down as institute director, Olden's laboratory research has focused on strategies to prevent metastasis of cancer by developing a greater understanding of the principles of cell adhesion.

Harlan Named Research Physician of Year

The Public Health Service has presented Capt. David M. Harlan, M.D., with its Research Physician of the Year Award for work representing the highest traditions of the service. The award recognizes him for "creativity, initiative, and accomplishment in performing research into the pathogenesis and treatment of diabetes mellitus." Harlan was recently appointed chief of NIDDK's Diabetes Branch after heading the institute's Islet and Autoimmunity Branch since 1999. A leader in the immunobiology of type 1 diabetes, he served on the NIDDK advisory council from 1996 to 1999 while directing the immune cell biology program of the Naval Medical Research Institute (NMRI). From 1996 to 1998, he headed the NMRI's combat casualty care department. He also serves as a professor of medicine at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, where he has been on the faculty since 1992.



ROADMAP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

exceptionally innovative research.” Greenberg is principal leader of the implementation group for the Roadmap’s high-risk research initiative, which oversees the Pioneer process.

The Pioneer Award program, first announced in January 2004, offers \$500,000 per year for up to 5 years to select scientists deemed to have the extraordinary potential to make a significant impact in medical research. Nine awards were presented in 2004; 13 were given in 2005. Between 5 and 10 will be announced later this year.

“Traditional funding mechanisms do not give researchers the freedom to take significant risks and explore areas outside of their scientific comfort zone,” said Dr. Chad Mirkin, a nanobiology expert at Northwestern University and one of nine scientists who won the first Pioneer Awards in 2004. “The Pioneer Award is a significant traunch of funding, with few creativity-inhibiting programmatic limitations, that allowed us to take our nanotechnology research in directions we ordinarily would not have

pursued. [A traunch is a financial term meaning one of many influxes of cash that is part of a single round of investment.] These include the development of new and powerful diagnostic and therapeutic tools for debilitating diseases such as Alzheimer’s disease, HIV and many forms of cancer.”

Another winner of the inaugural Pioneers, Dr. Sunney Xie of Harvard University, added, “I am most grateful to the NIH Director’s Pioneer Award that has allowed me and my group to pursue high-risk and high-stakes research endeavors. With the NDPA support, we recently succeeded in two first-of-kind experiments monitoring the birth of individual protein molecules in a living cell, which has generated broad interests in the scientific community.”

Overall, reception of the new award program from those outside NIH has been encouraging, noted Greenberg. “The research community has responded in a very positive way, as measured both by the number and quality of applications and by the enthusiasm of the scientists who have participated in the review of the applications. Importantly, the program demonstrates to the community that NIH is serious about supporting highly innovative, high-risk science. In addition, the institutes at NIH have been

so pleased with the program that many have contributed their own funds—beyond what the Roadmap provides—in order to fund more Pioneer Awards. The success of the program has also stimulated some ICs to consider creating their own versions of high-innovation grants, modeled on the Pioneer Awards.”

Dr. Ben Barres of Stanford University, who served on the 2005 team that reviewed Pioneer applications and met with finalists, couldn’t praise the Pioneers process enough.

“NIH should do so much more of this,” he advised. “The truth is, nobody ever wants to serve on a study section. You get to read through 25 pages of the most arcane, the most deadly stuff. But the Pioneer Awards make it so much fun to be a grant reviewer—5 pages of some of the most creative science imaginable.”

What sets the Pioneers apart is the pain-free process, he explained. “The most important thing this does is it makes scientists sit down and think—think deeply and critically and creatively. NIH says, ‘Tell us in 5 pages what you would do if you could do anything you wanted—no holds barred, no strings attached. Tell us the most high-risk, high-impact project you can think of, and we’re going to enable you to do it’...NIH should do everything this way. This is NIH at its best.”

As with anything new and untried, the early Pioneer prototype had its share of wrinkles. One criticism was that the first awards did not identify any high-risk research conducted by women or underrepresented minorities. Award organizers recognized the problem: For some reason, very few scientists from those two populations had applied. For the Pioneer Awards’ sophomore year—2005—organizers made a special effort to encourage women and minority scientists to submit applications. The pool of submissions broadened considerably, and the awards reflected that.

