

## President's Letter NIHAA in 2006

The association is still on shaky financial grounds.

This is in spite of the fact that last year, some life members and regular members donated more than \$7,000 to the NIHAA, giving above and beyond their dues. I thank those who gave so generously. The funds are crucial given the loss of support from FAES (Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences).

The association also receives small grants from two pharmaceutical companies (Wyeth and Merck), and from the National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union. These gifts are mainly for publishing the *NIHAA Update* and are not for general operating expenses.

You should have received the dues notice 2006-2007. Dues are the association's primary source of revenue, so it is imperative that members pay their dues, and contribute extra, if possible. It would be extremely helpful if members, including life members, could make additional contributions. Any gift is tax deductible since the association is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

The NIHAA board and officers, all of whom take seriously the responsibility that comes with their offices, are volunteers with limited time to raise capital to sustain our organization.

NIHAA's limited funds pay two part-time employees who have their hands full with publishing *Update*, maintaining the association membership rolls and taking care of necessary office business.

Therefore, dues and regular support and contributions are crucial to the association's survival. Any ideas or strategies that you have will be welcomed to ensure our future.

Thank you.

*Paul Van Nevel*

## Alternative Medicine, NIH Communications and Security are Topics at 2005 Annual Meeting

Skepticism—apparent at the formation of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)—has changed dramatically over the years, said Dr. Margaret Chesney, NCCAM's deputy director.

One reason may be that NCCAM is sponsoring rigorous, hard-nosed science and most of the center's clinical trials are conducted in collaboration with other NIH institutes and centers. NCCAM is now part of the NIH fabric, and recognizes the importance of respect from the medical community.

Chesney was the main of three speakers at the NIHAA annual meeting on

Sept. 24. John Dattoli, head of NIH security, presented an update on campus security and John Burklow, head of the NIH Office of Communications and Public Liaison, discussed NIH communications.



Dr. Margaret Chesney and John Dattoli at meeting.

NCCAM was created in 1999 to focus on medical and health care practices that are outside the realm of conventional medicine and consequently generally outside the NIH realm, as well. She said the mission of NCCAM is to conduct rigorous research on complementary and alternative medical practices, to train researchers, and to inform consumers and health professionals.

*(See Annual Meeting, p. 2)*

## NIH-NIMH Vietnam Group Reunites

*By Carla Garnett*

The U.S. is at war in a small nation thousands of miles away. Not everyone agrees we need to be in the fight. Protests have been launched. In other news, a new chief justice of the U.S. was sworn in and a major hurricane devastated the Gulf Coast region.

No, this is not a rehash of last year's headlines. In this story, Warren Burger heads the U.S. Supreme Court. Hurricane Camille—a category 5 storm—hit Mississippi in late August. Gasoline costs about 32 cents a gallon. And the disputed war is in southeast Asia. The year is 1969. That fall, a small group of NIH and NIMH (the agencies were separate then) employees organized to protest U.S. involvement in the Vietnam

*(See Vietnam Group, p. 12)*

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*Annual Meeting (continued from p. 1)*

She added that complementary and alternative medicine use is widespread and that people who practice many forms of complementary and alternative medicine seem to be healthier.

For the most part, she said, NCCAM research focuses on products from the natural world, including food supplements, herbal products, or animal products, where safety is often assumed but not proven. She explained that the labels on natural products do not always reflect what is in the bottle. NCCAM studies, she added, test all samples to control for this, raising the bar for the industry. This will likely lead to improvements.

She said that NCCAM is sponsoring a longitudinal study on several different diseases, including cognitive problems, which is co-funded with NIA. Ginkgo biloba is one of the better standardized substances on the market. Chesney said that studies show it apparently does not improve memory, but that it might slow down losses of memory. She said there is good evidence of efficacy for many herbal therapies, but that recommendations are at least ten years away.

In the area of energy medicine, NCCAM research is examining the importance of the various types and levels of light in disease treatment. She also stated that NCCAM has difficulty getting good controls for some of this research, but that the center's mandate includes research support in this area.

Regarding acupuncture, the University of Maryland is doing a controlled study of acupuncture in osteoarthritis of the knee. Chesney said that acupuncture has been found to lead to a 40 percent improvement in mobility.

Other NCCAM studies focus on how stress affects health. For more information, visit [nccam.nih.gov](http://nccam.nih.gov).

John Dattoli, acting associate direc-

tor for security and emergency response, ORS, said that one goal of his office is to issue personal badges and car hangers so that alumni have the same privileges as employees and access to campus through employee entrances without going through security checks. A badging station may be set up at the next NIHAA annual meeting.

He said the addition of the fence around NIH, which controls campus access, treats the entire NIH campus as one building and facilitates moving from building to building. Security checks are no longer required at the building level, only at campus entry.

On a daily basis about 12,000 vehicles, mainly employees and contractors, enter campus and about 5,000 people enter on foot through the turnstiles at the Metro station and another 2,500 enter through special portals in the fence.

John Burklow, associate director for NIH's Office of Communications and Public Liaison, advised attendees that there have also been many recent changes in NIH communications. He said that when Dr. Elias Zerhouni arrived as NIH Director, he asked about a comprehensive communications plan. One part of the plan, according to Burklow, is for the 200 people at NIH trained to speak to the media always to mention NIH, no matter which institute they represent because the public often is confused about the connection.

He said the NIH budget situation looks grim, adding that the big challenge is to keep momentum going—momentum that was generated in periods of big budget growth (see p. 4).

At the meeting, Dr. John Sherman, chair of the awards committee, announced that Dr. Rita R. Colwell was selected the 2005 NIHAA Public Service Awardee. She was not able to attend the meeting because she was in Norway, but she received the award at the Jan. 12, 2006, NIHAA board meeting.

## Update

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### Editor's Note

*The NIHAA Update welcomes letters and news from its readers. We wish to provide news about NIH to its alumni and to report alumni concerns and information—appointments, honors, publications and other interesting developments—to their colleagues. If you have news about yourself or other alumni or comments/suggestions for the NIHAA Update, please drop a note to the editor. We reserve the right to edit materials.*

**Editor: Harriet R. Greenwald**

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**THE NIH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION THANKS MERCK, AND WYETH FOR THEIR HELP IN THE PRODUCTION AND PUBLISHING OF NIHAA UPDATE AND FOR SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES. WE ALSO THANK THE NIH FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, AND WE EXTEND APPRECIATION TO NIHAA MEMBERS WHO MAKE DONATIONS BEYOND THEIR DUES.**

**Looking Back at Research Festival 2005**

**“Risky Business” in Intramural Research**

By Harrison Wein

Those coming to see Tom Cruise’s breakthrough film might have been disappointed, but it’s safe to say most of the attendees at the jam-packed opening session of the NIH Research Festival had no confusion about the name and thoroughly enjoyed NIH’s version of “Risky Business.”

Following on the heels of the first annual Pioneer Award Symposium highlighting the NIH Roadmap’s high-risk, high-reward approach, the festival’s Oct. 18 opening session demonstrated how NIH’s intramural program has long incubated researchers pursuing such research.

NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni followed four researchers’ talks by discussing his perspective on the intramural research program, including its future direction. The first speaker, Dr. Susan Buchanan of NIDDK, detailed her investigations into the transport of molecules across bacterial outer membranes. She explained that outer membrane proteins may make good vaccine and drug targets since they are surface-accessible, antigenic and often unique to bacteria.

Dr. Shiv Grewal of NCI spoke about the hot topic of RNA interference and its role in gene regulation; recent work by his lab was named a “Breakthrough of the Year” by *Science* magazine.

Dr. Orna Cohen-Fix of NIDDK explained her studies of why the nucleus is round—a question that may seem simple on its surface but that requires an inventive approach to answer. She demonstrated that the shape of the nucleus is a function of the nuclear membrane itself, not the DNA within.

Finally, Dr. Mark Gladwin of NHLBI outlined new thinking about the role of nitrite in the regulation of vasodilation.



**Dr. Elias Zerhouni**

He described tantalizing new evidence that nitrite, which is considerably less expensive than nitric oxide, may prove to be an effective therapeutic in itself for regulating vascular homeostasis in diseases like pulmonary hypertension and sickle cell disease.

Zerhouni put the talks in context by giving his broad impressions of the IRP’s past and future promise. He began by showing a slide representing scattered small islands of knowledge in a sea of information. “What is the strategy that works best to discover those islands of knowledge?” he asked.

His answer: “If you don’t know what’s out there, the best strategy is to send out explorers in multiple directions. That’s been the approach of the IRP. The more you send out, the more likely one of them is to hit an island of knowledge.” He added, “This has been the strength of the IRP.”

Only in the IRP, Zerhouni noted, can you continue an inventive line of research for multiple years. Also unique to the IRP is the ability for researchers to change directions, as Cohen-Fix showed in freely moving from cell cycle studies to investigations into the shape of yeast nuclei.

Zerhouni pointed out that as we get to know more of those islands, different strategies are also needed. As more about a field of science becomes known, we can do a better job of pre-

dicting where the next discoveries will be, he said. Larger efforts in certain research directions—armadas, to stretch the analogy—start to become fruitful, whereas before they may have cast too many resources in the wrong direction.

Research is also becoming considerably more complex, Zerhouni noted. Researchers in disparate fields are now building bridges between islands that once seemed far apart. One of NIH's top priorities will be to take a leading role in removing barriers to collaboration to allow larger, more diverse research teams to work together productively.

He described NIH's efforts to strengthen the transition from bench to bedside to make sure that we quickly take advantage of breakthroughs when they occur. He also mentioned the importance of helping investigators early in their careers.

As for the next scientific frontier, Zerhouni said that the first priority for NIH will be to help usher in an era of quantitative biological measurements. Rob Phillips, a Pioneer Award recipient, had spoken at the awards symposium about his hope for transforming an empirical understanding of biological events into a quantitative understanding. It is this vision that NIH needs to promote, argued Zerhouni.

But whatever changes come to NIH's research portfolio, Zerhouni stressed that the IRP is unique. It has a special family sense, he said, and we need to continue exploration in multiple directions. He said that as NIH formulated the Roadmap, the IRP was something of a model. The IRP gives researchers "incubator space" for the type of high-risk, high-impact research that NIH wants to encourage more of throughout its research portfolio.

For more information about the Pioneer Award see the web site: <http://nihroadmap.nih.gov>.

## NIH 2007 Budget Even with FY 2006

President Bush's budget request for NIH in fiscal year 2007, announced Feb. 6, totals \$28.587 billion, the same budget level as FY 2006.

Viewed in perspective, the FY 06 budget itself was notable as the first time since 1970 that NIH had a reduction in dollars relative to the year before. The bottom line for FY 06 stands at about \$60 million below that of FY 05. The FY 07 President's request is therefore 0.2 percent below FY 05 and equal to FY 06.

Emphases within the President's 2007 budget include funding for several trans-NIH strategic initiatives: biodefense; enhanced support for new investigators; the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research; the Genes and Environment Initiative; the Clinical and Translational Sciences Award program; management innovations; and pandemic influenza.

In the field of biodefense, the budget calls for \$1.891 billion, an increase of \$110 million and 6.2 percent over FY 06. Within this increase, NIH will direct \$160 million to an advanced development fund supporting efforts to work with academia and industry to develop candidate countermeasures from the point of investigational new drug applications to the level that these might qualify for acquisition by Project BioShield.

NIH will invest \$15 million in a new "Pathway to Independence" program to provide increased support for new investigators (see *NIH Record*, Feb. 10, 2006).

The Roadmap for Medical Research has three themes: New Pathways to Discovery (slated for \$181 million); Multidisciplinary Research Teams of the Future (to receive \$81 million); and Re-engineering the Clinical Research Enterprise (\$181 million). NIH will direct a total of \$443 million towards Roadmap initiatives, an increase of \$113 million over the FY 06 appropriation. This total arises from a \$111 million contribution from the NIH Director's Discretionary Fund and \$332 million contributed by the NIH institutes and centers. The IC contributions represent 1.2 percent of each individual budget request for FY 07.

NIH also allocated \$40 million to the ICs to support a Genes and Environment Initiative, a multi-year plan to identify major genetic susceptibility factors for common diseases like heart disease, stroke, osteoarthritis, cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease, while developing technologies to assess risk factors in diet, physical activity, and environmental exposure. This plan was announced Feb. 8 at a joint press conference held by NHGRI and NIEHS.

The Clinical and Translational Sciences Award program will combine existing NIH programs such as the General Clinical Research Centers in the National Center for Research Resources, as well as Roadmap initiatives in the Re-engineering the Clinical Research theme. Several full awards, as well as planning grants in FY 06 and 07 will increase as existing GCRCs complete current funding cycles and recomplete these transformational awards. The FY 07 budget for this combined program is estimated to be \$361 million.

NIH will improve the management of its biomedical and behavioral research portfolio. The newly formed Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives will develop methods to assist the agency in assessing its large and complex portfolio, coordinate trans-NIH evaluation efforts and provide a transparent process for identifying important scientific initiatives that cut across or fall between missions of institutes and centers. More information on the FY 07 President's budget can be found at <http://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/ui/HomePage.htm>.

## Calendar of Upcoming Exhibits and Events

### Exhibits

#### National Library of Medicine

From **February 2006 to May 31, 2008**, a new exhibit at NLM on "Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body." This show explores the history and science of forensic medicine. For information, call 301-496-5963 or check out [www.nlm.nih.gov/about/visitor.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/visitor.html).

#### DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Museum

For information about exhibits, call the Office of NIH History at 301-496-6610 or see [www.history.nih.gov](http://www.history.nih.gov) (see box below.)

### NIH Events

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) is at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. For more information, reasonable accommodation, and confirmation of the full schedule, call Sandeep K. Nair, at 301-496-1921 or check [www.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm](http://www.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm).

**April 5**—The NIH Director's Lecture: Dr. Nora Volkow, NIDA director.

**April 26**—The NIH Director's Lecture: Dr. Thomas Pollard, chair, department of molecular, cellular and development biology, Yale University.

**June 12, 13 (Monday and Tuesday)**—2006 General Motors Cancer Research Foundation Scientific Conference and Laureate Lectures in Masur Auditorium.

