

nih record



ABOVE • Twins converged on Twinsburg, Ohio, for the 31st annual Twins Days—see below.

features

NIH To Scan Itself This Fall for Evidence of Risk	1
Kinyoun Lecture on Influenza, Oct. 5	3
Contest Winner Is Long-Time NIH'er	5
R&W's Cole Ends 27-Year Career	9

departments

Briefs	2
Training	10
Volunteers	11

Not a 'Gotcha!' Program

Risk Management Effort on Upswing at NIH

By Rich McManus

Say the phrase “risk management” on this campus, and most folks are going to think fence, ID badge, flashing lights and security guards. The more mortgage-minded among us might conjure up images of accountants in green eyeshades, poring over the books, or bankers, worried about overextending their loans.

But risk management—now ascendant as NIH initiates a Risk Management Program that is one of five main elements of the President’s management agenda—is actually a bit of both of these. Like a guarded fence, it tries to keep bad things from happening, and like an army of CPAs, it aims to keep those 28 billion bucks in our yearly budget flowing in the proper direction.

But the focus isn’t just money, insists Colleen Barros, NIH deputy director for management. Risk, like beauty, is where you find it—in human resources, in large IT systems, in clinical trials, in grants and contracts, travel management, personal property, and—nobody here needs to be reminded—ethics programs.

This fall, NIH will be conducting a major scan of potential vulnerabilities in all of

SEE RISK MANAGEMENT, PAGE 8



Twin volunteers relax in the NIDCD sign-up booth before having their hearing tested.

It Takes Two

Hearing Loss Study Has NIDCD Scientists Doing Double Duty

By Jennifer Wenger

The line-up of volunteers looked like a Hollywood casting call for colorful character actors. There were bead-bedecked cowgirls, whiskered men in sailor hats and 84-year-old Southern belles toting lavender lace parasols. And everyone—everyone—showed up with his or her own double.

But this was no casting call. For a fifth consec-

SEE TWINS, PAGE 4

CC Galleries Display Richness of NIH Medical Art

By Shana Potash

While scientists work in their labs in the Clinical Center, a different kind of creative process is taking place several floors below. Artists are at work.

For decades, medical illustrators and graphic designers have helped NIH scientists tell the story of their research and have contributed to the understanding and awareness of advances made here.

The contribution of the artists and their collaboration with scientists is celebrated in a new exhibit in the CC galleries. “NIH Medical Illustration and Poster Design Past to Present,” features a collection of illustrations from the 1950s to the present and a retrospective of posters created by NIH Medical Arts.

“I think our posters and medical illustrations should be the best in the country because we represent the country in the field of health care,” says lead illustrator Alan Hoofring. “We should push the envelope and set a look that everyone else wants to achieve.”

“The medical illustrators at NIH are phenom-

SEE MEDICAL ARTS, PAGE 6



The NIH Record is published biweekly at Bethesda, MD by the Editorial Operations Branch, Office of Communications and Public Liaison, for the information of employees of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. The content is reprintable without permission. Pictures may be available upon request. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the director of the Office of Management and Budget through September 30, 2006.

NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Rm. 5B41
Phone (301) 496-2125
Fax (301) 402-1485

Web address
<http://www.nih.gov/nihrecord/>

Editor
Richard McManus
rm26q@nih.gov

Assistant Editor
Carla Garnett
cg9s@nih.gov

Staff Writer
Belle Waring
bw174w@nih.gov

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

♻️ The NIH Record is recyclable as office white paper.

briefs

Medicine for the Public Lecture Series Begins Sept. 26

Why do only 10 percent of people infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* develop tuberculosis? What role does the brain play in overeating? Why is depression twice as common in women as men? These and other leading-edge medical issues will be discussed at the 2006 Medicine for the Public lecture series on Tuesday evenings at 7 in the Clinical Center's Masur Auditorium, beginning Sept. 26. Physician-scientists working to translate science into medicine will deliver lectures and take questions from the audience.

The lecture series has been presented every fall since 1978 and was developed to bring information on medical research to the public. The free talks are designed to help non-scientists understand medical science and appreciate the importance of medical research in our lives. Dates, topics and speakers are listed below. For more information on the series, call Clinical Center Communications, (301) 496-2563.

Sept. 26—"Preventing the Nation's Leading Cause of Death: Heart Disease," Dr. Denise Simons-Morton, NHLBI

Oct. 3—"Stroke Update," Dr. Steven Warach, NINDS

Oct. 10—"Tuberculosis in the 21st Century: Old Problem, New Understanding," Dr. Steven M. Holland, NIAID

Oct. 17—"The Role of the Gut, Hormones and the Brain in Obesity," Dr. Monica C. Skarulis, NIDDK

Oct. 24—"AIDS After 25 Years: Lessons Learned for Other Emerging Infections," Dr. Henry Masur, Clinical Center

Oct. 31—"Depression: Impact, Causes and Current Research," Dr. Peter Schmidt, NIMH

Yoga Meditation Held Weekly

Sahaja yoga meditation class is held every Thursday at 7 p.m. on the third floor of the CRC, Rm. 3-1608. Sahaja yoga seeks to awaken inner energy called kundalini, and is offered for free and without obligation. The class is sponsored by the recreation therapy section of the rehabilitation medicine department. For more information contact Jasmin Salloum, (301) 402-5630.