Several others in the research community voiced different concerns about the Pioneers: that the new program would deflect resources away from the traditional research-funding mechanism, or that the awards wouldn’t be able to fund the novel science they were created to fund. Over time, however, the Pioneer program has won over many of its detractors.

In a recent note to Zerhouni, Dr. Jeffrey R. Balsler of Vanderbilt Medical Center, a reviewer

“NIH should do so much more of this...the Pioneer Awards make it so much fun to be a grant reviewer—5 pages of some of the most creative science imaginable.”

—Dr. Ben Barres of Stanford University

in both 2004 and 2005, gave the enthusiastic testimonial of a critic-turned-convert.

“Through participating in the awards process last year as a reviewer, from the first round all the way through the 3 days of finalist interviews at the NIH, I have moved from a position of healthy skepticism to that of a true ‘believer,’” wrote Balser. “My initial concern with the Pioneer program was that it would never be possible to identify the true ‘geniuses’ from among the many talented investigators across the country. I worried that we would have trouble identifying the select candidates capable of providing an acceptable return on investment. These concerns, as the early successes now confirm, were simply unfounded. In fact, what we now recognize is that the pool of talented individuals with imaginative, yet workable, breakthrough ideas is boundless.

“Our challenge at the finalist stage last summer was not to look for deserving awardees,” continued Balser’s note, “but rather to parse among a large group of extraordinarily compelling opportunities, and to affirm the real commitment of those in whom we would recommend you invest. To be in the room as these extraordinary individuals, one by one, made their case with such passion and brilliance was a Thanksgiving feast for those who love science. It is also worth noting that again and again they thanked us for (finally) providing a means to explore their ideas outside the ‘confining limitations’ of the R01 funding mechanism.”

Each year the application process has been tweaked for maximum efficiency and minimum red tape. The 2006 Pioneer winners will be announced on Sept. 19, complete with a symposium featuring last year’s recipients. A call for 2007 applicants will also go out later in fall.

“It may well be that in the process of reviewing the success of the Pioneer Awards, we will learn something about the nature of scientific progress,” Balser concluded. “It is possible that we tend to mislabel the most difficult science as ‘high-risk’ science, as the latter term implies a certain degree of luck will be needed to succeed. In the hands of a Pioneer awardee, what we may learn is that luck is diminished, and that the most difficult problems are, more often than we wish to acknowledge, tractable to those exceptional individuals with an unusual complement of imagination, ingenuity and sheer persistence.” ●

Friedman Named to NHLBI Post

Dr. Charles P. Friedman has been named the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute’s first associate director for research informatics and information technology.

He will provide leadership for the development and implementation of an integrated information and knowledge management environment that spans the range of institute activities. The new role will bring together the science of informatics with the ongoing development and support of NHLBI’s information resources.

Prior to joining NHLBI, Friedman was on leave from the University of Pittsburgh and had been working as a senior scholar in NLM’s extramural programs division. At Pitt, Friedman was professor of medicine and associate vice chancellor for biomedical informatics. While at NLM, Friedman managed its grant portfolio in bioinformatics and computational biology as well as the library’s institutional and individual training grants in biomedical informatics. He was part of the trans-NIH team that established the program of National Centers for Biomedical Computing.

Originally trained in physics and education at MIT and the University of North Carolina, Friedman has been programming computers for research, education, business and pleasure since 1966. Looking ahead to his new responsibilities, he noted: “In thinking about how to realize the enormous potential of modern biocomputing to enhance everything we do at NIH, it is important to stay focused on the technology’s role to support professional people doing difficult, creative work. Informatics is about people and technology in tandem, doing things together that would not be otherwise possible.”



Dr. Charles P. Friedman has been named the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute’s first associate director for research informatics and information technology.

RAMOS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

out for the other, she created two dresses in less than 10 hours and shipped them off to the girls in New Orleans.

Ramos is an experienced seamstress who ran her own custom prom and wedding dress business for 10 years in San Antonio, Tex. She has been carting around left-over material through several moves during the last 5 years. The business allowed her to quit a full-time job, create dresses at night, care for her then-teenage children and return to school to complete a bachelor's degree at the University of Texas, San Antonio. From there, she went to graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh where she received her Ph.D. She started a post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. Ken Olden in October 2005.