#### Frederick Event

On **May 17 and May 18**, the 10th Annual Fort Detrick-FCRDC Spring Research Festival in Frederick. Events for scientists and the public are from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Other Activities of Interest

#### R&W

For more information call Randy Schools at 301-402-0493.

**April 27**—Take your Child to Work Day

**May 22**—Redskin Alumni GE Golf Tournament for FOCC and Special Love. Mark Moseley will chair.

**June 9**—Camp Fantastic Golf Tournament

**Mid-June**—Annual Outdoor Bar-B-Que

**June 25**—Annual Bull Pen Party at Camden Yards - the Nationals vs. the Orioles

**Aug. 11 to Aug. 20**—10th Annual Outdoor Film Festival—10 Nights-10 Great Movies-10 Nights of Smiles

**Aug. 13**—Camp Fantastic Begins- Visitors Night-August 17—Great evening if you have never attended.

#### USPHS Luncheon

**Thursday May 4**, the luncheon for the USPHS retirees will be held at the Golden Bull, Gaithersburg. Cost is \$18. For more information call John P. Buckley at 301-340-0322.

### NIHAA Events

**NIHAA Annual Meeting and Ninth James A. Shannon Lecture** are scheduled for **fall 2006**. Details will be in summer 2006 *NIHAA Update*.

**Oct. 17 to Oct. 20**—**Research Festival 2006**. program and schedule will be in summer 2006 *NIHAA Update*.

## 70 Acres of Science: NIH Moves to Bethesda



A new resource for documenting the history of the Bethesda NIH campus and intramural research in the 1930's was recently added to the web site of the NIH Office of History. Michele Lyons, curator of the Stetten Museum, has collected photos on historic instruments and documents into an e-book, "Seventy Acres of Science: The NIH Moves to Bethesda." (cover above) The e-book contains information about Helen and Luke Wilson and their estate, the construction of the first six buildings, and the ceremony at which President Roosevelt dedicated the campus. There is also a chapter on the scientific instruments used at NIH in the 1930's, another about a series published in the *Washington Star* called "G-Men of Science" about the investigations being done by NIH scientists, and a section of personal remembrances by NIH scientists who participated in the move to Bethesda: Margaret Pittman, Leon Jacobs, Harold Steward, Joseph Leiter, Lewis Sargent, Jesse Edwards, and Thomas Kennedy. The genesis for the latter was a meeting sponsored by the NIHAA in 1991. Now available at <http://history.nih.gov/01Docs/historical/documents/70AcresofScience2.pdf>.

For more information about NIH events call 301-496-1766. For more information about NIHAA events call 301-530-0567.

## News From and About NIHAA Members

**Dr. Baruch Blumberg**, a 1976 Nobel laureate in medicine, who was in the geographic medicine and genetics section of NIAID (1957-1974), is a Fox Chase Cancer Center Distinguished Scientist. Recently he was named president of the American Philosophical Society, where he has been an active member and officer since he was elected to membership in 1986. APS, founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for "promoting useful knowledge," is the oldest learned society in America, and Blumberg has been involved in the acquisition of scientific papers in which the group is interested.

**Dr. Bahige Baroudy**, who from 1979 to 1985 worked at the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, the Laboratory of Molecular Oncology and the Laboratory of Biology of Viruses, NIAID, has joined Avance Pharma in Laval, Quebec, where he is responsible for leading drug discovery efforts. Before joining Avance he was with the Schering-Plough Research Institute (Kenilworth, New Jersey), where he spearheaded the successful development of CCR5 antagonists that are currently in clinical trials to inhibit HIV entry in patients, which earned him a place on "The Scientific American 50" list as the top Research Leader of 2003 in the Medical Treatment category.

**Dr. George Cannellos** received the San Salvatore Foundation Award for lymphoma research at the 9th International Conference on Malignant Lymphoma in Lugano, Switzerland last June. He is only the second American to be honored. At NCI he was a clinical associate (1963-1965), a senior investigator (1967-1974), and acting clinical director (1974-1975). He is now a senior physician at Dana-Farber Cancer Insti-

tute, the William Rosenberg professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, and professor and founding chief of medical oncology at Dana-Farber.

**Joan Shih Carducci**, a research chemist at NHLBI (1987-2000), is a longtime teacher of Chinese cooking. Her school celebrated its 31st anniversary this year. She was named winner of the 2005 Pinnacle Book Achievement Award, which is given by the North American Bookdealers Exchange, for her cook book, published in 2001, entitled, *The Art of the Chinese Cookery: Authentic and Healthful Recipes from My Cooking School* (ISBN#0-9712869-0-6). For more information see her website at <http://www.thechinesecookery.com>.

**Dr. Philip S. Chen**, senior advisor to the deputy director for intramural research, OD, has retired after more than 41 years at NIH. The NIH Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) which he established in 1986 to implement the newly enacted Federal Technology Transfer Act, inaugurated an annual lecture series in his honor. On January 20, 2006, Dr. Maria Freire, CEO, Global Alliance for TB Drug Development delivered the first Philip S. Chen, Jr., Ph.D. Distinguished Lecture on Innovation and Technology Transfer. Chen who was at NIH, (1956-1959 and 1967-2005), started as a researcher in an IRP lab (National Heart Institute, 1956-1959) and has been in the IRP administration since 1974. For an interesting interview with him see *NIH Record* (Jan. 13, 2006) at <http://www.nih.gov/nihrecord/>. To read a copy of his remarks at Lipssett following the lecture, see <http://www.nih.gov/ddir/back06/06/16.02/KudosEtc.htm>

**Dr. Richard L. Christiansen** received the 2005 Alumnus of the Year Award from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and the UI Dental Alumni Association. He is a 1959 UI graduate, and his wife Nancy is a 1956 graduate of the dental hygiene program. At NIDR (1971-1982), he was in the Oral Medicine and Surgery Branch, chief of the Craniofacial Anomalies Program Branch, and retired as director of Extramural Programs, where he oversaw oral research support, primarily at universities. He then moved to the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and retired as dean emeritus in 2001. He and his wife have participated in two significant programs and provided funds for scholarships. In 2000, they established the Richard L. and Nancy M. Christiansen Professorship in International Oral Health Research and Education for Iowa's College of Dentistry. In 2004, they provided funds for a Charitable Remainder Trust to endow the Christiansen Collegiate Professorship for Craniofacial Research and Education at Michigan's School of Dentistry.

**Dr. Donna J. Dean** was at NIH from 1977 to 2005 (except 1980-1982). She was former acting director and deputy director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (2001-2003) and then in the office of the NIH director in 2004. She sent the following news to NIHAA: "In January 2006, I [began] a two-year term as national president of the Association for Women in Science ([www.awis.org](http://www.awis.org)). I am also a new member of the AAAS Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy." Dean is now senior science advisor at Lewis-Burke Associates, LLC, in Washington D.C., a government relations firm that represents non-profit scientific research institutions, universities, and organizations.

**Dr. Pierre De Meyts** received the 2005 Frontiers in Science Award from the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists at their annual meeting in Washington, DC in May 2005, "for his extraordinary contributions to the field of insulin and insulin receptors." De Meyts was a Fogarty postdoctoral fellow, then visiting associate with Dr. Jesse Roth in the Clinical Endocrinology Branch/Diabetes Branch of NIDDK from January 1973 to July 1976. The Belgium native is scientific director of the Receptor Systems Biology Laboratory at the Hagedorn Research Institute in Gentofte, Denmark (which is owned by Novo Nordisk, a pharmaceutical company), and holds professorships at Copenhagen University and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium.

**Dr. Vincent De Vita, Jr.**, former director of NCI (1980-1988), and in the Division of Cancer Treatment at NCI, returned to the campus last November to attend the 50th Anniversary Symposium on the Developmental Therapeutics Program (DTP), and spoke on "A History of Success in the Anticancer Drug Development." One of his slides listed nearly 40 drugs that were developed at NCI since the program began in 1955 as the Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center. It was an "honor roll" of treatment breakthroughs over the past five decades, including vinblastine, cis-platinum, carboplatin, taxol and most recently bortezomib and cetuximab. He also talked about a number of the "giants," all alumni of NCI, including Drs. Bruce Chabner, Emil Frei, Emil Freireich, Min C. Li, Paul Carbone, Susan Horwitz, Robert Young, and George Cannellos, to name a few.

**Dr. Robert B. Dickson** was named the first recipient of the Cecilia Fisher Rudman Distinguished professor in

breast cancer research at the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University. He was an NCI postdoctoral fellow, Laboratory of Molecular Biology (1980-1981), then senior investigator (pharmacologist) Medicine Branch (1983-1988). He then joined Georgetown University Medical Center, in 1988 where he is professor of medicine and cancer biology and a member of the division of hematology-oncology.

**Dr. Robert Gallo**, who retired from NCI as chief of the tumor cell biology laboratory after 30 years in 1996, and is director of the Institute of Human Virology at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. In November 2005, he received the Tov Comet-Waterstein award from Bar-Ilan University Saffdie Institute for AIDS and Immunology Research in Ramat Gan, Israel. In the award presentation, Saffdie director, Prof. Benjamin Sredni, said that "Gallo's vision has been unprecedented in the field of virology and he has made scientific research—and the opportunity to help put an end to deadly diseases—his life's work."

**Dr. Victoria A. Harden**, the founding director of the Office of NIH History and the Stetten Museum, retired in January 2006 after 22 years of service. She was responsible for the preservation and documentation of the rich and distinguished, but often unknown and unsung history of NIH. Her plans include completing the research and writing on a book about the history of AIDS research during the first decade of the epidemic, 1981-1990 (see p. 10). Dr. Alan N. Schechter, NIDDK, who has advised the Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum since its founding, will serve as acting director as the office reorganizes under the auspices of the Office of Intramural Research and searches for a new director.

**Dr. Bernadine Healy**, former NIH director (1991-1993), who is now a health and medical correspondent for *U.S. News & World Report*, returned to NIH on Feb. 28 to speak at a conference to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Women's Health Initiative, which she initiated. Healy delivered a historical overview of the WHI.

**Dr. Henry R. Hirsch**, who was a physicist (1961-1963) at the National Institute of Mental Health, writes he "finally returned to Montgomery County from Lexington, Kentucky, following his retirement after 39 years at the University of Kentucky (College of Medicine, Department of Pathology)

**Dr. James Holland** recently received the gold medal of N.N. Blokhin Cancer Research Center of Moscow, the largest cancer research and treatment facility in Russia for his contributions to oncology. He was at NCI (1953-1954) as senior assistant surgeon in the Medicine Branch, and is now Distinguished professor of neoplastic diseases at The Derald H. Ruttenbert Cancer Center at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York. Holland is an internationally known cancer researcher and a pioneer in cancer clinical trials research and leukemia treatment.

**Lois Whidden Kochanski** has retired as executive director of the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, a position that she has held for the past 35 years. Under her directorship, the FAES grew and flourished. Another big change in her life is that on Jan. 1, 2006, she married N. Eugene (Gene) Stoner in Colorado Springs, Col. She has relocated to Sun City Center, Fla., to join her new husband.

**Dr. Annabel Liebelt**, who was at NCI's Laboratory of Pathology (1949-

1952), returning to NCI in 1982 to work again with Dr. Harold Stewart in the Registry of Experimental Cancers, officially retired in 1991. She lives in the Villas at Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg. She was recently honored with the GERI Award, Maryland's geriatric "Nobel Prize" for extraordinary humanitarian community service. She was first inducted into Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame as one of 40 individuals from whom five are selected for the coveted GERI Award. She is a superb volunteer who has participated in a variety of activities. She is now recovering from hip replacement surgery.

**Dr. Kira K. Lueders** retired from NCI in April 2005. She joined the Laboratory of Biochemistry in 1962 and continued her education, receiving her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1975. Her research included endogenous retroviruses of the mouse, markers for genomic mapping, genetics of behavior, and HIV II. She was also chairman of the NIH Biosafety Committee (1982-1984) and developed a recycling program for NIH. Recently she wrote that "I enjoyed reading about Dr. Helen Dyer in the last issue of *Update*. I worked for Dr. Dyer as her technician from 1962 to 1965, the year she retired. I had just received my B.S. in chemistry when I started in her lab. She was a wonderful mentor, and encouraged me to get my M.S. while working in her lab. I'm not surprised that she lived to an impressively old age, since she was still driving and taking cookies to 'the old folks home' when she was in her early 90's. Her only concession to age was to avoid driving at night, and I had the pleasure of driving her to an evening Cancer Institute reunion. She was indeed a remarkable person."

**Dr. Robert Moerling, Jr.**, who served on various committees at NIAID, is the Shields Warren-Mallinckrodt professor of medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. He received the 2006 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases on Feb. 16, 2006. The award recognizes scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases or public health and is based on excellence in clinical and research activities, participation in the training of future leaders in the field, and positive impact on the health of humankind.

**Dr. Donald Morton**, who was at NCI as chief, tumor immunology section, Surgery Branch, (1960-1971), is now head of the John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, cancer professor emeritus of surgical oncology at UCLA. Last October Morton received the National Cancer Fighters Award at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in San Francisco. He was selected by a board of trustees representing major medical and cancer centers in America for his "major scientific investigations that greatly benefit cancer patients suffering malignant melanomas and soft tissue sarcomas."

**Dr. Frank L. Meyskens**, who was at NCI (1974-1977) in the Medicine Branch and the Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology, is now director of the Chao Family Cancer Center, professor of medicine and biological chemistry and senior associate dean of health sciences, college of health sciences, University of California Irvine. He received the American Society of Preventive Oncology-American Cancer Society Distinguished Achievement Award at the annual meeting of ASPO, in Bethesda on February 26, for his "great achieve-

ment and commitment to the field of cancer prevention and control", his "development of experimental and clinical therapies based on the transformation process in the cell", and his "leading role in several large clinical chemoprevention trials involving oral, colon and prostate sites."

**Dr. Maxine Singer** was at NIAMD and NCI (1956-1988), and is now president emerita of the Carnegie Institution and scientist emerita at NCI. In June 2005, she was honored when the Maxine F. Singer Research Building was completed in Baltimore. The new \$30-million research laboratory is for Carnegie Institution's department of embryology. It is the new home for more than 100 scientists, lab technicians, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and administrative staff. It will be a focal point for continuing the productive and collegial relationship that has endured for 90 years between Johns Hopkins University and the Carnegie Institution.