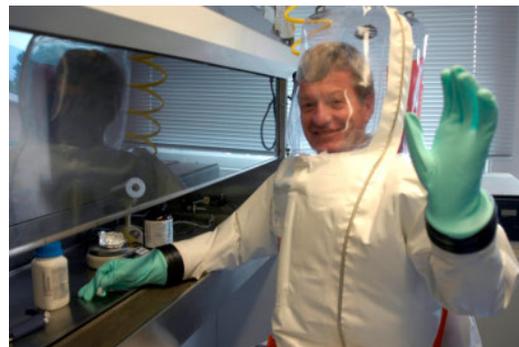
Biologist Addresses Evolution Controversy

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series—held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10—on Sept. 27 will feature Dr. Kenneth Miller, speaking on "God, Darwin, and Design." Miller is professor of biology at Brown University, where he studies structure and function in biological membranes. One of his principal interests is the public understanding of evolution. His recent book, *Finding Darwin's God: A Scientist's Search for Common Ground Between God and Evolution*, addresses the scientific status of evolutionary theory and its relationship to religious views of nature.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call (301) 594-5595.

Principles of Clinical Research Class

Registration for the 2006-2007 "Introduction to the Principles and Practice of Clinical Research," began on Aug. 1. The course will run from Oct. 16 through Feb. 20, 2007. The deadline for registering is Oct. 6. Classes will be held on campus on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 5 to 6:30. There is no charge for the course but purchase of a textbook is suggested. A certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of the course, including a final exam. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.cc.nih.gov/researchers/training/ippcr.shtml> or call (301) 496-9425.



Montana's Baucus Visits RML

Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) sits in a training room at a biosafety cabinet wearing a positive-pressure suit used in maximum containment laboratories. Baucus tried on the suit during a recent visit to Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML) in Hamilton, MT, where the suits will be used in a new NIH Integrated Research Facility next year. RML is part of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

PHOTO: ANITA MORA

nih record

Taubenberger To Give Kinyoun Lecture, Oct. 5 in Lipsett

In 1918, an exceptionally deadly form of influenza swept the globe, claiming as many as 50 million lives worldwide. What made the virus so lethal? Are we facing the possibility of another such pandemic—perhaps sparked by the avian influenza strain H5N1?

Influenza viruses past and future are the topic of this year's Joseph J. Kinyoun Lecture to be given by NIAID senior investigator Dr. Jeffery K. Taubenberger. The talk is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 5, at 2 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

In 2005, Taubenberger and a team of scientists reconstructed the killer virus using lung tissue from a flu victim who died in 1918 and was buried in Alaskan permafrost. By piecing together all 8 gene segments of the historic virus, the researchers could better understand the unique properties of a virus that killed at least 675,000 people in the United States.

For example, they learned that the 1918 virus, unlike contemporary human flu viruses, replicated to very high levels in the lungs of mice without first having to undergo any genetic adaptations. They also found that the 1918 flu virus—like some strains of the highly virulent H5N1 bird flu virus—provoked a strong acute inflammation response in lungs of test mice.

In addition to the reconstruction of the 1918 virus, which was described in a paper published in *Science*, Taubenberger also coauthored a paper in *Nature* in 2005 that shed light on the possible animal origin of the 1918 flu. The researchers compared all the gene sequences from the 1918 virus and modern avian influenza strains and showed that the older virus was likely not a human-avian hybrid virus, such as the ones responsible for pandemics in 1957 and 1968, but rather more probably derived from an avian virus. *The Lancet* chose these articles jointly as the "2005 paper of the year."

Taubenberger joined NIAID's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases earlier this year, and he plans to continue work on the 1918 virus with the aim of gaining more details about its extraordinary properties. Using the 1918 pandemic as a model, he and his colleagues will also evaluate the risk that the current H5N1 virus poses as a possible cause of a future flu pandemic in the broader context of modeling influenza virus pathogenesis and evolution.

Prior to joining NIAID, Taubenberger was chair of the department of molecular pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C., a position he held since 1994.

He received his medical degree in 1986 and his Ph.D. in 1987 from the Medical College of Virginia. He completed his residency in pathology at the National Cancer Institute and holds board certifications in anatomic pathology and in molecular genetic pathology from the American Board of Pathology and the American Board of Medical Genetics.

A recipient of many awards and a frequent speaker at national and international meetings, Taubenberger was named the ABC News "Person of the Week" in October 2005. In 2006, he received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the School of Medicine, Medical College of Virginia, and the Washington Academy of Science's Award for Medicine and was elected to the Association of American Physicians, among other honors. 