Ramos' area of expertise is health disparities. During her stay at NIEHS, she will examine the risk of elevated pre-pregnancy body mass index for insulin resistance and the prevalence of pro-inflammatory mediators related to the risk of heart disease and type 2 diabetes in the expectant mothers and the newborns.

Ramos said, "It took longer for the girls to decide what kind of dresses they wanted than it did for me to sew them."



The prom was May 12 and according to letters from the Cabrini students, the dresses were a stunning success. Both girls expressed their sincere gratitude and one invited Ramos to "come to 'The Big Easy' when everything is settled down" to visit with her family. Ramos said, "Preparing for prom is always a crazy time for girls and their moms. I was thrilled to be able to offer relief from some of the craziness and provide some normalcy after the disruption experienced by these Katrina survivors over the last year." 📍

Right:

Dr. Rose Ramos holds a picture and a sketch of prom dresses she created for two high school girls in New Orleans.

'Most Powerful in Washington'
Magazine Honors Four Directors

Four institute directors were among a list of 100 women named “most powerful in Washington” by *Washingtonian* magazine in its June issue: Dr. Patricia Grady of NINR; Dr. Story Landis of NINDS; Dr. Elizabeth Nabel of NHLBI; and Dr. Nora Volkow of NIDA. They joined a list that includes First Lady Laura Bush, Second Lady Lynne Cheney, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and former Secretary of State Madeline Albright.

The article begins by reminding readers that “Washington is home to some of the world’s most formidable and talented women: senators, leading lights in business, medicine, the arts, the law. But their accomplishments haven’t translated to progress for women across the board. Here are the area’s 100 most powerful women; they defy the common wisdom about what it takes to succeed.”

All of the NIH institute directors expressed how privileged they felt at being included on the list and all welcomed the opportunity to take advantage of the recognition to shed light on NIH’s mission.

The four joined the other honorees along with *Washingtonian* magazine staff and guests for a reception in Washington, D.C., on May 24.

Washingtonian, which reports a paid circulation of over 161,000, enjoys an influential readership that includes many national and local leaders in health, science, government and industry.—Lanny Newman



Among a list of 100 women named “most powerful in Washington” by Washingtonian magazine were four IC directors shown here (clockwise from top): Dr. Patricia Grady of NINR; Dr. Story Landis of NINDS; Dr. Elizabeth Nabel of NHLBI; and Dr. Nora Volkow of NIDA.



Front, from l: Maria Guzman, cagewash technician; Barbara Rodriguez, project manager; Lucas Desouza, cagewash technician

Second row: Clovis Nogouambe, cagewash technician

Back, from l: Antwan Pointer, cagewash technician; Mumar Aguilar, cagewash assistant foreman; Carlos Blum, cagewash foreman; Olapomi Olorunfemi, cagewash technician

CAGEWASHER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing education, she got a string of promotions: from cagewasher to animal caretaker, then to environmental technician, up to cagewash supervisor, floor supervisor, assistant project manager and now to her current position as project manager.

“Research is not done overnight,” she notes. “Some studies go 10 to 15 years, and it’s very important to get the proper training.”

Rodriguez describes cagewashing as physically demanding and laborious, and, although some people enjoy it, it’s still a hot and noisy job with exacting standards. “It’s not like washing dishes,” she explains. “We wear scrubs, booties, gloves, bonnets, masks and overalls over our scrubs. We dip our [gloved] hands in chlorine dioxide, so there’s no cross-contamination. Using aseptic technique, we move the animal to a clean cage. Then the dirty cage gets sanitized, disinfected and sterilized. Every day we have cages to change.”

They start their day by observing their charges closely; any animal not doing well is immediately reported to the veterinarian assigned to the unit. In addition to being fed and housed, the

animals get snacks and treats like pineapples, kale, apples and oranges. The rabbits are taken out for exercise in baby pools (without water). Meanwhile the room is swept, mopped and monitored for appropriate decibel levels, temperature and humidity.

“By taking care of the study models,” Rodriguez explains, “we are the eyes and ears of the scientists. The lab head comes to this facility with her peers; they are in touch with us all the time. They tell us their needs; it’s a constant exchange.”