**Dr. Leon Smith, Sr.**, former staff fellow at NIAID (1957-1959), is executive vice president for health care policy with Catholic Health and Human Services Corporation (CHHS). Smith serves as chief advisor on health-care policy for all of Cathedral Healthcare System facilities and the Archdiocese of Newark. He is also continuing as chairman of medicine, Saint Michael's Medical Center as well as professor of medicine and professor of public health and preventive medicine, New Jersey Medical School. This past summer, Smith and his family were the subject of an article in *MD News*, a business and lifestyle magazine for physicians. Included in the article were his daughter Dr. Michele Blackwood, a breast surgeon; a son, Dr. Stephen Smith, a specialist in infectious diseases, who

was at NIAID; Dr. Leon G. Smith, Jr. a prominent perinatologist; Dr. Annie Denchy, a radiologist; and Marshal Smith, a lawyer. Stephen and Michelle work with their father in New Jersey. Their work and dedication has enriched the community enormously. In the words of the senior Smith, "Medicine is still the greatest career."

**Dr. Solomon Snyder**, who worked with his mentor Dr. Julius Axelrod in the Laboratory of Clinical Science, NIMH, (1963-1965), gave the NIH Director's Lecture, Sept. 14, 2005, in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Snyder talked about his recent work on a newly discovered pathway that is pivotal for normal cell death to occur and strategies for blocking the process. His work in this area has implications for treating neurologic disorders such as stroke and neurodegenerative ailments such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. He has been at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine since 1970. Since 1980, he has been the Distinguished Service professor of neuroscience, pharmacology and psychiatry at JHU. He recently announced that he is stepping down as head of the neuroscience department, which he created 25 years ago. He will continue his laboratory and scientific work.

**Dr. James H. Steele**, who worked at NIH with Dr. Charles Armstrong on brucellosis and infectious diseases (1945-1947) before establishing the Veterinary Public Health Division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is now professor emeritus at the University of Texas School of Public Health. In December 2005, the Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, held a symposium honoring the legacy of Dr. Steele. He received the Calvin W. Swarbe Award for a long and distinguished career that

has produced many firsts. The citation ended with "At 92, Dr. Steele remains a world renowned expert in veterinary public health. He continues to participate in national and international efforts to improve public health by teaching, writing, and providing inspiration and leadership in veterinary public health." He was also honored on Apr. 12, with the Fourteenth Annual James H. Steele Lecture at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

**Dr. Harold Varmus**, former NIH director (1993-1999) and a Nobel laureate for cancer research, who is now president and chief executive officer of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, was recently elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society, which is the National Academy of Sciences in the United Kingdom.

**David Wiszneaukas**, chief information officer for the Office of the Director and director of the Office of Information Technology, retired Sept. 3 after more than 35 years of federal service. He began his career as a meteorologist for the Commerce Department, eventually working for NOAA in Rockville. He grew up in Silver Spring and his mother worked for several NIH components while he was in high school. He eventually joined NIH in 1995 and says he "never envisioned working at NIH" but in retrospect sees the logic in his term here. "The research theme is consistent as I look back.

### What's Your News?

We want to hear from you. Please send your news with a photo if possible to Harriet Greenwald, *NIHAA Update*, 9101 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814-1522 or email [halumni@yahoo.com](mailto:halumni@yahoo.com).

### Volunteer Opportunities for NIH Retirees with the NIHAA Volunteer Program

Many varied opportunities exist at NIH and the local area. NIH alumni can make a difference!

Our program targets retired or soon to be retired local NIH'ers.

We have a directory of volunteer opportunities that may be viewed at: <http://www.fnih.org/nihaa/NIHAAvolunteer.html>

Email [nihalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:nihalumni@yahoo.com) or [cmchale@comcast.net](mailto:cmchale@comcast.net) if you would like to become a volunteer.

I did meteorological research when I was with the Weather Bureau, and now I'm in the premiere biomedical research organization. I've enjoyed working in OD and making the use of technology easier for employees here." He intends to "remain wired to NIH" where ever he goes. He and his wife are contemplating a move to "a place with wide-open spaces."

### An Update on Foreign Chapters

The Fogarty International Center has facilitated the organization of 10 NIH Alumni groups in Brazil, Eastern and Central Europe, China, India, Malawi, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Thailand and Uganda. The Brazilian group (NIHAABR), under the leadership of Dr. Valeria de Mello Coelho, is well underway. See its website: <http://www.nihaabr.org/pt/>. In the summer 2006 issue of *Update* we plan to have a column on what is happening in these various chapters.

**Assault on AIDS**

**History Day Showcases NIH AIDS Research**

By Rich McManus

For a historian interested in medicine's response to the emergence of HIV/AIDS, there could probably have been no greater vantage point than the NIH intramural program in the early to mid-1980's. Dr. Victoria Harden, founding director of the Office of NIH History in the Office of Communications and Public Liaison, OD, found herself in this privileged position, having arrived on campus in 1984. At the third annual NIH History Day on Sept. 22, she treated a Lipsett Amphitheater audience to an overview of NIH's assault on AIDS.

Drawing on more than 20 years of research that will be incorporated in a book about AIDS research at NIH, Harden reviewed milestones in the epidemic. Such significant NIH contributions as co-discovery of the agent that causes AIDS, and the first efficacious treatment against the virus, served not only to honor individuals such as former NCI virologist Dr. Robert Gallo (who was in the crowd) and former NCI director Dr. Samuel Broder (who helped develop AZT) but also to underscore the strengths of the intramural research programs.

Indeed, the event began with an explanation of why NIH was in such a good position to address the disease, which first came to public attention in the summer of 1981. According to NIH



**Historian Dr. Victoria Harden and NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci each gave their perspectives on the first decade of NIH intramural AIDS research.**

deputy director for intramural research Dr. Michael Gottesman, five factors contributed to NIH's swift and productive response: a "critical mass" of scientific expertise, especially experts in retroviral biology; research infrastructure, including a Clinical Center willing to admit patients with the new disease; the tight link between clinicians and bench scientists; NIH's close ties with Congress, patient groups and extramural colleagues, who could coordinate efforts; and leadership at NIH that was "not just visionary, but also courageous, both personally and intellectually. There was a willingness to take risks, to drop what you were doing and head in a new direction."

Perhaps the most prominent dropper of what he was doing was NIAID director Dr. Anthony Fauci, who offered per-

sonal reflections on the epidemic. He had been an NIAID clinician on the 11th floor of Bldg. 10 when the first report of *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia in a population of gay men was published in June 1981. "It was just a curiosity," he recalled. "I thought it was something drug-related." A month later, when a second report appeared, Fauci said he got goose pimples. "I knew something was terribly, terribly wrong. It prompted a major switch in my research direction. I was able to turn my lab on a dime to focus on a disease

that had no name, and, as yet, no microbe."

Within 3 years, the HIV/AIDS virus was found, owing largely to what Fauci called "exquisite science" and massive new funding that today represents 10 percent of NIH's research budget. Noted Fauci, "If you put the resources in, you galvanize talent and get extraordinary results.

"We're still in the midst of the pandemic," he said. Some 40 million people worldwide are thought to be infected with HIV/AIDS. "But the amount we've learned has been unprecedented in the history of medicine."

Harden's keynote address focused on the "intellectual history of how the biomedical community came to understand this syndrome." Prior to the AIDS epidemic, NIH had been institu-

tionally unwieldy, a “great ship” that lacked maneuverability, except in its intramural component. It set formal boundaries between its interests, and those of sister agencies FDA and CDC. Despite warnings that infectious diseases were likely to become a major public health issue, NIH focused primarily on chronic diseases.

An explosion of new knowledge in molecular biology took place, roughly between the Hong Kong flu epidemic of 1968-1969 and the advent of AIDS. “There was a major intellectual shift, and lots of new discoveries in molecular biology and immunology,” said Harden. Among the best and brightest of that era were an inordinate number of alumni of the NIH Clinical Associates Program. Just as AIDS hit, NIH hosted a cadre of mid-career scientists, “most in their early 40’s, and most experienced in clinical work and re-

search.” This army of sophistication attacked the new disease piecemeal; Harden recounted the litany of now-famous names in AIDS pathogenesis studies, etiologic work and, eventually, therapy.

Harden’s account of the AIDS era through 1990 didn’t overlook lowlights along the way, including the inevitable grumbling over first authorship on scientific papers, the tendency of large, well-funded labs to snatch the successes of smaller ones, and the much-publicized international dispute over which group of scientists first discovered the AIDS virus. It was also sobering to realize, as the late deputy director of NIAID Dr. James Hill once pointed out, that actor Rock Hudson’s death from AIDS did more to spur increased AIDS funding than any research breakthrough did.

AIDS changed the way NIH works, Harden concluded. It pushed NIH back to its historical roots in bacteriology by underscoring the importance of addressing emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. It made NIH a household name, ushering in an era of surging public interest in all matters of health. And it had the democratic virtue of opening NIH to the influence of public activists; Fauci characterized NIH’s interaction with activists as “very productive.” “AIDS itself is not yet history,” noted Gottesman. “There are more people working on it than ever in the history of NIH. We hope one day to declare victory.”

The NIH History Day talks are archived at [www.videocast.nih.gov](http://www.videocast.nih.gov), and the Office of NIH History’s web site (<http://history.nih.gov>) has an extensive AIDS history collection.



The members of the audience who were involved with AIDS research in the 1980’s in any capacity stand for recognition at the 2005 NIH History Day Event on Sept. 22, 2005, at Lipsett Amphitheatre.

*Vietnam Group (continued from p. 1)*

War. They were researchers, physicians, administrators and support staff. They were vested government workers as well as new interns and freshmen feds. Some spouses later joined. They held their first formal meeting on Sept. 23 in Bldg. 2, then a lab facility for National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases staff. The fledgling antiwar organization, one of several founded at federal agencies, was named the "Viet Nam moratorium committee at NIH-NIMH," the VNMC.

On a snowy day last December, nearly two dozen VNMC pioneers reunited to recall their time together and to describe events in a permanent audiovisual record for the Office of NIH History. Although 36 years had passed and most had not seen each other in more than 20 years, the group's fervor—like the times—hadn't changed at all.

**Back in the Day**

It all began with a VNMC request to use the CC auditorium for a speech by famous pediatrician (and prominent Vietnam War critic) Benjamin Spock. A national moratorium had been planned for Oct. 15, 1969. People opposing the war were called to demonstrate their disapproval by stopping their normal work.

"When you fight a federal government as powerful and as replete with devices to suppress dissent [as ours]," said VNMC founding member David Reiss, "I don't think that it's fair to underestimate how frightening and how daunting and maybe just how discouraging it is to mount such an effort and how crucial it is to have an organizing concept with which you can make contact with people who have similar feelings." A former NIMH clinical associate, Reiss came to NIH in 1966 to serve his military commitment as a commissioned officer in the Public Health Service.

"The moratorium concept was very



**VNMC members who reunited to document their efforts for NIH history include (seated from l) Irene Elkin, David Reiss, Stephanie Weldon and Bob Martin; (second row) ACLU attorney Zona Hostetler, Carl Leventhal, Rose Mage, Marianne Ross and Madeleine Golde; and (back row) Mike Mage, Natasha Reatig, Martin Blumsack, John Zinner, Philip Ross and Mark Levinthal.**

novel," he explained. "For those of us who had been struggling against this war for years, it was a simple idea. And that was what I think made everybody around this table say, 'Hey, we work for the federal government whose policies we can't stand. We're going to stop working. We're going to do something different.'"

The committee crafted a policy statement for the Oct. 15 event that said, in part, "To bring this bloodbath to a halt, we call for an immediate end to American participation in the war.

We call for reordering of national priorities to provide adequate food, housing and health for all Americans." They invited Spock to address the VNMC and whoever else wanted to attend.

"In our view Dr. Spock is unique among all the country's physicians and health scientists," said the group in early documents. "More than any other, he has been able to transform his physician's compassion for human suffering into meaningful and effective protest against the war. We believe that by joining us on Oct. 15, Spock will stimulate many of his colleagues in the health field to become

meaningfully involved in this protest."

The Interassembly Council of Scientists of the NIH endorsed the plan on Sept. 25. Spock accepted the invitation to speak on Sept. 26. All that was needed then was a large enough NIH venue. VNMC asked to use the CC auditorium. Then-NIH director Dr. Robert Marston, after apparent consultation with his supervisors at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, denied the request on Sept. 29. Enter local attorney Zona Hostetler of the American Civil Liberties Union, who was recruited to represent the VNMC in a legal appeal to the department.

"One of the really interesting things is that if they had simply said yes, chances were this incredible group would never have done all the things we did," pointed out committee member Irene Elkin, a psychotherapy researcher who had come to NIMH's Laboratory of Psychology as a postdoc in 1959.

Hostetler argued the case before Judge John Sirica, later of Watergate fame, who on Oct. 10 ruled against the VNMC. On Oct. 14, the day before the

scheduled speech, however, a 3-judge panel overruled that decision, clearing the way for the Spock talk.

### The Roots of Activism

"I'm enormously impressed at how everybody remembers the influence of their grandparents and I hope we can do the same thing for our grandchildren," said Carl Leventhal, who was assistant to the director of laboratories and clinics in the Office of the Director and became the NIH administration's liaison to the VNMC.

There were significant risks associated with being part of the committee. The U.S. government under new President Richard Nixon frequently assigned the FBI to investigate — formally and secretly — those involved in organizing war protests. VNMC structured its leadership so that a different person was in charge every month, "a reflection not of fear of investigation," Reiss noted, "but an effort to make leadership as broad as possible."

"What we did is we welcomed and we brought along people who had never been active before," recalled Martin Blumsack. "One of the outstanding things about our committee was the way we treated everyone with respect... I think we were an amazing group for that purpose, as diverse as we were." Blumsack had arrived at NIH in 1968 as a management intern in an administrative research program. He had joined the U.S. Army and served several years before organizing the first anti-war protest held on a military base, a "Vets for Peace" demonstration.