NIAID senior investigator Dr. Jeffery K. Taubenberger will discuss influenza viruses past and present in the Joseph J. Kinyoun Lecture on Thursday, Oct. 5.



TWINS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Above:

Dr. Carmen Brewer, NIDCD's chief of audiology

Top, l:

Twins of all ages show up each year at Twins Days.

Top, r:

Twin volunteers fill out their medical histories.

utive year, the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders took part in the world's largest annual gathering of twins, this time to learn more about the genetics behind age-related hearing loss, or presbycusis. Nearly 2,000 sets of twins, triplets and perhaps higher multiples attended the legendary Twinsburg, Ohio, festival—Twins Days—which celebrated its 31st anniversary this past August. The study is the first to definitively address an observation that most hearing health professionals and researchers have made but have yet to prove: that people tend to lose their hearing as they age and that this type of hearing loss seems to run in families.

“Hearing can decline over the years from a variety of factors, including noise, chemotherapy, ear infections, head injuries and overall health,” said Dr. Carmen Brewer, NIDCD's chief of audiology and lead investigator on the study. “And hearing loss can also occur in families. We want to obtain a more precise picture of the role heredity plays in hearing loss as a person ages.”

Brewer and her research team are looking to twins to help sort out this question because they can offer something the rest of us can't: a clone. Monozygotic, or “identical,” twins result when a fertilized egg divides in half to form two embryos, which means that they possess identical DNA. Dizygotic, or fraternal, twins result when two eggs are fertilized by two sperm. They are no more alike genetically than any other sibling pair—sharing roughly 50 percent of their DNA. If a type of hearing loss (or any other disorder) is strictly genetic, one would expect monozygotic twins to be alike 100 percent of the time and dizygotic twins to be alike approximately half the time.

In the study, the research team is administering hearing tests to identical and fraternal twins ages 50 and up, and then comparing results between twins to see if their hearing abilities are highly correlated. If twins tend to have the same hearing status, statistical analyses will determine the extent to which their shared genes account for the similarities. Other NIDCD scientists contributing to the study are Drs. Andrew Griffith, Thomas Friedman, Robert Morell and Dennis Drayna.

“We know that there's an environmental component to presbycusis and we know there's also a genetic component. What we're trying to figure out is how much each of these factors contributes to a person's hearing loss,” said Brewer. The findings might one day help people who know that they carry a gene for age-related hearing loss to take early steps to help limit or even prevent its effects.

Of course, testing a person's hearing at the world's largest twins event can be rather difficult, what with the bagpipe music playing in the nearby talent tent and the P.A. system booming the names of siblings who are most alike, oldest and farthest traveled, or who are wearing the best costume. In addition, because the research team was testing the hearing of older individuals, who have a higher incidence of hearing loss in comparison to young people, it was more important than ever to filter out competing outside noises.

To address these concerns, Brewer and the NIDCD scientists, along with doctoral students from the University of Maryland and Gallaudet University, set up a high-tech testing facility not unlike what one would encounter on a typical trip to the audiologist. In contrast to previous years, where testing was conducted in a rented trailer, the team was permitted to install

a temporary clinic in a brick municipal building on the festival grounds—complete with two soundproof booths, audiometers and other instruments and areas for counseling.

“We basically set up a base camp 350 miles away from home that functioned at the same high quality as our facilities on campus,” said Chris Zalewski, an NIDCD audiologist who served as both heavy-equipment hauler and hearing tester that weekend.

When a pair of twins showed up for their scheduled appointment, the researchers would take a medical history of each, then would conduct the hearing test and provide follow-up counseling. They also took cheek swab samples to determine whether the pair was monozygotic or dizygotic. (This isn’t always obvious, incidentally. Last year, two 19-year-olds who had considered themselves fraternal twins were elated to discover they are identical.) By the end of the weekend, 26 sets of twins had been tested. The researchers plan to participate in Twins Days for at least 3 more years to test a grand total of 100 sets of twins. Brewer is also considering adding two more soundproof booths to improve efficiency.

When asked what made the effort such a success, Zalewski remarked that the outcome was facilitated in large part by the extremely gracious and accommodating people on the Twins Days staff. “Because of them, we were able to operate like a well-oiled machine,” he said.

Brewer agrees. “That,” she said, “and the way the volunteers walked away—audiogram in hand—after receiving their hearing exam and counseling. They forgot that they were participating in a study. They saw this as something that was beneficial to them.” ●



NCI's Kraft Wins NIH Record Contest, Shirt

Congratulations to NCI's Joan E. Kraft, winner of the Name That Spot! contest (see NIH Record, Aug. 11 and Aug. 25). Her perfect score—22 out of 22—netted the prize of an NIH Record collector's item T-shirt featuring drawings by cartoonist Richard Thompson, whose work appears regularly in the Washington Post. “I have been trekking the NIH grounds since I was 10 years old,” says Kraft, “and have worked at NIH for over 36 years, starting just one week out of high school. My father, William E. Wilson, started work at NIH when I was 10 years old and brought the Record home. I would read it and decided early on that NIH's mission was important to me and [that NIH] was the place I wanted to spend my life. My father-in-law, Fred Kraft, also worked at NIH. I've worked for NIH all over the reservation, at Navy and now in a rental building in Rockville. This challenge was fun.” Through the generosity of the R&W, its stores are now carrying NIH Record T-shirts. They remain on sale for only \$7.90 each.