The profile of the cagewasher has changed, she says, from a kid straight out of high school to “immigrants who have their degrees already.” This month, she will take yet another step up: she’ll sit for her CMAR exam (one of a series approved by the American Association of Laboratory Scientists) to become a certified manager of animal resources.

“This whole research system,” she explains, “is built in layers, one on another, and is important to society as a whole. This is not a pet store. If only people knew how well the animals are taken care of. Every bit of education helps.”



Fishermen include (from l) new retiree Dr. David Badman, Dr. Raymond Bergeron of the University of Florida, Dr. Gary Brittenham of Columbia University and Dr. William R. Weimar Jr. of South University School of Pharmacy.

Really 'Gone Fishing' Now

NIDDK's Badman Retires After 30 Years

By Helyn Oscanyan and Mary Harris

Colleagues, friends and family gathered at NIH on May 3 for the symposium, "New Insights in Iron Biology," and reception honoring Dr. David Badman, a relentless advocate for iron research. Officially retired Jan. 1, 2005, after 30-plus years, Badman often sets his out-of-office message to read "Gone Fishing." But because he has had one hand on a fishing rod and one on an NIH Roadmap drug development project, you might not have noticed.

"I had a terrific career at NIDDK, a wonderful institute to work for, encouraging freedom to find things needing to be done and to do them," Badman said. "There's always a way to do something. You just have to figure out how."

Growing up around animals on his grandfather's Wisconsin dairy farm sparked an interest in biology that outstanding college teachers nurtured, Badman said. Hooked on science, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin and earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in zoology from the University of Florida, where Badman just may have learned a few fishing tips, too.

While teaching biochemistry and physiology at Kalamazoo College in Michigan, Badman was tapped by NIH for its Grants Associate Program, which trained a select few health scientist administrators each year. During the internship, he adopted a "can-do" attitude from his mentor, Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, then NIGMS director and now special assistant to the NIH director.

"In addition to being a role model, she opened doors to interesting assignments and has always given me good advice," Badman said.

That experience induced Dr. Nancy Cummings to hire him as NIDDK hematology grants program director, "a natural" scientific segue from animal physiology, Badman explained. He would hold this job dear for 29 years.

Cummings immediately "got me involved in interesting assignments, helping me develop my abilities," Badman remembered.



Badman receives congratulations from grandson Christopher. The T-shirt advertises that the Florida Gators, Badman's alma mater, won the 2006 NCAA hoops championship.

Badman also championed iron overload research, which was not being emphasized elsewhere at NIH. Iron overload is a serious problem for about 50,000 people in the United States, mostly children with Cooley's anemia or sickle cell disease who rely on iron-rich blood transfusions, said Dr. Gary Brittenham of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

"For a long time, it felt like the research was going nowhere. But we persisted," and some of the many iron-removing compounds we screened have made it to clinical trials, Badman said.

The research he pushed "has revolutionized the field of hematology. Major advances in our understanding of iron metabolism, genetics and hematopoiesis are evidence of his influence," said Brittenham.

Badman is widely seen as not just another Washington bureaucrat.

Mohandas Narla was a young, intimidated new investigator in the 1980s. After meeting Badman, "it came very clear to me that David is a very caring individual," said Narla, now director of research at the New York Blood Center. "He deserves lots of credit for whatever success we have achieved during the last 25 years in our research programs."

We "lose a good friend," added Frank Somma of the Cooley's Anemia Foundation.

Badman "was invariably intellectually curious, interested in the science and helpful," agreed Stanford University's Dr. Stanley L. Schrier.

In retirement, Badman is traveling with his wife, Paulette, starting in Oklahoma, her family home, and eventually including Venice—to make amends for not taking her on an earlier business trip.

"I haven't heard the last of that," laughed Badman.

He's also enjoying time with grandson Christopher, best buddy and ever-ready fishing partner, and renovating his 100-year-old Victorian farmhouse near White's Ferry, "about 2 miles from the Potomac River. Except when it floods it's only 1 mile," Badman chuckled.

Wherever he is and whatever he's doing, he'll be making the best of it.