"We were such an incredibly non-sexist and non-hierarchical group," agreed Elkin, who remembered the FBI questioning her current and former supervisors during the month she served as VNMC co-coordinator. "You didn't know if somebody was a lab chief or a secretary. It was one of the really beautiful things

about this group that it had that quality. Everybody was in it together."

That also meant that everybody in the VNMC was potentially subject to government efforts to suppress criticism of federal decision-making. Some such attempts came from bosses, colleagues and fellow NIH'ers. Several VNMC members recalled small acts of vandalism — marking up protest flyers or tearing down posters — by workers here who disagreed with the committee and other war critics. Mark Levinthal, who came to NIH as an NIAMD postdoc, was already involved in civil rights activities with the Congress of Racial Equality when he joined the VNMC. He left NIH in 1972, but related that he was constantly dogged by federal investigations during the era that eventually led to him being denied a job at Ohio State University. He retired from Purdue University at the end of 2005.

"There was continuing intimidation of employees," noted ACLU attorney Hostetler. "There were stories of employees actually being demoted because of their antiwar activities... Even in authorized meetings of government employees on their lunch hour, security people would come in and take pictures of the people who were attending and ask for membership lists of the organization."

### 'Yesterday Once More'

Besides the galvanizing event — the Spock speech that ended up being held on the front lawn of Bldg. 1 before a few thousand attendees — moratorium committee members supported the path to peace in numerous other ways before, during and after their 1969-1974 VNMC run: They regularly hosted talks at NIH by other antiwar speakers. In keeping with their NIH-NIMH origins, they coined the slogan, "War is Unhealthy and Insane," recalled Natasha Reatig, who arrived at NIMH in 1965 as a social science analyst/re-

search assistant.

Harden said it's important to note that VNMC members did all of these activities on their own time, without using government resources or buildings (which is why Spock spoke outside). They took annual leave for the moratorium events, or went on their lunch break.

The committee also published an intermittent newsletter, *The Rainbow Sign*, "to educate the populace at NIH," according to Elliot Schiffman, now an NCI scientist emeritus who joined NIH as a National Heart Institute scientist and later became a researcher in the National Institute of Dental Research's Laboratory of Biochemistry. But the group's biggest legacy may be that it paved the way: VNMC was probably the first organization at NIH that led to political activism.

"I think the immediate effect was to build awareness of social consciousness on all kinds of issues," concluded Bob Martin, an original VNMC member who in 1969 worked as a section chief in NIAMD's Laboratory of Molecular Biology. He continues to conduct research as a senior scientist in NIDDK's LMB.

Concluded Audrey Stone, who had come to NIH in 1959 and by 1969 was a researcher in NIMH's Laboratory of Neurochemistry, "I was really not very highly active in the formation [of the VNMC] but I was really part of it by heart and action... I have always been grateful to [those who created the committee] for having given us the opportunity here to uphold the dignity of our country in times when it was pretty ugly. It had an effect on our families, too, because a number of us had young children, and this gave them the opportunity to see democracy really working, freedom of speech and the necessity to keep active in activities that maintained the ideals of this country."

**Stellar Night at the Movies**

**Something a Partnership Made: Medical History**

By Cynthia Delgadot

If Vivien Thomas visited NIH today, he would walk through the main entrance of the Clinical Research Center. Our most eminent surgeons and scientists might greet him. From the podium in Masur Auditorium, he would present his latest research findings to a mix of students, postdoctoral fellows, scientists and clinicians of varied races and nationalities. Afterward, he might mingle with the audience for further discussions or talk with other NIH researchers over lunch. Yet during the life and times of Vivien Thomas, none of that would have happened.

The incredible accomplishments of Thomas and his colleagues are depicted in the HBO docudrama *Something the Lord Made*. The film was recently screened for the Office of Science Education’s “Science in the Cinema” program to a crowd at the American Film Institute’s Silver Theater in Silver Spring. The event went beyond its usual scope because of the film’s poignant content and special guests in attendance.

The film tells a true story in which medical science, history and sociology converge. It follows the 34-year association of two men who overcame social stigma and developed a revolutionary technique that would save countless lives.

In 1930, Vivien Thomas was a 19-year-old African American carpenter who dreamed of going to medical school. Dr. Alfred Blalock was a white surgeon and a rising star among his peers. In the lab, Blalock asked the scientific questions. Thomas figured out the best ways to find the answers. With only a high school education, Thomas assumed the role of a senior research fellow and developed into a talented

surgical technician. He devised unique surgical instruments and worked out complex techniques in animal models. The film’s title comes from Blalock’s remarks about the nearly flawless healing of a surgical incision Thomas made in a canine heart.



**On hand at the recent OSE-sponsored film were (from l) Dr. J. Alex Haller (guest speaker at Science in the Cinema); Clayton LeBouef (who played Vivien Thomas’s brother in the film) Jessica Floria (who played a pediatric patient at Hopkins); John Leslie Wolfe (who played Dr. Walter Dandy, leading surgeon at Hopkins); and Katie McCabe, who wrote the article on which the film was based.**

The pair’s achievements are even more remarkable because of the setting in which they took place. It was an era marked by the Great Depression, World War II, racial tension and segregation. The young lawyer Thurgood Marshall had just begun to champion the cause of civil rights and the desegregation of schools. So in 1941, when Blalock and Thomas came to Johns Hopkins University from Nashville, people stared at Thomas in his white lab coat. At that time and place, black employees were janitors and had separate building entrances and rest rooms.

This unusual duo was about to open a lot of previously locked doors in medicine and society.

Helen Taussig, a pediatric cardiologist at Hopkins, approached Blalock for help with her “blue babies.” These patients have a congenital syndrome—tetralogy of Fallot—that limits blood flow to the lungs. The resulting lack of oxygen makes their skin appear blue. Blalock accepted the challenge and began to work with Thomas on developing a corrective procedure.

In 1944, Blalock performed surgery on a young girl while Thomas stood behind him, coaching him through the procedure he had perfected. By rearranging blood vessels, the team turned the blue baby pink again. That first successful operation launched the modern field of cardiac surgery and simultaneously rattled the social status quo.

Following the film, the Science in the Cinema audience was treated to an insider’s perspective. The guest speaker and expert in the film’s medical subject was Dr. J. Alex Haller, emeritus professor of pediatric surgery, pediatrics and emergency medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Haller had trained with Blalock during his residency and had first-hand knowledge of the events portrayed in the film. He spent over 100 hours as a consultant to HBO producers during the making of the movie. Also present were three actors from the film and Katie McCabe, who wrote the award-winning article on which the film was based (“Like Something the Lord Made,” *Washingtonian* magazine, 1989).

Haller added his own stories to those presented in the film. He emphasized a point he felt was not made clear. He said that Thomas’s “role as the teacher of medical students, residents and junior faculty members was a critically important part of the training of cardiac surgeons at John Hopkins. He trained many technicians and helped other doctors in their research, including those at NIH.”

Haller spent a year working in an NIH

research lab with Alfred Casper. Both men had trained at Johns Hopkins and were working on a study involving heart-valve abnormalities. During a canine surgery, Haller skillfully halted a serious bleeding episode. "That was beautifully done," Casper said. Haller replied that he had "trained with Alfred Blalock." On a subsequent occasion, Casper managed a more severe bleeding problem. "That was fabulously done," remarked Haller. Casper replied, "with a twinkle in his eye, I trained with Vivien Thomas."

The audience learned more through a question-and-answer exchange with Haller. In response to a question about the use of animals in research, Haller recalled an incident from the 1950's when Taussig received a standing ovation from a crowd of animal rights activists in Baltimore. Holding her poodle in her arms, she said, "He's alive because of what we have learned about human congenital heart abnormalities." Thomas and Haller had performed life-saving surgery on the dog.

Haller confirmed the Blalock-Thomas partnership. "The relationship was different outside the hospital as was typical of our society then. Vivien was treated just like a colleague. On the other hand, they [Thomas and Blalock] had different bathrooms." McCabe praised the film's accuracy and subtlety in portraying the diverse social worlds of the principal characters. "That's one of the beauties of film.

You can create a context of the social environment...without a single line of dialogue," she said. She also gave high praise to the script writer, Peter Silverman, who was able to capture the nuances of the Blalock-Thomas relationship. If Thomas visited NIH today, he'd be stepping into a new world—one he helped pioneer.

### **Better For You Than Buttered Popcorn?**

## **Researchers Ask, 'Is Chocolate Good for You?'**

*By Sandra Williams*

Chocoholics everywhere have reveled in recent reports that dark chocolate might actually be good for their health. Sound like the beginning of a new health craze? Well, the jury is still out on the long-term health benefits of consuming dark chocolate, but there are some promising findings about this sweet indulgence.

What is it about dark chocolate that is potentially good for you? Believe it or not, chocolate is a complex substance containing a number of valuable compounds including sterols, fiber, minerals and flavonoids. The compound currently of most interest is flavonoids, antioxidants found in a number of foods such as red wine, green tea, apples, and yes, chocolate. What do these antioxidants do? Preliminary evidence suggests that they can ward off vascular disease (vascular disease is a precursor to heart attacks, strokes, diabetes, dementia and hypertension), in part, by helping the body make or preserve a chemical called nitric oxide, which improves blood flow. Cocoa is a particularly rich source of flavonoids, and dark chocolate typically contains a higher percentage of cocoa than other types of chocolate. Basically, the darker the chocolate, and the more bitter, usually the better.

Drs. Michael Quon and Rajaram Karne, researchers at the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, are excited by the possible benefits of chocolate. Quon, who is chief of NCCAM's intramural diabetes unit, explains, "Chocolate is a tasty food that also has the potential for improving metabolic and cardiovascular physiology. It's what we call a functional food—a food that has potential health benefits." These researchers are interested in the benefits of a particular flavonoid found in cocoa called epicatechin. They believe this is the active ingredient in chocolate that is beneficial for cardiovascular health.

To test this hypothesis, NCCAM is currently recruiting volunteers for a clinical trial that will examine the effects of dark chocolate on blood pressure and insulin sensitivity in patients with hypertension. They want to know if the epicatechin in chocolate can help decrease insulin resistance in hypertensive patients, which would in turn increase the production of nitric oxide. Nitric oxide helps prevent the constriction of the arteries and capillaries in the body, increasing blood flow and improving vascular function. The outcome of this study will begin to answer questions on the benefits of eating dark chocolate. Because cardiovascular and metabolic diseases are intricately linked, epicatechin may prove to be a valuable preventive for a host of conditions including diabetes, obesity, hypertension and cardiovascular disease.

Before you rush out to buy your favorite candy bar, however, there are a few things you should know. Most chocolate is not flavonoid-rich. In fact, the process used to make chocolate often destroys much of its antioxidant properties. Consumers usually have no way of knowing whether a chocolate product is flavonoid-rich. Quon cautions, "It is premature to say that people should be eating chocolate for health benefits—most studies have only shown short term benefits." There is potential, however, and that is what NCCAM plans to examine more closely in its dark chocolate clinical trial. So chocoholics don't despair—there is still hope.

## NIH 2005 Research in Review

By Harrison Wein

NIH produces such a great number of research results each year that it's tough to assemble a brief list of the year's highlights. NIH has nearly 6,000 scientists in its laboratories and distributes almost 50,000 competitive grants to more than 212,000 researchers at over 2,800 universities, medical schools and other research institutions in every state and around the world. Given the difficulty of predicting which accomplishments among such a massive body of work might prove to be most significant in the years to come, the following is a sample of those recognized by the institute and center press offices as being of particular interest in 2005:

- An international team supported by NHGRI published the genome sequence of the dog. Because of selective breeding over the past few centuries, modern dog breeds are a model of genetic diversity, from 6-pound Chihuahuas to 120-pound Great Danes, from high-energy Jack Russell Terriers to mild-mannered basset hounds, and from the herding instincts of Shetland sheepdogs to pointers pointing. However, selective breeding has also caused many dog breeds to be predisposed to genetic disorders including heart disease, cancer and blindness. In combination with the human genome, the dog genome sequence will help researchers identify genetic contributors to several diseases.

- The Chimpanzee Sequencing and Analysis Consortium, which is supported in part by NHGRI, described its landmark analysis comparing the genome of the chimp (*Pan troglodytes*) with that of humans (*Homo sapiens*). The chimp sequence draft represents the first non-human primate genome. Our closest living relatives share 96 percent of our DNA sequence.

- Researchers supported by NIDCD successfully used gene therapy to grow new hair cells and restore some hearing in deaf guinea pigs. The scientists used a harmless virus to insert a gene called *Atoh1*, a key regulator of hair cell development, into cells in the inner ears of deaf adult guinea pigs. Eight weeks after treatment, new hair cells

had grown in the ears treated with *Atoh1*, and their hearing had improved. This is the first time that researchers have restored auditory hair cells in live adult mammals.

- The International HapMap Consortium, a public-private effort to chart patterns of genetic variation in the world's population, published the human haplotype map, or HapMap. With more than 1 million markers of genetic variation, the HapMap is a comprehensive catalog of human genetic variation showing "neighborhoods" of correlated genetic variation, or haplotypes, across the entire human genome. Researchers will be able to identify genetic contributions to common diseases far more efficiently using HapMap data than with traditional approaches.

- The Antihypertensive and Lipid-Lowering Treatment to Prevent Heart Attack Trial (ALLHAT), a long-term, multi-center trial of antihypertensive therapies funded by NHLBI, found that diuretics work better than newer therapies in treating high blood pressure and reducing the risk of heart disease in both black and non-black patients. The large study, with 33,357 participants, concluded that diuretics should be the first therapy for most patients with high blood pressure.

- Two studies provided a detailed analysis of the X chromosome's DNA sequence and a survey of its gene activity. This first comprehensive analysis of the sequence of the human X chromosome, supported by NHGRI and NIGMS as well as by the Department of Energy, provides new insights into the evolution of sex chromosomes and the biological differences between males and females. Even though it contains only 4 percent of all human genes, the X chromosome accounts for almost 10 percent of inherited diseases caused by a single gene, including red-green color blindness, hemophilia, some forms of mental retardation and Duchenne muscular dystrophy. More than 300 diseases have already been linked to it.