A. I. D. S.



Friday
October 7, 1983
8:00am to 5:00pm

Masur
Auditorium
Building 10

Sponsored by:
Clinical Center
Department of Nursing

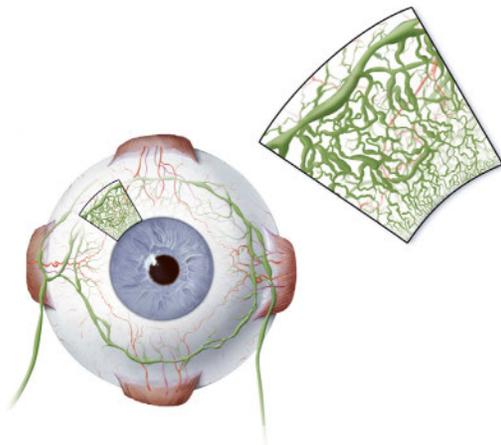
496-5661
National Institutes
of Health

Right:

Alan Hoofring won an American Medical Illustration Award of Excellence for this work explaining the barriers encountered when trying to deliver drugs into the eye.

Far r:

This poster was created in 1983 by Betty Hebb while she worked in NIH Medical Arts and was one of the first posters for an AIDS conference.

**MEDICAL ARTS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



This illustration graced an NIH consensus development conference poster in 1994.

enal artists,” says Lillian Fitzgerald, curator of the CC galleries.

“Their illustrations are an integral aspect of our research and part of the fabric of how NIH works,” adds Crystal Parmele, director of the CC art program.

The exhibit provides a window on how both science and the visual arts have progressed during the past 60 years. Illustrations on display represent a range of topics and artistic styles and show the evolution of approaches from hand-drawn to computer-aided and three-dimensional renderings.

Hoofring’s entry is a medical journal illustration explaining the barriers encountered when attempting to deliver drugs to the interior of the eye. It is a pencil sketch combined with imaging-editing software. There is a huge amount of information per square inch in the artwork.

At the other end of the spectrum is a bold and bright computer-aided rendition of an essential metabolic enzyme, pyruvate dehydrogenase, by Don Bliss, who is now with the National Library of Medicine. The artwork, requested by researchers to accompany a journal article, also made the cover of the publication.

The illustrators and designers, past and present, say while the tools they use have evolved over the years, the biggest change has been the subject matter they are asked to represent. They are doing fewer anatomy and surgery pieces and more illustrations of research at the molecular level.

“We follow the science,” explains Linda Brown, creative services director for NIH Medical Arts. “It’s cutting-edge. The procedures are experimental. The science is new. It gives us the opportunity to do things that no one else gets to do.”

And, they frequently do it first—illustrating topics that haven’t been shown before.

One example is AIDS research in the 1980s, says Martha Blalock, team lead, design and illustration for medical arts. “When scientists first started researching the virus that causes AIDS, we didn’t know what it looked like. Illustrators were coming up with these new images. We’re capturing memories and pieces of a period of time in scientific development.” The exhibit includes one of the first posters for an AIDS conference.

Three current medical illustrators, Hoofring, Ethan Tyler and Lydia Kibiuk have won American Medical Illustration awards. All three, and several past illustrators, graduated from the training program at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where they took anatomy, cell biology, histology and other courses alongside medical students. All three took a class at Hopkins from former NIH illustrator Howard Bartner.

“We’re a very rare breed. There aren’t many of us running around,” says Bartner, describing the service illustrators provide and the specialized, graduate-level training. Bartner was hired for his expertise as an ophthalmologic illustrator and worked with prominent researchers throughout NIH for 42 years before retiring. Samples from his extensive body of work are in the exhibit.

"We're not illustrating birds and flowers. We're illustrating information that may need clarification and will be further enhanced with images," explains Bartner. A good illustrator, he says, "can take the ideas, and photos, or whatever a doctor brings to your desk and create an image that goes far beyond what the doctor anticipated." A talented illustrator creates pieces "that are beautiful to look at and pull you into the drawing so you come away understanding something you might not have understood before."

The illustrators and graphic designers at NIH all say the key is to listen, to understand just what's in the head of the person who asked for help.

Graphic designers are called upon to create the posters, invitations, mailings and other related materials for lectures and special events and to produce public-education and patient-recruitment materials.

Designer Bryan Ewsichek says it's his job to take in a lot of information and distill it into something the public understands. "It comes down to the simplest image to tell the story for the general public—an image that is eye-catching and will draw people in." The exhibit includes a poster he created for a conference on chronic insomnia. He based his design on a television test-pattern one would see in the early morning hours when all programming has ended and most people have gone to sleep. The poster earned him an award from the American Institute of Graphic Arts and the honor of being published in *Communication Arts 2006 Design Annual*, a graphic-design magazine.