"David always tries to figure out how something...can be done, not why it can't," said Dr. Ernest Beutler at the Scripps Research Institute. 🍷

CIT Computer Classes

All courses are given without charge. For more information call (301) 594-6248 or consult the training program's home page at <http://training.cit.nih.gov>.

NIH Data Warehouse Query: Budget and Finance	6/20
Securing Web Applications	6/20
Security in the Application Development Life Cycle	6/20
nVision Technology Transfer	6/22
Advanced QVR Training	6/26
NIH Data Warehouse Query: Human Resources	6/27
Reference Manager 11 (PC) Basics	6/29
EndNote (PC) Basics	6/29
PubMed	6/29
Introduction to the QVR System	6/29

NIH Training Center Classes

The Training Center 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 (301) 496-6211 or visit <http://LearningSource.od.nih.gov>.

Travel for Admin Officers/Approving Officials	7/26
Electronic Purchase Logs & Reconciliation Procedures	7/31
Simplified Acquisitions Refresher	8/1
NIH Domestic Travel (NBS) Travel System	8/1
Purchase Card Training	8/2
Professional Service Orders	8/3
Consolidated Purchasing Through Contracts	8/7
Federal Supply Schedules	8/7

NCI Program Offers Mentoring

The National Cancer Institute has a mentoring program called the Knowledge Management Program, which is open to administrative and scientific personnel and is now in its second year. Last year, 23 pairs of mentors and mentees enrolled.

In the KM Program, mentees choose their own mentors. Program coordinators provide individual coaching and assistance to mentees throughout this process. Sonya Roberson, scientific review administrator and a 2006 mentee, said it was interesting for her to meet with various potential mentors because she learned more about what other people do at NCI. She also liked having the opportunity to make informal contacts and enjoyed networking.

Once matches are made, there is training for mentors on program guidelines and expectations. The pairs must meet at least an hour a month, and the program involves a 12-month commitment. This year, the KM program welcomed 21 pairs. The program also offers brown-bag sessions once a month.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee, contact Sandra Thomas or Nancy Brisebois-Good at (301) 435-8524. For more information, visit <http://camp.nci.nih.gov/owd/>.

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, immunology, languages, medicine, microbiology, pharmacology, statistics, toxicology, alternative medicine 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. 11; mail registration ends Aug. 18 and walk-in registration will be held from Aug. 28 to Sept. 1. Tuition is \$115 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 SF 182 form) is needed in order to process registrations for classes. Asking your institute to pay your tuition is a preliminary step to registration, but does not constitute registration with the FAES Graduate School.

Catalogs and fall schedules are 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 catalog and schedule sent, call (301) 496-7976 or visit <http://www.faes.org>.



Parley's Place Honors 2 Millionth Customer

Gene Cowgill of the Bldg. 31 concession stand congratulates NIAID's Dr. Ruchira Mitra, Parley's Place's 2 millionth customer and lucky winner of \$100 cash. Named in 1992 for manager Parley van Sickle, the store handles approximately 1,000 customers a day. The official tally began in 1998, when the cash register was computerized. "It took almost 8 years to get to this point," says Cowgill, "so we wanted to honor our 2 millionth customer." The stand is part of the Maryland Business Enterprise Program for the Blind.



volunteers

Lyme Disease Study

Do you think you have Lyme disease? People with active Lyme disease are invited to participate in a study at NIH. Evaluation and treatment provided. For information call (301) 496-8412.

Study of Ovarian Function

Healthy women ages 18 through 25 are needed for an ovarian function study. Compensation is provided. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010). Refer to study 00-CH-0189.

Volunteers Needed for Anthrax Vaccine Study

NICHD is seeking healthy men and women, ages 18-45, to participate in an investigational anthrax vaccine study conducted at NIH. The vaccine is expected to be as effective as the licensed anthrax vaccine (AVA) but it is purer and should be safer. Medical tests will determine eligibility. Compensation will be provided. Call 1-877-444-9980 (TTY 1-866-411-1010). Refer to study 04-CH-0283.

Asthma Study Recruits

An asthma study at NIH is recruiting children ages 5 to 17. The study will determine the usefulness of a new procedure for evaluating asthma in children. All study-related tests will be provided at no cost. Compensation is provided. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010). Refer to study 04-1-0126. Se habla español.