- People with type 1 diabetes can lower their risk of heart disease and stroke by about 50 percent by tightly controlling their blood glucose levels, according to a study supported by NIDDK and NCCRR. The findings were based on a follow-up study of patients who took part more than a decade ago in the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial, a major clinical study

funded by NIDDK and other NIH components along with Genentech, Inc. Continuing studies will reveal whether the same applies to those with type 2 diabetes, the more prevalent form of the disease.

- A new method using both stem cells and gene therapy promoted the growth of myelin, the "insulation" around nerve fibers, in the damaged spinal cords of rats. It improved the animals' motor function and electrical conduction from the brain to the leg muscles. The finding, funded in part by NINDS and NCCRR, may lead to new ways of treating spinal cord injury in humans.

- Three independent research teams supported by NEI found a gene, called complement factor H (CFH), that affects a person's risk of developing age-related macular degeneration, the leading cause of blindness in people over age 60. One team, which included NIH researchers, found that people with this variant of the CFH gene are more than 7 times more likely to develop the disease.

- People with more copies of a gene that helps to fight HIV are less likely to become infected with the virus or to develop AIDS than those who have fewer copies, according to a study funded by NIAID. The gene encodes for CCL3L1, a potent HIV-blocking protein that interacts with CCR5 — a major receptor protein that HIV uses as a doorway to enter and infect cells. The finding helps explain why some people are more prone to HIV/AIDS than others.

- Experiments in female monkeys showed for the first time that vaginal gels known as microbicides can protect against an HIV-like virus. The research, funded largely by NIAID, suggests that microbicides could potentially provide a safe, effective and practical way to prevent HIV transmission to women.

- Two new studies strongly suggest that a mutation in a recently discovered gene is the most common genetic cause of Parkinson's disease identified to date. The finding could lead to the development of a genetic test to detect the mutation in individuals at risk. Scientists have long suspected that genetics play a role in the onset of the disease. The investigators, which included researchers at NIA and scientists supported by NINDS, found that a mutation in the gene *LRRK2* appears to occur in at least one of every 60 people who have the disease.

## R&W Celebrates 60 Years of Helping Others

By Jan Ehrman

The year was 1945. Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in baseball. Alfred Hitchcock's movie *Spellbound* entertained moviegoers nationwide. The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded for the discovery of penicillin. And a picnic was held—but not just any picnic.

What began as a no-frills, lunchtime event has evolved into one of the most respected and successful nonprofit organizations within the federal arena—the Recreation and Welfare Association, serving both the NIH community and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Yet its goals and boundaries go well beyond the government.

Over the years, R&W has raised millions of dollars and created programs for such worthy causes as the Children's Inn, Special Love/Camp Fantastic and Friends of the Clinical Center. The group also goes out of its way during times of need. Just recently, the association mounted relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, working with the Heart of America Foundation in efforts that culminated in getting employees to donate around 200 backpacks to the Houston school system, which dispersed them to school children living in shelters and other temporary housing.

R&W is well represented, with about 5,000 members, according to the president of the organization, Randy Schools. And on the heels of its 60th anniversary, "our focus remains much the same as it always has—to serve and help people, both inside of NIH and on the outside. It's what we're all about," he noted.

The association has provided members with myriad offerings—including on-site fitness centers, hosting sports

and athletic teams and events, NIH hair salons/barbershops and an NIH art gallery. In addition, the organization provides travel services, photo processing, notary services, discounted tickets to the theater, amusement parks and sporting events, and held special movie nights. It also offers housing services and a monthly newsletter. In all, it affords employees a host of other social and educational activities—basically, something for everyone.

"And to think it started out as a picnic, put together by a former employee of the National Institute of Mental Health, Hazel Rea," said Schools, who has been affiliated with R&W since 1978. The picnic turned into some softball games and a league, and progressed from there, explained Schools. "I don't think anyone ever thought we would reach anywhere near the current level of activities we have or the charities we support today," he added.

Schools is especially proud of R&W's involvement with programming and fundraising for Special Love/Camp Fantastic, a group that also has close ties with the National Cancer Institute.

The organization, which helps children with cancer, started out serving 33 youngsters but now has a clientele numbering about 400. R&W also provides major fundraising efforts for two other NIH charities, Friends of the Clinical Center and the Children's Inn.

Those who participate in the Combined Federal Campaign can make contributions to either of those charities, which are listed in the CFC guide.

Plans for a dinner and other celebratory events are currently under way to honor the R&W volunteers and former association employees. To learn more about R&W and its services and programs, visit <http://www.recgov.org/r&w/r&w.html> or call (301) 496-6061.

### It for Parts 'Li'l Abner'

"Li'l Abner," the spring production last Sunday afternoon comedy presentation at

the show, which performances on selected from more acts, the largest appear at Ham

, CC, is the production, and H, is the choreographer is Phil Oxie Grabiner, actor.

Important de- are Betsy Slay, George Marsden, Alida McBirney, and Mary-Helen Slicity.

### Book Is Aid

This NIH Record clipping depicts the R&W Association in its early days, circa 1953, when the employee theatre group, "The Hamsters," entertained regularly.

### HAMSTERS PREP FOR 'LI'L ABNER'



Following the lead of Jerry Osborne, choreographer for the R&W Hamsters' production of "Li'l Abner," this lineup is representative of the more than 140 persons who tried out for parts in the hit musical. Left to right: Bess Grabiner, R&W; Georgette Bass, CC; Yereca Silverman, DBS; Mr. Osborne; Carl Wolitzky, whose mother, Rose, works in DRG; Dr. Hibbard Williams, NIAMD; and Bob Kavanaugh, ORI.—Photo by Jerry Hecht.

## Discounts for NIHAAs

NIHA Alumni are eligible for NIH R&W discounts on travel, especially to California, Florida, Pennsylvania; insurance; home goods; clothes; flowers; car purchases and rentals; movie and theater tickets; R&W store goods; and more.

For more information, go to the R&W web site at [www.recgov.org](http://www.recgov.org) or call R&W at 301-496-6061. Visit the R&W next time you are at NIH.

## Final HHS Conflict of Interest Regulations Announced

By Fran Pollner

Final conflict-of-interest (COI) rules for NIH employees took effect Aug. 31, 2005, well within the one-year time limit for re-evaluation set in the interim final rules issued in early February.

The final rules recast the stopgap prohibitions related to financial interests in pharmaceutical and biotech companies and other “substantially affected organizations” (SAOs) such that automatic divestiture is required only of senior-level NIH employees—approximately 200 NIH employees.

They also maintain the blanket ban on outside consulting and other activities with SAOs, NIH-supported research institutions, and health-care providers and insurers. But they restore—with prior approval—the ability of NIH scientists to pursue those intellectual interactions and other activities with professional scientific organizations that are generally deemed to be crucial to advancing biomedical research and the NIH public health mission.

On Aug. 25, NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni announced the imminent release of the final rules, first in an e-mail to the NIH community and two hours later in a press telebriefing, which was attended by reporters from major daily newspapers and scientific publications.

The final rules, he said, achieve the “right balance [in] protecting the agency’s integrity without imposing burdens” on NIH scientists. The prescriptions in the interim final rules were “too broad,” he said, noting, however, that “the ban on outside consulting with industry will remain in force.” He did not rule out revisiting the consulting issue should more sophisticated safeguards against the actual and perceived risks of such connections be developed.

HHS and the Office of Government Ethics, in consultation with NIH leadership, considered more than 1,300 comments from NIH scientists and others in crafting final regulations that would:

- Protect the integrity of NIH science.
- Maintain public trust that NIH science is untainted by conflicts of interest.
- Not impose unfair and unnecessary hardships on NIH scientists and other employees.
- Not jeopardize NIH’s ability to recruit and retain the best scientific minds or, consequently, the NIH public health mission.

Many of the revisions in the final rules reflect criticisms and concerns from the NIH community on the interim final rules (see *The NIH Catalyst*, Special Reference Issue, Feb. 22, 2005).

Linking divestiture of financial holdings in SAOs to the level of decision-making responsibility and removing “impediments to normal academic interactions” were oft-voiced suggestions with which NIH leadership agreed.

Zerhouni observed that 12,000 of the 18,000 NIH employees are now relieved of blanket disclosure requirements but must still be alert to a potential conflict arising from a new responsibility or a new acquisition.

In addition to the reporting and divestiture rules that apply to the 200 or so senior employees, about 6,000 NIH’ers will be required to report their financial holdings in SAOs. This includes individuals who file either confidential or public financial disclosure reports and clinical investigators involved in Institutional Review Board-approved NIH clinical research protocols.

Zerhouni emphasized the wisdom of the case-by-case approach to recognizing and managing potential conflict of interest among these 6,000, as opposed to the broad-brush divestiture requirements in the interim final rule.

Asked whether the rules were subject to further revisions, Zerhouni responded that though these rules are final, “we are always reviewing; the issues are always evolving.”

### Assembly of Scientists Welcomes Revision in Rules

The NIH Assembly of Scientists (AOS), which had issued a statement quite critical of the interim final rules (see *The NIH Catalyst*, Feb. 22, 2005), registered its satisfaction with the modified regulations, “especially [those] easing the restrictions on interactions and holding leadership positions with professional societies.”

In a statement issued after the NIH director’s announcement, the organization also applauded the lifting—“for all but the most senior NIH employees”—of the requirement to “divest financial holdings in medical or pharmaceutical companies by employees and their families when no conflict of interest exists with their professional duties at the NIH.”

“We are gratified that, as the preamble to the regulations notes, the revisions proposed by the AOS, and NIH scientists more generally, were influential in shaping these regulations,” the group stated.

The AOS anticipates collaborating with NIH leadership in implementing the regulations “in a way that minimizes the paperwork burden on scientists”—and in any future process to revisit the “blanket prohibitions on consulting and almost all other outside activities with medical and pharmaceutical companies.” It also intends to work with NIH leadership in “addressing the other major challenges that affect morale of NIH employees.” For more information on AOS visit [www.aos.fastflag.com/](http://www.aos.fastflag.com/)

## New NIH Gateway Center To Open In Summer 2007

Visitors to NIH's main campus can expect a new kind of welcome by summer 2007, the projected completion date for the 139,440-sq. ft. Gateway Center being built beside the Medical Center Metro station. The facility includes three structures: a 2-level visitor center (Bldg. 66) for identifying and orienting campus guests, a visitor vehicle inspection station (Bldg. 66A), and a 2-level, 350-slot underground multilevel parking garage 11 (MLP-11).

A new roadway off of southbound Rockville Pike will be constructed for visitor vehicles. They will use the road to enter or exit the parking garage, or, after screening, gain access to areas within the perimeter fence via the campus's main road, Center Drive. Under way since July, construction speed increased in the last few weeks. The stairwell and pedestrian paths leading through campus from the Metro station to the Natcher Bldg., the National Library of Medicine and other NIH buildings south and west are now closed to pedestrians, due to the project.

A new pedestrian pathway beginning near the temporary Gateway trailer connects existing pathways leading to Natcher, NLM and nearby buildings. Also, the sidewalk parallel to Rockville Pike remains open to pedestrians and is the quickest path by foot from the Metro station to points south.

Various NIH shuttles are available to transport passengers via campus roads. Gateway construction is managed by Shahriar Saleh, a project officer in the Office of Research Facilities Development and Operations. Pedestrians entering campus without valid NIH badges are screened at temporary trailers located at the Metro station or on Old Georgetown Rd. at South Dr.

Working with the perimeter security system ("the fence"), the Gateway Cen-



A rendering of the new NIH Gateway Center shows the visitor vehicle inspection station (I) and a visitor center where campus guests will obtain badges.

ter will serve as a rest stop for all non-patient visitors, offering information about NIH's mission, research, maps, shuttle schedules, and other materials for navigating the campus.

Blending into the sloped landscape alongside the walkway and bus shelters at the Metro station, the upper level of the stand-alone center will feature a terrace where pedestrians can enter the facility and a lobby.

The lower level is slated to have several rest rooms, exits at the shuttle bus platform, and ample waiting space for dozens of visitors. MLP-11, accessible from the new service road off of Rockville Pike, will offer the only NIH visitor parking outside of the fence. Visitor vehicles parking in the garage will not require inspection. "Visitors may park in the garage and then go

through the Gateway Center. Once through the Gateway Center, they may then use the NIH Shuttle service to travel to the various buildings on campus," said Tom Hayden, director of the Division of Travel and Transportation Services in NIH's Office of Research Services.

Fees, not to exceed \$12 daily, will be required for visitor parking, based on rates set by the General Services Administration. Hayden added that except for the patient/patient-visitor areas, some visitor parking on campus will revert to employee parking. "Some visitor parking must remain for such things as short term deliveries, repair vehicles, etc.," he explained. "These internal visitor spaces will be metered. Patient/patient-visitor parking will remain free with appropriate validation."

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

VIP Week at NIH

### President Bush, Royal Couple Pay Calls on NIH



President George W. Bush made his fourth visit to NIH in less than 3 years on Nov. 1 to announce the government's pandemic influenza preparations and response. At a Natcher Bldg. address of just under half an hour, he outlined a \$7.1 billion plan to meet the threat of avian flu. On hand for Bush's announcement were several cabinet secretaries, senators, members of congress, HHS officials and such international representatives as Dr. Jong-wook Lee, director general of the World Health Organization, and Dr. David Nabarro, senior United Nations system coordinator for avian and human influenza. Bush credited NIH for more than a century of work "at the forefront of this country's efforts to prevent, detect and treat disease, and I appreciate the good work you're doing here. This is an important facility, an important complex, and the people who work here are really important to the security of this nation."



The Duchess of Cornwall (l), whose interest in osteoporosis spurred the NIH visit, chats with several leaders in the field including Dr. Ethel Siris (r) of the National Osteoporosis Foundation.



NIAMS director Dr. Stephen Katz (r) and NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni (second from r) welcome Prince Charles (l) and the Duchess of Cornwall to NIH on Nov. 3 for a briefing on osteoporosis with Surgeon General Richard Carmona (second from l) and other health officials.

Photos: Bill and Ernie Branson

## Red-Tailed Hawk in Residence at NIH

By Belle Waring

The Perimeter Security Fence, a sign of the times, may have its detractors, but there is something ecologically positive about those steely bars—something you might not have noticed.