Hoofring and Blalock, who organized the exhibit, say this is a chance for the artists to honor their clients. As Bartner notes, "The relationships you form with the doctors enhance your experience."

There's no other workplace like NIH, says Brown. "Where else do you get to sit at a table and talk with a Nobel Prize winner and watch him fold up a napkin to explain the image he wants you to create?"

The exhibit in the CC runs through Nov. 3. The illustrations are on display on the first floor of the Hatfield Bldg. The posters can be seen on the first floor of the Magnuson Bldg. For more information visit <http://medarts.nih.gov>. 

NIGMS Scientific Staff Gains Three

NIGMS recently added three new scientific staff members who will be involved in grants related to its minority programs. Drs. Alberto Rivera-Rentas and Jermelina Tupas are program directors in the Division of Minority Opportunities in Research and Dr. Mona R. Trempe is a scientific review administrator in the Office of Scientific Review.

Rivera-Rentas comes to NIGMS from the Universidad del Turabo in Puerto Rico. There, he was an associate professor of biology and director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research. Previously, he served as director of the NIGMS-funded Bridges to the Doctoral Degree program at Universidad Metropolitana. Rivera-Rentas earned a bachelor's degree in natural sciences from the University of Puerto Rico, Cayey, and a Ph.D. in biology with concentration in neurobiology from the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan.

Tupas was most recently a program director in the National Science Foundation's division of molecular and cellular biosciences. Prior to that, she was a professor of molecular endocrinology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where she directed the NIGMS-supported Minority Access to Research Careers program. Tupas earned a bachelor's degree in zoology and a master's degree in microbiology from the University of the Philippines, Quezon City, and a Ph.D. in molecular biology from the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Trempe joins NIGMS from the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), where she was a professor in the department of biochemistry. During her tenure at the university, she founded and directed the UMMC electron microscopy facility, which specializes in the imaging and three-dimensional structure reconstruction of large protein complexes. Trempe earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Vermont and a Ph.D. in biological chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles.



Top:
Dr. Alberto Rivera-Rentas

Middle:
Dr. Jermelina Tupas

Above:
Dr. Mona R. Trempe

RISK MANAGEMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

its business-related and research support functions. Assisted by the consulting arm of the firm Deloitte & Touche, the agency is taking a long look at itself in the mirror.

It's not so much that no one here was paying attention to risk in the past, Barros emphasizes, as that Sarbanes-Oxley legislation (prompted mainly by the collapse of Enron and accounting firm Arthur Andersen) and revisions to OMB Circular A-123, formally require new scrutiny of all vulnerabilities. On top of that, it just makes for good stewardship.

"You'd be crazy not to have it in a large, 21st century operation with a multi-billion dollar budget such as NIH," Barros said.

She noted that the initial interpretation of OMB-mandated risk management was limited to audits and finance, but says NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni wanted a broader application of the concept—"a bigger arena."

Last July, he sent an email to employees announcing the debut of the Risk Management Program (RMP). Its goal is to identify, by the end of 2006, NIH's areas of high, medium and low risk. Those in charge of the major business enterprises are to receive training, led by the Office of Management Assessment, in recognizing and minimizing risk.

"Deloitte & Touche has a methodology for this kind of study," Barros said. "The core is a series of interviews with leadership of the various functions, and with IC [institute and center] leadership, to ask where the nexus of risk is in many areas." Next comes a paper review of past audits and congressional hearings. The third and final step is to take all feedback from steps 1 and 2 and define a baseline, or spectrum, of risk, agency-wide.

By late fall, Deloitte & Touche is expected to submit its findings to the NIH director's steering committee, which will pick individual items among the areas of high, medium and low risk for further study in FY 2007.

"We are basically institutionalizing the whole Risk Management Program, rather than doing it on an ad hoc basis as in the past," Barros explained. "Our goal is to become more responsive and proactive than reactive. The consideration of risk needs to become part of our culture and our process. It is not a program based on 'Gotchas!' We simply want to strengthen and

assure the stability of a huge enterprise."

She continued, "It's not an audit in the sense of 'We're gonna come and get you.' It's a way of being more proactive and helpful to our managers."

"We intend to proceed in a systematic way, not randomly," added Suzanne Servis, director of OMA. "We want to encourage people to think about risk more routinely."

In October, OMA will launch a training program geared to senior management, conducted by Management Concepts Inc. "This will be for the owners of our major systems and processes," Servis said.

Top executives will receive an RMP overview of perhaps an hour, she predicted; at its most rigorous, the training might take a full day for less-senior staff. At every step, OMA will provide assistance, Servis said, including a dedicated RMP web site. Risk management officers—RMOs—will be identified in all components of NIH, to serve as additional counsel.