Healthy Adults Sought

The Vaccine Research Center at NIH is looking for healthy volunteers 18 to 65 years old to participate in studies of experimental vaccines for infectious diseases. We are currently seeking volunteers for a study of an investigational West Nile virus vaccine. Volunteers will have medical examinations and blood tests to see if they are eligible for the studies. Financial compensation is provided. To volunteer, or for more information, call us 1-866-833-LIFE (toll-free) or TTY 1-866-411-1010.

Healthy Adults Needed

NIH invites healthy adults to participate in a clinical study involving different vaccines and blood draws. Call 1-866-444-2214, or TTY 1-866-411-1010, for information. Participants will be compensated.

Children, Adolescents Being Recruited

NIH invites healthy children and adolescents who are overweight to participate in a clinical study. Parents, call 1-866-444-2214, or TTY 1-866-411-1010, for information. Participants will be compensated.

Have Enlarged Gums?

Do you have enlarged gums and are you taking dilantin, cyclosporine or calcium channel-blockers? If so, take part in an NIH study. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).



National Women's Health Week Marked at NIH

"Reconnect with Your Health" was the theme of the National Women's Health Week celebration that began on Mother's Day, May 14. Coordinated at NIH by the Office of Research on Women's Health, the event was one of many nationwide sponsored with other components of the Department of Health and Human Services and an alliance of organizations to focus on the importance of incorporating simple preventive health behaviors into everyday life.

Top:

In addition to community health awareness activities throughout the country, the week was marked with an information booth at the Clinical Center featuring materials from NIH institutes and centers about prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of diseases that affect women throughout the lifespan. A workshop jointly sponsored by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management's Federal Women's Program and ORWH offered an opportunity for staff to participate in WOMAN (Women and girls on the Move Across the Nation) Challenge, an 8-week national health program that emphasizes the benefits of people increasing their physical activity.

Bottom:

Another local highlight of the week was a seminar on "Security and Emergency Response" by Cpl. William Dougherty (below, r), community policing coordinator of NIH's Division of Police. There was also a demonstration titled "Protect Yourself by Thinking Like a Cop, Save Yourself by Thinking Like a Woman," by Dee Walker (l), assistant chief of the Investigative Services Bureau, Montgomery County Police. Presenting them with a framed poster of the event is Dr. Vivian Pinn (c), ORWH director.



Bike to Work Day 2006 Is Best Ever

NIH's observance of Bike to Work Day drew the largest crowd in memory on May 19, when some 175 employees pedaled up to the Paul Rogers Plaza in front of Bldg. 1 for snacks, giveaways and a chance to win a new bike.

"It's awesome—we've got three to four times the number of people who have showed up in the past," said CIT's Jim Tomlin, a long-time member of the NIH Bicycle Commuter Club. In addition to the high price of gasoline, he cited three other reasons for the large turnout: "Good weather, extensive publicity by the Washington Area Bicycle Association (WABA), and the tireless efforts of Angela Atwood-Moore, president of the club."

To promote cycling as a commuter option, WABA offered a Cannondale R500 bike for raffle; the bike sells for about \$950. Mark Headings of the Office of Budget in Bldg. 1 won the new wheels.

In addition to enjoying fruits, snacks, drinks, T-shirts and biking accessories, participants had a chance to meet and compare routes. Psychologist Samantha G. Smith of NIMH, who works in Bldg. 10, is compiling a comprehensive list of showers available to employees, and plans to share her results soon.



Top: Patronizing the NIH observance of Bike to Work Day are (from l) Dr. Paul Robbins, NCI; Dr. Nick Jakubovics, NIDCR; Dr. Samantha Smith, NIMH; and Angela Atwood-Moore, NIH Bicycle Commuter Club president.

Middle left: Dr. Santhi Ganesh of NHGRI visits the plaza for a morning snack.

Middle right: At the official pit stop for Bike to Work Day—the Paul Rogers Plaza in front of Bldg. 1—R&W Fitness Center Director Bob Caldwell (c) signs up entrants, including NIAID's Paul Kennedy (r), for bike raffle.

Bottom: Jim Tomlin of CIT, who occasionally cycles 19 miles from his home in Olney, called the turnout the best ever in nearly a decade.

PHOTOS: BELLE WARING