And that something is underbrush—at least in a 4-acre test plot between the Children's Inn and the new fire station.

As Lynn Mueller, chief of grounds maintenance and landscaping, Office of Research Facilities, explains: "At NIH, we have a park-like setting where the grass is mowed, but as some areas are restored to a more natural state, underbrush will grow up attracting a greater variety of songbirds, including many that are ground nesters."

The perimeter fence helps in that restoration, since it bars pedestrian "cut-throughs"—and deer cut-throughs as well—which helps keep underbrush, well, brushy.

And that's not all. Grounds maintenance crews who gathered leaves from the many shade trees on campus dumped these leaves, creating natural forest duff—organic litter on the forest floor—into that restored area. This has created shelter for voles, moles and other critters favored by another natural denizen of NIH—the red-tailed hawk.

He, or she, has been around here for about 10 years," says Mueller, who has been employed at NIH since 1979. "I was certain that it was a red-tail when I spotted it in our oak tree outside of Bldg. 22. Our guys would see him nail a pigeon right in front of everybody."

The red-tailed hawk (*Buteo americana*) is known for its eerie, high-pitched cry. If you ever saw Northern Exposure, it opened with the sound of its call.

"It's a shriek, really," says Mueller, who, while he modestly denies being an expert, is a long-standing member of

the local Audubon Naturalist Society and has informally studied birds since he got his "bird badge" as a Boy Scout. At last count, he had catalogued 48 birds that inhabit the NIH campus.

"By 'inhabit,'" he says, "we mean that they either feed or nest here. That red-tail was out a lot in spring 2004 when the cicadas hatched, but normally



Photo courtesy of Steve Pinker, Harvard University

they feed on songbirds (pigeons), squirrels and small rodents. And since the squirrel population has recently crashed for unknown reasons, and since we've had to net our building against roosting pigeons, the hawk may have gone over to Rock Creek for mice and voles."

That could be changing, though. The hawk was spotted one recent morning, perched atop Bldg. 45, shrieking away, and for what? Looking for his mate, or just a snack? One employee reported that she's seen him fly past her window in Bldg. 31. "I thought it was a plane landing," she says.

With a wingspan of 48 inches, the bird is truly plane-like. The mature red-tailed hawk also has a short, hooked bill, strong claws, a white breast and a ruddy tail. The youngsters are less colorful.

"They have binocular vision, too," says Mueller, who thinks the hawk's eye may perceive light wavelengths in mouse urine as "a glow they can see even through the grassy tunnels." He's also

engaged in an ongoing project to plant native species of fruit and nut trees, helpful in attracting squirrels and songbirds, which are part of the hawk's diet. He's not all about the predator—Mueller is a big squirrel fan, too.

"They're little comics," he says. "They have all day to figure out how to defeat a bird feeder."

Meanwhile, he's created projects to reduce pesticide use yet control insects by establishing songbird nest boxes on the NIH and NIHAC campuses and specialized nesting sites for bluebirds and kestrels at NIHAC, NIH's Poolesville facility.

So why should NIH scientists, many of whom don't study things that are bigger than a cell, be interested in a raptor, a bird of prey? Well, for one thing, the hawk is a good neighbor. It helps us humans by keeping down the rodent population—always a plus. The hawk's perception may also resonate with a certain kind of scientific inquiry.

The Oneidas, one of the six nations that make up the Iroquois Confederacy, have studied hawk and eagle hunting technique. When a hawk sees a mouse, he dives directly for it, as opposed to an eagle, who sees the whole pattern and detects movement within it. Is there some correspondence here with the scientific mind, in its tenacity, its focus and its creative leaps?

For sure, the hawk is beautiful and strange, soaring high above the ground, where it can spot a mouse at a hundred feet, or locking talons (like holding hands) with another hawk in a mid-air courtship dance.

Spring's coming. Be on the lookout, and listen for that eerie cry.

For more information on the red-tailed hawk, contact Patuxent Bird Identification InfoCenter at <http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/infocenter/infocenter.html>.

## NIH Notes August 2005 - February 2006

### Appointments and Personnel Changes

**Dr. H. Richard Alexander, Jr.**, deputy director of NCI's Center for Cancer Research since 2003, who had been at NCI for 16 years, will become associate chairman for clinical research at the University of Maryland department of surgery. He will also treat patients at the University of Maryland Marlene and Steward Greenebaum Cancer Center ... **Dr. Hugh Auchincloss, Jr.**, has been named the new principal deputy director of NIAID. He will be second in command at NIAID and will have broad responsibilities for carrying out NIAID's program. He comes to NIH from Massachusetts General Hospital, where he was professor of surgery. **Dr. H. Clifford Lane**, who had been acting deputy director will become deputy director for clinical research and special projects. He is also the NIAID clinical director and director of the Office of Clinical Research, which will now become the Division of Clinical Research ... **Dr. Richard Baird** recently joined NIBIB as director of the Division of Interdisciplinary Training. He was director of research at the Harold W. Siebens Hearing Research Center at the Central Institute in St. Louis ... **Dr. Kishor Bhatia** has been named to head NCI's AIDS Malignancy Program. He has served as the program director for the Cancer Diagnosis Program, Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis, since 2004 ... **Dr. Krishna Balakrishnan**, who was in the Office of Technology Transfer, is the new executive director of FAES, replacing Lois Kochanski, who has retired ... **Dr. Kenneth Buetow**, director of NCI's Center for Bioinformatics, has been appointed to the new position of NCI associate director for Bioinformatics and Information Technologies ... **Dr. Jerry Collins**, who was at the U.S. FDA, where he directed the laboratory of clinical pharmacology, has been named associate director of NCI's Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis and will oversee the division's developmental therapeutics program ... Two leaders of the Mouse Cancer Genetics Program at NCI: **Drs. Neal Copeland**, head of the Molecular Genetics of Oncogenesis section, and **Nancy Jenkins**, head of the molecular genetics of development section, are leaving in 2006 to join Singapore's Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology. They have

co-authored nearly 700 publications since coming to NCI-Frederick in 1985. They will continue to help run the NCI program as "special volunteers" ... **Dr. Raymond Dionne** has been appointed scientific director of the NINR's Division of Intramural Research. He was at NIDCR where he served as chief of NIDCR's Pain and Neurosensory Mechanism Branch. At NINR, he will lead the bio-behavioral research program, which examines biological, experiential, and behavioral factors associated with the symptoms of acute and chronic illness ... **Dr. Laurie Friedman Donze** was appointed a scientific review administrator at NCCAM. She was at CSR. At NCCAM, she is responsible for the training and education special emphasis panel as well as other review panels as needed ... **Molla Donaldson**, who was in the Outcomes Research Branch, DCCPS at NCI, has left to take a position at the American Society of Clinical Oncology to direct a new Quality Division that will focus on promoting collaboration among individuals and groups across the oncology community and federal government agencies ... **Dr. Emmeline Edwards** was recently appointed deputy director of NINDS's Division of Extramural Research. In 2000, she joined NINDS from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, where she was an associate professor in the department of

pharmacology and neuroscience ... **Dr. Mathew J. Fenton** was recently named chief of the Asthma, Allergy and Inflammation Branch at NIAID's Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation. Before joining DAIT, he served as professor of medicine and director of pulmonary research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine ... **Gregory Folkers** was named chief of staff to Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID director, in the newly created Immediate Office of the Director. For the past 10 years, he has worked directly with Fauci as a special assistant and senior public affairs advisor ... **Dr. James Herrington** is the director of the FIC's Division of International Relations. Since 2000, he has been on assignment with the United Nations Foundation, where he provided scientific expertise to senior staff in the areas of women's and children's health, population studies, HIV/AIDS and the environment ... **Thomas Hooven** has been named NCI's deputy director for management. He was previously the associate director for administration at NICHD for 6 years and served in a leadership capacity in other trans-NIH activities. He also worked at NCI over a 7-year period ... **Dr. John "Jack" F. Jones** has been selected as acting NIH chief information officer and acting director, CIT, as of mid-November 2005. He has served as NIH chief IT architect since 2001 and for the past two years has been acting deputy director of CIT. Jones

### The ABC's of NIH

Following is a smaller version of a guide to NIH acronyms that ran in a past *Update*.

<b>NCI:</b>	Nat'l Cancer Institute	<b>NIMH:</b>	*Mental Health
<b>NEI:</b>	Nat'l Eye Institute	<b>NINDS:</b>	*Neurological Disorders and Stroke
<b>NHLBI:</b>	Nat'l Heart, Lung, and Blood Inst.	<b>NINR:</b>	*Nursing Research
<b>NHGRI:</b>	Nat'l Human Genome Research Inst.	<b>NLM:</b>	Nat'l Library of Medicine
<b>NIA:</b>	Nat'l Institute on Aging	<b>CC:</b>	Clinical Center
<b>NIAAA:</b>	* on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	<b>CIT:</b>	Center for Information Technology (previously DCRT, Div. of Computer Research and Technology)
<b>NIAID:</b>	*Allergy and Infectious Diseases	<b>CSR:</b>	Center for Scientific Review, (previously DRG, Division of Research Grants)
<b>NIAMS:</b>	*Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	<b>FIC:</b>	Fogarty International Center
<b>NIBIB:</b>	*Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	<b>NCCAM:</b>	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
<b>NICHD:</b>	*Child Health and Human Development	<b>NCMHD:</b>	National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities
<b>NIDCD:</b>	*Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	<b>NCRR:</b>	National Center for Research Resources
<b>NIDCR:</b>	*Dental and Craniofacial Research	<b>OD:</b>	Office of the Director
<b>NIDDK:</b>	*Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases		
<b>NIDA:</b>	*Drug Abuse		
<b>NIEHS:</b>	*Environmental Health Sciences		
<b>NIGMS:</b>	*General Medical Sciences		

\* - "National Institute of" is the first part of the official name of the institutes with the \* in this column.

will lead NIH information services and will also serve as an advisor to the NIH director. Alan S. Graeff, who was at CIT in this position, has moved to NLM where he is a senior scientist ... **Robin Kawazoe** has joined NIAAA as senior advisor to the director. Before coming to NIAAA, she was director of the OD's Office of Science Policy and Planning, a position she had held since December 1996. Prior to that, she served as deputy and then acting director of the Office of Science Policy and Communications for the NIDA, which she first joined in 1988 ... **Dr. Dushanka V. Kleinman** has returned to NIDCR to resume her duties as deputy director. For the past two years, she coordinated NIH Roadmap activities. She will now serve as acting director of the newly created Center for Health Promotion and Behavioral Research in NIDCR's extramural program. With her return, **Dr. Henning Birkedal-Hansen**, who served as acting deputy director, is now associate director for program development. He will retain oversight of the institute's training activities and work directly with the NIDCR director to identify future scientific opportunities for the institute ... **Dr. Hynda Kleinman**, chief of the cell biology section in NIDCR, a 30-year veteran at NIH, left in December 2005 to become professor in the department of biochemistry and molecular biology at George Washington University, where she will continue her research ... **Dr. Scott Leischow**, has been appointed deputy director of the Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson. He had been on detail from NCI to the Office of the Secretary, DHHS, where he served as senior advisor for tobacco policy ... **Dr. Hussein Manji** has been appointed director of the Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program in NIMH's intramural program. He has served as acting director of MADP since July 2004, and is chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Pathophysiology in that program ... **Dr. John J. McGowan**, who was director of the Division of Extramural Activities at NIAID has a new position at NIAID as deputy director for science management. He will have overall responsibility for directing the business and administrative responsibilities of the institute as well as the responsibility for directing science planning, policy and integration ... **Dr. Alan M. Michelson**, who was at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the division of genetics in the department of medicine at the Brigham and

Women's Hospital, has been named NHLBI's associate director for basic research ... **Capt. Helena O. Mishoe**, associate director for minority health affairs and director of the Office of Minority Health Affairs, OD, NHLBI, was recently selected as Chief Professional Officer for the Scientist category. In this job, she will provide guidance and advice to the Surgeon General on matters such as recruitment, retention and career development of PHS scientists ... **Dr. John Niederhuber** has joined NCI as deputy director for translational and clinical sciences. He recently stepped down as chairman of the National Cancer Advisory Board. He is a surgical oncologist and past director of the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center ... **Dr. Harold Perl** has left NIAAA to take a position at NIDA as senior team leader for behavioral research dissemination and training in the Center for the Clinical Trials Network. He worked at NIAAA for almost 16 years and was chief of the Health Services Branch ... **Dr. Dana Plude** was recently named chief of the bio-behavioral and behavioral processes group at CSR. He had been a scientific review administrator within the group. Before joining CSR in 2002, he was associate professor and associate chair in psychology at University of Maryland for 17 years ... **Dr. Christopher Portier**, who served as associate director of the HHS National Toxicology Program, has been named associate director for risk assessment at NIEHS. He will oversee and coordinate risk assessment activities within NIEHS, working to ensure the availability of toxicological study results for use in national and international efforts to assess human health risks of chemicals, drugs and physical agents ... **Dr. Martina Schmidt** has been appointed a scientific review administrator at NCCAM. In 1976, she received a Fogarty fellowship and joined NCI as a postdoctoral fellow. In 2004, she joined CSR as a scientific review administrator intern ... **Nora Salgado** has been appointed director of the Division of Extramural Activities Support. She joined NIH in 2004 as one of three Hub Managers for the group and has served as acting director since April 2005 ... **Dr. Tom Schwan** has been chosen chief of the newly created Laboratory of Zoonotic Pathogens at NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratories. His lab studies diseases that are communicable from animals to humans

... **Dr. Susan B. Shurin** has been named deputy director of NHLBI. Her career has been in academic medicine, university leadership, and management of complex organizations. Most recently she was at Case Western Reserve University ... **Dr. Allen M. Spiegel**, NIDDK director since 1999, has been named dean of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University, effective June 1. He has been at NIH for almost 30 years, starting in 1973 as a clinical associate in the NIDDK's endocrinology training program ... **Dr. Shobha Srinivasan**, has moved from NIEHS where she was in the Susceptibility and Population Health Branch, to serve in a newly created role as Health Disparities Research Coordinator in NCI's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences ... **Dr. Jeffrey Strathern**, who has been in NCI's intramural program since 1999, was named deputy director for NCI's Center for Cancer Research-Frederick, where he will work with the CRC research community promoting CRC-Frederick's biotechnology and computational resources ... **Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach**, NCI director since 2002, was designated acting commissioner of the FDA by President Bush, after the resignation of Dr. Lester Crawford on Sept. 23, 2005. Dr. John Niederhuber, who recently joined NCI as deputy director for translational and clinical sciences, will serve as NCI's chief operating officer and handle the institute's day-to-day management. On Mar. 15, President Bush nominated von Eschenbach to be permanent FDA director. On Mar. 22, he said that he plans to step down from NCI ... **Drs. Joan-Bailey Wilson and Alexander Wilson**, husband-and-wife-team of senior investigators at NHGRI, have been appointed co-chiefs of the new Inherited Disease Research Branch, which identifies the genetic contributions to disease, particularly in genetically complex disorders diabetes ... **Dr. Andrew Wilson** was named chief of the CC Pharmacy Department in October. He had directed pharmacy services at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals in Richmond since 1998 ... **Dr. Kathryn Zoon** has been appointed director of NIAID's Division of Intramural Research—a position that she has performed in an acting capacity since June 2005. Zoon previously was deputy director for planning and development at NIAID's DIR and prior to that, was principal deputy director of NCI's Center for Cancer Research.