Barros emphasizes the RMP "is a help to the organization, a protective strategy. Our intent is not to strike fear into the hearts of thousands. We want to help identify problems before they become huge issues, and to mitigate weaknesses. We're not going to send auditors crawling over you with green eyeshades—that's absolutely not what this is about. We want to instill an awareness of risk on a routine basis, in our daily operations. This is not a once-a-year paper exercise."

Barros said the program has been maturely received by top NIH leadership: "People recognize the need in a big, modern, \$28 billion organization [for RMP]. Everybody felt the burn from the conflict of interest controversy...had there been stronger review in place [when that issue arose], we probably could have avoided some of what we ran into." She admits, "RMP isn't fun, exactly, especially in a time when budgets are tight, and it is going to involve work. But we all realize that it's necessary and it's been accepted as such."

More information on the RMP can be found at <http://oma.od.nih.gov/ma/NewRisk/>. ●

NIAMS at 20

Voluntary Health and Professional Communities

By Dr. Stephen Katz, NIAMS director

As NIAMS turns 20, we recognize the crucial role that voluntary health organizations and professional societies have played in achieving the institute's mission. NIAMS boasts a vibrant mix of public participants in its many activities. Their contributions include:

- Providing input to the institute's planning process and participating in scientific meetings
- Bringing the issues of bone, joint, muscle and skin health to a national audience
- Providing patients and their families with help, including referrals to health care professionals
- Collaborating with the institute on projects, meetings and other functions
- Reviewing publications—providing a much-needed public perspective—and helping with their distribution
- Advising the NIH director (as members of the Council of Public Representatives) on issues of concern to NIH as a whole
- Serving on the NIAMS advisory council.

The time and perspectives of NIAMS's public advisors are invaluable. The institute continues to seek new strategies to partner with these communities in achieving its mission of improving the health of the American people.



"Coalition-building is the only way to go. The NIH is a prime example of this and the NIAMS has maximized this concept through the NIAMS Coalition and its outreach programs."
—Priscilla Ciccariello, president, International Federation of Marfan Syndrome Organizations

R&W's Cole Ends 27-Year NIH Career

By Rich McManus

Since fall of 1979, generations of NIH employees who have visited the R&W gift shop in Bldg. 31 have come away wondering, "Who is that exceptionally nice lady behind the counter?" and "Where could her accent have originated?"

An era of warm personal service came to an end Sept. 6 when Barbara Cole concluded a 27-year career with—what else?—hugs, handshakes, fond wishes and her trademark courteous and engaging manner.

She began her R&W career on a part-time basis, to accommodate her three kids' school schedules. "I got bored painting the house," she said, so she responded to an ad in the newspaper. Once the youngsters were grown, she worked full-time, but in recent years she had scaled back to three appearances weekly.

Many of her customers became friends. "She's a super lady—she practically raised me," said Sherry Meltzer of NIAMS, a 31-year NIH veteran. "She always has a smile. We've grown up together."

"The NIH Recreation and Welfare Association and the NIH were a brighter place because of Barbara Cole," said R&W President Randy Schools. "She brought forth a smile for all, welcoming comments and a sincere desire to help employees with their personal and professional needs. She treated employees with respect, and they in turn treated her like family. Always available to listen, she will be remembered most for her distinguishing trait of kindness."

Cole was born in Casablanca, Morocco, the daughter of Swiss parents who came to Africa as colonists from Europe. Her first language was Schweizerdeutsch, a Swiss-German dialect, and she also spoke Arabic, in order to get along with the natives. She learned French in school, as France had taken over Morocco.

Perhaps her penchant for attentive personal service was inherited: "Both of my grandparents were in business, and they always stressed the importance of high ethical standards," she said.

Cole lived in Africa until age 22. During a brief visit to the United States, she met Jack Cole, who urged her to extend her visa while they courted. She did, for an extra 3 months, and the two have now been married 47 years. They have 12 grandchildren, eight of whom "live within 3 miles of us."

"We're going to stay home and fight," she laughed, noting that her husband "is just a little bit spoiled." She also intends to assemble a trove of old photos and mementos into a coherent narrative of her family's exodus from relative affluence in Europe to the challenge of starting over as farmers in Africa, then to the U.S. "It will be a National Geographic-style account," she said.

Cole said the past 27 years here, during which R&W expanded from "a closet" in the basement of the A-wing into a fairly large retail space, passed in a flash. "It's been very heartwarming and very interesting," she said, though she notes that today's customer is more harried than in past eras, when conviviality was more the norm. "There are very few people nowadays who have the outlook of 'I'm thrilled with my job.'"

She concluded, "I would like to thank the many customers who have visited our stores and helped support our many charities. It has always been a pleasure to work with Randy and the rest of our 'crew,' and to be connected to the NIH community. So many nice people I met through the years! So many nice memories!"



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>.