## Honors and Awards

**Dr. Daniel Douek**, chief of the Human Immunology Laboratory of NIAID's VRC, was recently named one of 2005's *Scientific American's* Research Leaders. He was selected for his contributions in clarifying how HIV infections cause disease and mortality, which has significance for the development of vaccines ... **Dr. Leo Ellwein**, associate director for applications of vision research at the NEI, received the International Golden Award from the Chinese Ophthalmological Society recently in Tianjin, China. He was honored for his many years of facilitating academic exchanges between U.S. and Chinese investigators and for making contributions to ocular epidemiology and prevention of blindness in China ... **Dr. Patricia A. Grady**, director of the NINR, has recently received three honors: the Columbia University Second Century Award for Excellence in Health Care and an honorary degree of doctor of science, *honoris causa*, from Medical University of South Carolina; an honorary doctor of science from Thomas Jefferson University. All three institutions recognized her work on behalf of NINR to increase its funding and visibility and to her own ability as a nurse, an educator, a scholar, and administrator ... **Dr. Frank Hamilton**, chief of the digestive diseases program in the Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, NIDDK, was presented the Distinguished Service and Achievement Award of the American Motility Society at its annual meeting in Santa Monica, Calif. The society recognized him for his tireless support of and encouragement to members of the society and for fostering the growth of funding for the field of gastrointestinal motility ... **Dr. John Hardy**, chief of NIA's Laboratory of Neurogenetics, presented the annual Florence S. Mahoney Lecture on Aging on Dec. 14. His lecture was titled "Neurodegeneration: Too Much of a Bad Thing Will Kill You." In 2001, he established his laboratory at NIA, where he conducts research on both Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease ... **Dr. William Heetderks**, associate director for science programs at the NIBIB, has been honored by the Alfred Mann Foundation with the Award for Scientific Achievement, for his work in the field of functional neuromuscular systems and for his research in closed loop control of functional neuromuscular

stimulation, cortical control of neural prostheses, spinal cord stimulation and cochlear implants ... **Dr. Sharon Hrynok**, acting director of the FIC, was recently honored by the King of Norway for her efforts to strengthen medical research cooperation between the United States and Norway. She was presented with the King's "Order of Merit" Award during a ceremony in Washington D.C. ... **Dr. Alan Kraut**, professor of American History at American University, has been awarded the Watson Davis and Helen Miles Davis Prize of the History of Science Society for his biography of Joseph Goldberger entitled *Goldberger's War: The Life and Work of a Public Health Crusader*. Kraut spent a sabbatical in the Office of NIH History researching this book with support from NIDDK and NCI ...

**Dr. George Kunos**, scientific director for the NIAAA, received the 2005 Mechoulam Award from the International Cannabinoid Research Society. He is a leader in the field investigating endocannabinoids—naturally occurring (i.e., endogenous), lipidlike compounds produced by the brain and other tissues. The society presented the award to him during its annual symposium in Clearwater, Florida ... **Dr. Deirdre M. Lawrence**, an epidemiologist in NCI's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, has been chosen a Mansfield Fellow by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. The foundation was created in 1983 to promote understanding and cooperation among the nations of Asia and the United States. She is the first Mansfield Fellow to come from NIH and her work will focus on Japan's procedures in health policy and hopefully to explore Japan's efforts to reduce tobacco use and address other factors associated with cancer ... **Dr. Ting-Kai Li**, NIAAA director, recently received a Presidential Citation from the American Psychological Association. The citation recognized Li's "forward-looking vision and leadership that is deeply and widely appreciated by psychological scientists" ... **Dr. Christy Ludlow**, chief of the laryngeal and speech section of NINDS's Medical Neurology Branch, recently received the Honors of the Association Award from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for her research contributions that have increased understanding of spasmodic dysphonia and other neurologically based voice disorders and provided new treatment for sufferers of these disorders ... NIAAMS's **Dr. Daniel Kastner** has received

the 2005 Distinguished Investigator Award of the American College of Rheumatology for a basic scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the field of rheumatology. He was recently appointed to oversee the clinical activities of NIAMS where he is chief of the Genetics and Genomics Branch and has conducted research in the genetics of various diseases including Familial Mediterranean Fever, Neonatal Onset Multisystem Inflammatory Disease and TNF Receptor-Associated Periodic Syndrome, which his branch helped define ... **Dr. Lynnette Nieman**, chief of NICHD's Reproductive Biology and Medicine Branch, was named the 2005 Distinguished Clinical Teacher. She was recognized as an exemplary clinical mentor and outstanding teacher who played an important role in the professional development of clinical fellows ... **Dr. Larry Pinkus**, scientific review administrator of the arteriosclerosis and inflammation of the cardiovascular system in the cardiovascular sciences study section in CSR and president of the R&W Fencing Club, won the gold medal in men's saber (age 60+) on Sept. 3 in Tampa ... **Drs. Anita Roberts** and **Michael Sporn**, have been awarded the 2005 Susan G. Komen Foundation Brinker Award for Distinguished Science in the area of basic research for their joint research on the cytokine transforming growth factor beta. Roberts joined NCI in 1976 and served as chief of the Laboratory of Cell Regulation and Carcinogenesis from 1995 to 2004. Sporn was chief of the Laboratory of Chemoprevention at NCI for more than 30 years and is now the Oscar M. Cohn professor of pharmacology and toxicology and of medicine at Dartmouth Medical School ... **Dr. Steven Rosenberg**, chief of NCI's Surgery Branch was selected by NCI deputy director, Dr. Alan Rabson, to receive the second Alan Rabson Award for NCI Intramural Cancer Research. The award was presented at the NCI Intramural Scientific Retreat on Jan. 11, 2006 ... **Dr. Leonard B. Seeff**, special expert and advisor in liver disease at NIDDK, received the 2005 Distinguished Service Award from the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease for his longstanding contributions to liver disease research and his service to the group. In 1998, he joined NIDDK having worked in the VA Medical System for 30 years ... **Dr. Paul Sieving**, NEI director, received the Pisart Vision Award from Lighthouse International in New York

City on Oct. 21. He was honored for his seminal contributions "to studies of the genetic basis of retinal disease while he was a professor at the University of Michigan prior to coming to NIH ... **Dr. Stephen E. Straus**, senior investigator, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, NIAID, and director, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, presented the NIH Director's Lecture on Nov. 15 in Masur Auditorium. He talked on *From the Bedside to the Bench and Back Again: To Understand, Treat, and Prevent HSV and VZV Infections* ... **Dr. Alasdair Steven**, chief of the Laboratory of Structural Biology Research, NIAMS, was recently awarded the Medal of the 1st Faculty of Medicine by the Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology at the Czech Republic's Charles University. He was recognized for his contributions to basic biomedical research, for his support of Czech science, and for enhancing the international image of the Charles University faculty ... **Dr. Wendong Wang**, a senior investigator in NIA's Laboratory of Genetics recently received the Award of Merit from the Fanconi Anemia Research Fund for his groundbreaking work on the genetic disorder that affects about one in every 300,000 children.

## Retirements

**Dr. Kuresheed Asghar**, chief of the Basic Sciences Review Branch in the Office of Extramural Affairs, NIDA, has retired after almost 32 years of federal service. For the last 24 years, he served in NIDA as pharmacologist, scientific review administrator and as branch chief. In retirement, Asghar plans to pursue consulting and business interests. He recently founded a peer review support services division within a small consulting company, Caspian Sea, LLC ... **Dr. Arthur J. Atkinson**, senior advisor in clinical pharmacology to the CC director, is retiring from NIH after eight years at the CC. His relationship with the organization dates back to 1965 when he worked in NIAID as a clinical associate. In 1997, he served as a special expert consultant for the NIGMS and was charged with assessing NIH's proposed intramural training program in clinical pharmacology. He also directed the ClinPRAT postdoctoral training program and the CC course on Principles of Clinical Pharmacology ... **Dr. Jim Cassatt**, NIGMS director of the Division of Cell Biology and Biophysics,

has, for the last 27 years, commuted from Falls Church to NIH, sometimes traveling the roundtrip of 38 miles on his bike! He plans to pack up his bike and hit the trails here and abroad. He spent most of his career at NIH and started out in the lab doing research, but he moved to what is now CSR as scientific review administrator of the molecular and cellular biophysics study section and four years later moved to NIGMS, where he started many new programs and initiatives ... **Dr. John Fakunding** recently retired from NHLBI, where he was director of the Heart Research Program in the Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases. He had been at NIH since 1977 and at the heart institute for the past 21 years. He looks forward to retiring to South Carolina, where he plans to play golf and take long beach-front walks with his wife, Patti, and their dogs ... **Dr. Lynn Hurwitz Gerber** has left NIH, where she spent 30 years, ending as chief of the CC department of rehabilitation medicine. She is now at George Mason University where she will develop and lead the university's new Center for Chronic Illness and Disability ... **Dr. Bob Hammond**, director of NIDDK's Division of Extramural Activities, recently retired after 25 years of service. He came to NCI, from George Mason University to become executive secretary of special review committees in NCI's Grant Review Branch. He was also at NCI as chief of Research Program Review in 1986, and became chief of NIDDK's Review Branch in 1989. In 1996, he returned to NCI and then went back to NIDDK in 1999 in Extramural Activities. In retirement, professionally, he wants to work with external groups to promote partnerships among government, academia and industry to facilitate research. Personally, he wants to spend more time with his family, catch up on reading and return to bluegrass music ... **Jackie Havens** the Administrative Resource Center manager at the Division of Cancer Prevention and the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, has retired after 32 years of dedicated service and leadership to the staff and scientists at NCI. Her knowledgeable and thoughtful leadership provided vital support to the research programs of these two NCI divisions. Now retired she plans to spend more time with her family and travel ... **Jean Gant-Hodnett** recently retired from her position as a program specialist in Office of the Director at

NHLBI. In her 31 years of government service, she worked for many agencies. She joined NHLBI in 2002 and provided administrative support in the director's office. In retirement, she plans to relocate to the Virginia/Tidewater area with her husband ... **Dr. Derek LeRoith**, an international expert in insulin-like growth factor-1 and chief of the Diabetes Branch since 1999, has retired after a 26-year career with NIDDK. He moved in September to Mt. Sinai School of Medicine where he will run the division of endocrine metabolism, which will emphasize basic research in diabetes and will also establish a center for to improve diabetes care long-term ... **Dr. J. Sri Ram** retired recently from NHLBI's Division of Lung Diseases. He was employed at the institute for 28 years and had been at NIH since 1965. When he retired, Ram was group leader, Training and Special Programs, Airway Biology and Disease Program, a position he held since 1994. An accomplishment of which he is particularly proud is his participation in an NHLBI/WHO initiative called GOLD (Global Initiative on Obstructive Lung Disease). In 2001, this initiative resulted in the first international guidelines for diagnosis, management and prevention of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease ... At the Clinical Center **Priscella Rivera**, nurse manager of 3NE, hematology/oncology/transplant unit, has retired. She has served as a staff nurse, clinical nurse expert, head nurse and nurse manager during her 32 years here. In 1973, she joined NIH when she began her civil service nursing career as a staff nurse in the lipid/hematology/pulmonary unit. She most recently worked as nurse manager of 55 professional nurses on the new hematology/oncology/transplant unit of 3NE. Now retired, she plans to spend more time traveling, exercising and reading ... **Jan Russell**, long-time Office of the Director messenger who was a familiar face in the hallways of Bldgs. 1, 2, and 31, retired July 30 after more than 24 years with the Office of Administrative Services and Resources in the Executive Office, OD. She delivered correspondence and mail with enthusiasm, dedication and a sense of responsibility and she will be missed ... **Dr. A.R. "Joe" Patel**, retired in January with 28 years of service at NCI. He spent most of his career working in the extramural epidemiology research program, where he is known for his early stewardship of research on diet, nutrition and cancer and

on minorities and cancer. He leaves a range of cohort studies. With his new found time, Patel will work part-time as a tax consultant and financial advisor.

## Deaths

**Stephen J. Ackerman**, 86, a retired public health expert who worked for several federal agencies including NIH, died Oct. 10 of pneumonia at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. In 1966, he was named executive secretary with the President's Commission on Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke, and later was chief of planning and evaluation for the division of Regional Medical Programs at NIH. He retired in 1971 and continued to work as a public health consultant, teacher and also at the Association of American Medical Colleges ...

**Onie Powers Adams**, 98, died August 6 in Boston. She was at NCI as a biochemist (1953-1967) in the Cancer Chemotherapy National Services Center. She also worked just before her retirement at the National Library of Medicine indexing journals for *Index Medicus* and the MEDLARS program. She and her second husband Elliott established professorships in biochemistry at Harvard Medical School and in medicine at New York University Medical School. She was a very generous supporter of the NIH Alumni Association and her donations were very much appreciated ... **Shirley A. Baldwin**, 81, died of cancer Oct. 31 at her home in Potomac. She was a registered nurse who had worked at NIH for 10 years, especially in epilepsy research. Her first husband was Dr. Maitland Baldwin, who before his sudden death in 1970, was head of intramural research in surgical neurology at NINDS ...