Home Networking Fundamentals	9/25
Web Sponsor	9/26
MATLAB for Scientists	9/26-27
Blackberry Tips and Tricks	9/27
JMP Scripting Language	9/27-28
AJAX Programming Techniques – Introduction	9/28
SPSS: Basics	10/4-5
How To Get the Most Out of Outlook 2003	10/5
Breeze	10/12
NCBI's MapViewer Quick Start	10/12

Whitley Named CIT Deputy Director

Al Whitley has been named deputy director, Center for Information Technology. He will serve as chief operating officer, providing vision and overall technological, operational and managerial leadership to CIT, which supports NIH research and management programs with information systems, networking and telecommunications services.

Whitley has held a number of senior IT positions during 8 years at the Internal Revenue Service. His most recent position was deputy associate CIO and acting associate CIO for end user equipment and services, where he provided personal computing, help desk and telecommunications services for more than 100,000 customers worldwide.

He was also director of the Martinsburg Computing Center and director of telecommunications. In the latter post, he was responsible for installing, operating and maintaining telecommunications systems throughout the IRS. He managed a budget of more than \$300 million, operated the National Network Management Center and participated in numerous executive steering committees.

Whitley also served as an information systems officer with the United States Air Force. He retired from the Air Force in 1998 as a colonel.

He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology and a master of science degree in systems management from the Air Force Institute of Technology. His many awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. 📍



Linde Rejoins NIAMS

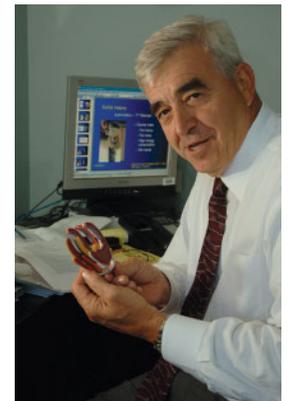
Anita Linde has been appointed director of the Office of Science Policy and Planning, NIAMS. She coordinates and manages the science policy, strategic planning and program evaluation activities

of the institute. She is former special assistant to the director of the NIH Office of Communications and Public Liaison and previously served as a senior program analyst in the NIAMS Office of the Director. Linde came to NIH as a presidential management intern in 1994 from Vanderbilt University. She has received numerous awards, including three NIH Director's Awards and an NIH Merit Award. She is a 2004 graduate of the Senior Executive Fellows program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a 2005 graduate of the NIH Senior Leadership Development Program.

NICHD's Quatrano Receives Tibbets Award

Dr. Louis Quatrano of NICHD's National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research recently received the Tibbets Award for fostering rehabilitation research through the Small Business Innovation Research Program.

He was recognized for providing guidance to innovators in the field and advising them how their new inventions can best fit into the NIH framework. The award is named for Roland Tibbets of the National Science Foundation, who is regarded as the father of the Small Business Innovation Research Program. Quatrano is shown here demonstrating a prosthetic hand developed by a grantee.





Are You a Mom? Or Are You Pregnant?

Mothers between 20 and 45 years old with an infant 4 months or younger or women currently expecting a baby are needed to participate in a study of infant development in the first 2 years of life. Study participation includes a visit to the lab to explore how babies interact and play as well as a home visit to observe the typical daily activities of infants. If you are interested in contributing to the understanding of how infant interactions affect infant development, visit <http://newmom.nichd.nih.gov> for more information.

Thyroid Cancer Study

An NIDDK study seeks individuals recently diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010) for details.

Normal Volunteers Needed

The Pulmonary-Critical Care Medicine Branch, NHLBI, is looking for healthy individuals between the ages of 18-65 to participate in a research study. A thorough medical evaluation and monetary compensation will be provided. If interested, call (301) 402-1553.

Panic Disorder Treatment Study

The anxiety disorders research lab at American University seeks individuals who experience panic attacks to participate in a 7-week psychotherapy treatment study. Participants must be 18 or older and have experienced panic symptoms for more than 1 month. The initial assessment to determine qualification may take 1-3 hours. Qualified volunteers may be eligible for compensation. For more information call (202) 885-1729.

Thyroid Research Study

For volunteers 18 or older with thyroid gland removed or hypothyroidism. Compensation is provided. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).



Long-Time NIGMS Employee Schultheisz Dies

Lorraine F. Schultheisz, an employee in the NIGMS Division of Genetics and Developmental Biology (GDB), died on June 11 of complications following brain surgery. She was 75 years old.

Born in Poulsbo, Wash., Schultheisz joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1951 and rose to the rank of supply sergeant. While stationed in San Francisco, she met her husband, Robert Schultheisz, a fellow Marine. The couple married in 1954, shortly after both were discharged from military service.

Schultheisz moved to Bethesda in 1971 after her husband accepted a position as a systems analyst at the National Library of Medicine. She joined NIGMS in 1987 as a program assistant for the former Cellular and Molecular Basis of Disease Program. Schultheisz later transferred to GDB when the institute underwent restructuring.

"Everyone in GDB relied on Lorraine," recalled Dr. Marion Zatz, a branch chief in the division and Schultheisz's former supervisor. "She was extremely knowledgeable about her job and she took care of everyone in our office. We've lost a very special coworker and friend."

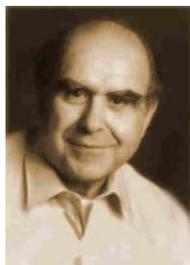
In 2005, Schultheisz transitioned to an extramural support position but continued serving GDB. After working at NIGMS for nearly 20 years, she had no plans of retiring.

Schultheisz's friends and coworkers remember her as a warm and friendly woman who was routinely in high spirits.

"Lorraine was one of the most pleasant people to have around," said GDB director Dr. Judith Greenberg. "She was always ready to pitch in and help any of the program directors, regardless of whom she officially worked for. She rarely talked about herself, but when she did it was often to share her experiences in the Marines back in the 50s, although it is hard to imagine soft-spoken Lorraine as a Marine!"

In her free time, Schultheisz enjoyed reading mystery books and taking water exercise classes at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase YMCA. She was also an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Bethesda.

Schultheisz is survived by her sons, Carl and Dan; daughter, Janet; brother, Loren Hansen; and sister, Irene Hogan. Her husband died in 1990.—Jilliane Mitchell



Company Founder Bader To Lecture, Oct. 5

Dr. Alfred Bader, co-founder of Sigma-Aldrich Corp., will speak on, “The History of Aldrich and Sigma-Aldrich, With Advice to Young Scientists,” on Thursday, Oct.

5 at 11 a.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

What would you do if you had problems getting materials for your research—if your small order was ignored by a large supplier or if incorrectly labeled chemicals almost cost you your job? Bader used such frustrations to help build a company and advance biomedical research. The Aldrich Chemical Co., later Sigma-Aldrich, provided an array of organic and biochemical compounds, saving investigators hours of preparatory work.

Bader often took care of problems personally. NIDDK chemist Kenner Rice recalled, “When I was a postdoc at NIH in 1974, Dr. Bader used to come to our labs in Bldg. 4 and ask how he could help. I remember I’d once previously told him that a chemical I’d bought from Aldrich was a mixture and showed him the spectra—he had it replaced right away.”

The thick Aldrich and Sigma-Aldrich catalogs soon became well-recognized laboratory staples. Innovative catalog features included physical property information and bibliographic citations. In addition, both the catalog and the spectra were among the earliest available via computer. Many chemicals developed at NIH have been licensed to Sigma-Aldrich and distributed by them to scientists all over the world.

Bader is also a famed art collector. After leaving Sigma-Aldrich, he has concentrated on his art gallery, personal art collection, writing, lecturing and philanthropy.

Bader’s visit is cosponsored by the Office of NIH History and the American Chemical Society. ●



A long-time NIH grants management officer, Dave Mineo will leave federal service on Oct. 3 after a career of 33 years.

Grant Manager Mineo To Retire

By Eddy Ball

Dave Mineo, a long-time NIH grants management officer, plans to leave federal service on Oct. 3 after a career of 33 years, but says he is not actually retiring. With a joke about his golf game—“too lousy to accept such frustration on a daily basis”—the man known as “Captain” Mineo announced that his post-NIH plans include moving from Bethesda to North Carolina and getting back to work. He’ll be joining the management and technology consulting firm BearingPoint within its academic medical centers practice. He and his wife plan to live in the Raleigh area.

Mineo worked at several institutes including NIDDK, NIA, NINDS, NIDCD and NCRR, as well as in temporary assignments at others. However, the longest tenure of his career was at NIEHS, where many of his colleagues have fond memories of him and his love of golf. After he tried to retire from NIEHS in 1999, Mineo served as director of sponsored programs at the University of Georgia (1999-2001) before returning to federal service at NIDDK (2001-2006).

One of his close associates, Jerry Phelps of the Division of Extramural Research and Training, describes Mineo as “a first-class guy, a great friend, and a dedicated NIH employee.” Mineo was a hard-working individual who, among a long list of awards and accomplishments, completed his college education with highest honors at American University through the NIH Stride Program after joining NIA in 1979. With his degree, he quickly advanced to upper management at NIEHS, where he worked for 10 years, and his passion for golf became legendary.

Former NIEHS director Dr. Ken Olden remembers him as being personable, warm and reliable. “I enjoyed having senior leaders who are good human beings in addition to being capable, and Dave was like that,” Olden said. “I really hated to see him leave.” Colleague Chip Hughes remembers that he often found himself “letting Dave win a round of golf” and always admired Mineo’s willingness to help young people get ahead. “Dave never forgot where he came from, the challenges he faced in advancing his own career. He was always eager to help others the way someone must have helped him.”

Mineo’s most visible legacy for his many friends remains the annual golf excursion to Myrtle Beach, which Hughes describes as “NIEHS against the world.” A tradition for more than 15 years, the competition pits NIEHS golfers against other institutes. Fittingly, when Mineo left NIEHS in 1999, his friends held a roast and golf tournament—giving the Captain a chance to win on his home turf as they celebrated his first attempt at retiring from federal service. ●