**William O. Baxter**, 90, the president of Bell Labs and an advisor to six U.S. presidents, died Oct. 31 of respiratory failure in Chatham, N.J. From 1974 to 1980, he served on the National Cancer Advisory Board ... **Rev. Paul R. Beining, S.J.**, 81, a professor of biology at the University of Scranton, died March 20, 2004, in Scranton. From June 1972 until 1989, including summers, intersessions and a full-year sabbatical, he was a guest researcher in NIAID's Laboratory of Streptococcal Diseases and the Laboratory of Microbial Immunity. His research kept pace with serious diseases of the day, and he presented research findings at confer-

ences in the U. S., the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Austria ... **Susan Biddle**, a registered nurse assigned to the Clinical Center's OP7, died suddenly on September 28. She joined the OP7 staff about three years ago. Biddle was named Nurse of the Year by OP7 in May ...

**Dr. Luis G. Brenes**, who was in the Heart Institute's Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism, (1959-1960), died Oct. 25 at his home in San Jose, Costa Rica ... **Dr. Andreas C. Chrambach**, 78, was killed in Bethesda in a car crash on Feb. 23. He was chief of the Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biophysics at NICHHD until he retired in June. He had been at NIH since 1966, starting out in NCI's Endocrinology Branch ... **Damien Crane**, 68, who was an administrator at NCI, died of kidney cancer Oct. 4 at Montgomery Village Health Care Center. He joined NIH in 1962 as a personnel specialist and in 1973 he moved to NCI as a research contracting officer. He managed several cancer drug development programs, a cancer prevention program documenting the health risks of cigarettes and headed an NCI Administrative Resource Center at the time of his retirement in 2000 ...

**Dr. Ernest Charles Cutchins**, 83, a biology professor at Catholic University, who was an NIH staff scientist, died Jan. 16 at Lake Prince Woods in Suffolk, Va. From 1956 to 1959, he worked in the Laboratory of Viral Products in the Division of Biologics Standards ... **Dr. Thomas R. Dawber**, 92, who was the first director of the Framingham Heart Study, died Nov. 23 in Naples, Fla. of complications from Alzheimer's disease. The PHS began the study in 1948 to look for the causes of heart disease and devise strategies to prevent it. In 1949, Dawber was selected to head the study and the newly established National Heart Institute took it over from the PHS. In 1961, Dawber was the author of the first landmark scientific paper that isolated the major risk factors associated with heart disease: high blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, certain irregularities of heart electrical patterns and smoking. He left NIH in 1966 to become chairman of the department of preventive medicine at Boston University School of Medicine, but continued his involvement in the Framingham study ... **Dr. Clarence Dennis**, 96, died July 11, 2005, in St. Paul, Minn. He was a pioneering heart surgeon, who in 1951 performed the world's first open-heart surgery using a heart-lung

bypass machine that he had built himself. From 1972 to 1975, he directed the Technological Applications Division at the National Heart and Lung Institute, where he worked on developing an artificial heart. He then returned to SUNY at Stony Brook until he retired in 1988, but three years later became director of the Cancer Detection Center at the University of Minnesota until he retired again in 1996 ... **Dr. James T. Duff**, 80, died Sept. 6 after a brief illness at Sibley Memorial Hospital. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and remained active in the Naval Reserve for 21 years in the Medical Service Corps, retiring with the rank of commander. He received his bachelor and master of science degrees from Ohio State University and his doctorate degree in microbiology from the University of Texas at Austin. He was employed by the Army Biological Laboratories in Frederick, Md., from 1949-65 and by NCI from 1965 until his retirement in 1983 when he was chief of the Biological Carcinogenesis Branch. He was very active in the NIHAA from its very beginning as a board member. He was chair of chapter events for many years and worked very hard arranging the Japanese, Italian, and German embassy parties ... **Dr. Cecile Edwards**, 78, a Howard University professor and dean, who was an authority on the nutrition of African Americans, died Sept. 17 of respiratory failure at the Washington Home hospice in DC. In the 1950's to 1970's, she conducted an 18-year research study for NIH on the metabolism of methionine. From 1985 to 1991, she was principal investigator in a \$4.5 million study sponsored by NIH on nutrition and other factors affecting pregnancy in African American women ... **Dr. Diane Fink**, 69, an oncologist who was at NCI (1971-1981) as a program director for chemotherapy and then director of the Division of Cancer Control and Rehabilitation, died of a heart attack Sept. 30. She was attending an American Cancer Society meeting in Oakland. She had worked for the ACS since 1981 in various positions in Atlanta and California with an emphasis on promoting cancer control activities for detection, advocacy, prevention and communication. A statewide cancer resource network that she helped develop for newly diagnosed patients is scheduled to be in place by the end of 2006 ... **Arthur D. "Art" Fried**, 61, the longtime budget officer for NICHHD, died at home on Dec. 27 after a long battle with leukemia. He was a model

NIH citizen who participated in a variety of activities that included the CFC rallies, running events and blood donation campaigns. He came to NIH in the 1970's as a management intern and did budget work at several NIH entities until 1977 when he joined NICHD as a budget officer, which was the position from which he would have retired on Jan. 2, ending a federal career of some 40 years ... **Robert Ginsburg**, 73, who was a grants administrator at NIH (1957-1988), died Dec. 14 at Carroll Hospital Center in Westminster, Md., from kidney disease and diabetes complications. He joined NIH after graduating from American University and when he retired in 1988, he was the grants management officer for NIDCR ... **Patricia Ann Granger**, 46, a research assistant at NIAAA since 1989, died of breast cancer Nov. 28 at her home in Kensington ... **Dr. Lawrence Grossman**, 81, an internationally known biochemist and pioneer in the field of DNA repair who was at Brandeis University and the Johns Hopkins University, died Jan. 13 of complications from a broken hip and Alzheimer's disease at the Gilchrist Center for Hospice Care in Towson, Md. In 1957, he was briefly at NIH in NIDR's Laboratory of Oral and Biological Chemistry ... **Chris A. Hansen**, 90, former director of the Division of Research Services at NIH from 1956 to 1968, died Jan. 8, 2006, in Westport Mass., of prostate cancer. A PHS officer, Hansen was the first director of DRS (now the Office of Research Services). In 1968, he left NIH and served 2 years as commissioner of the Environmental Control Administration. From 1970 until 1973, he was vice-president for planning and for the physical plant at Georgetown University. After he retired, he was an engineering consultant in Maryland before moving to Arizona and was active in many environmental and community organizations, assisting with projects for the Nature Conservancy and Habitat for Humanity ... **Mary "Mimi" Henry**, 68, who worked at NIH for almost 30 years, died of cancer Nov. 29 at Casey House Hospice in Rockville. She came to NIH in the early 1970's working in the personnel offices of the CC and NIDR. Before she retired in 2001, she was a management analyst in the NCI extramural program helping to determine how funds would be distributed to institutions outside NIH ... **Jehu Callis Hunter**, 83, an NIH scientist and administrator who studied tumor biology and

helped establish NICHD programs in maternal and child health, died Dec. 7. He first joined NIH in 1949 as a medical biology technician in NCI's Laboratory of Biochemistry and he retired in 1979. He helped develop a research network to investigate the causes of sudden infant death syndrome. During World War II, he served as a communications officer in the famed all African-American unit, the 92nd Infantry Division of the 5th Army who were known as the Buffalo Soldiers. In 1985, Hunter and Lt. Col. Major Clark co-wrote a history of the 92nd, *The Buffalo Division in World War II*. Hunter also continued as a volunteer at NICHD and donated time teaching school children ... **Catherine P. James**, 79, who retired from the Office of Intramural Research in 1998, after nearly 31 years of NIH service, died Oct. 3 of pancreatic cancer. She first came to NIH in 1968, to work part-time for NIH director Dr. James Shannon just before he retired. Then when Dr. Robert Marston became NIH director she began to work fulltime for his office for the next 5 years. She moved to the Office of Intramural Affairs where she worked for Drs. Philip Chen and Richard Wyatt until she retired ... **Dr. Syed V.S. Kashmiri**, 68, of the Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology in NCI's Center for Cancer Research, died on July 19 after a long battle with cancer. He came to NCI in 1987, and was internationally known for his work in modifying immunoglobulin genes to render them more applicable and effective in targeting human tumors. He held numerous patents, received many awards, and published more than 60 peer-reviewed manuscripts ... **Elizabeth (Callahan) "Betty" Koepenick**, who worked at NIH (1950-1979), died in Rhode Island on Feb. 13. She worked in the Health Unit in the Employee Health Service Branch and in the Office of Occupational Medicine ... **Dr. Seymour J. Kreshover**, 93, who served as NIDR director from 1966 until his retirement in 1973, died of complications from diabetes at his home in Winter Park, Fla. For 10 years before his appointment as NIDR director, he served as the Institute's associate director in charge of research. He was an assistant surgeon general and a rear admiral in the PHS. In his career, Kreshover combined several disciplines and both dental and medical degrees. His research focused on smoking and related cancers and he helped broaden the base of dental investigations. In 1983, NIH established an annual

symposium named in his honor, one of only two named seminars and until last year he attended them. Unable to attend last September's event, he e-mailed his comments ... **Dr. Thomas Langfitt**, 78, a former member of the National Advisory Neurological Disorders and Stroke Council, died Aug. 14 of tuberculosis. Internationally recognized for his pioneering work in treating traumatic brain injuries, he served on the council from January 1980 to October 1983. From 2002 to 2004, he became president of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, a 200-year old nonprofit cultural and educational society ... **Madeline Lee**, an information technology specialist in CIT's Enterprise Intelligence Branch, died June 21 of ovarian cancer, just short of her 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Her entire 33-year federal career was at NIH ... **Dr. James J. Leonard II**, 81, died Dec. 16 in Washington, D.C. following a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was the first chairman of the department of medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences from 1977 to 1998. In 1956, very early in his career, he served as a cardiac trainee at the Duke University Medical School sponsored by NIH ... **Janice P. Lewis**, 88, who lived in Damascus died Feb. 19 in Walkersville. She was a statistician at NIH who worked in the Operations Branch, OD, (1950-1957). She later worked as a secretary at the Atomic Energy Commission and retired after 33 years of Federal service ... **Dr. Leo Levenbook**, an NIH researcher who specialized in insect biochemistry, died of heart disease Oct. 8 at his home in Chevy Chase. He worked at NIH for almost 30 years from 1955 to 1985 when he retired ... **Rodney Draper Long**, 66, an NIMH technician at St. Elizabeths Hospital, died of cancer Sept. 29 at Holy Cross Hospital. He worked for 40 years at the hospital. He was also an artist, whose paintings hung in the homes of family and friends, and a craftsman, who built decks, bookcases and toolsheds ... **Mabel Grover Mango**, 78, a social worker and family therapist, who worked at NIMH (1963-1968) in the Laboratory of Clinical Sciences, died of lung cancer Oct. 5 at Suburban Hospital. In 1960, she was one of eight women in a pilot project at NIMH for training female mental health counselors. The project became the basis of a master's degree program at Johns Hopkins and also a model for the Psychiatric Institute of America ... **Sgt. Mark**

**Mathews, 111**, the oldest surviving Buffalo Soldier, died of pneumonia Sept. 6 at Fox Chase Nursing Home in Washington. Mathews joined the regiment when he was 16 and served along the US-Mexican border and then during the 1920's and 1930's was assigned to Fort Myer, where he tended the presidential stable, played on the polo team and trained recruits in horsemanship. Although he was in his late forties, he served on Saipan in the South Pacific during World War II. He retired from the Army in 1949 and worked at NIH as a security guard until he retired, as chief of guards, in 1970 ... **Josephine Elizabeth Dettmers Maxwell, 88**, a secretary and volunteer at NIH, died Oct. 24 of a heart ailment at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. In 1955, she joined NIH as a secretary and worked primarily in the Heart Institute. When she retired in 1974, she was at NINDS. She also volunteered in the 1950's helping patients and their families ... **Sarah McCoy McCarthy, 47**, who was a microbiologist at NIAID for the past 23 years, died Sept. 9 at the Washington Home Hospice of breast cancer ... **Kathleen A. McMurtaugh, 84**, who worked in the Business Operations Branch, OD, in the 1950's-1960's, died of complications from a stroke Jan. 6 at the Montgomery County Casey House ... **Albert Wiley Paterson, 91**, who worked at NIH in the 1970's, died Jan. 7 of pneumonia and kidney failure at Washington Hospital Center ... **Grant C. Riddle**, who was at NIH (1949-1973), died July 21, 2005, in Harrisonburg, Va. He was an electronic engineer in the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch at DRS ... **Louise Unsinn Robb, 77**, a retired research grants manager at NIH, died of heart disease Nov. 9 at Washington Hospital Center. She retired in the mid-1980's ... **Dr. Marvin Romsdahl, 75**, a cancer surgeon and educator for more than 30 years at University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, died Jan. 10. In 1956, after graduating from the University of Illinois College of Medicine, he spent two years at NCI as a clinical associate in the NCI Surgery Branch ... **Dr. Nathan R. Rosenthal, 79**, a biochemist with FDA, died after a stroke Sept. 29 at Washington Hospital Center. From 1959 to 1990, he worked on food safety and on approvals of anti-cancer drugs. Before that he worked at NIH for a short time ... **Cosme Saculles, 88**, a barber in the NIH beauty and barbershop in building 10, passed away

August 1. He had worked in the barbershop for 28 years, serving since 1977. He would often visit patients in their rooms to give them haircuts when they were not physically able to come to the shop. A native of the Philippines, Saculles maintained a home there and had planned to complete the next of his many trips there in January 2006. His sister, Maxine Longnecker, is the manager of the NIH beauty/barber shop ... **L. Regina "Bobbie" Sangston**, who worked at NIH (1959-1968), died Aug. 16. She worked in the CC/OD (1959-1960), Division of Research Grants (1962), and Office of the Director (1963-1968) ... **Philip Sapir, 89**, who worked at NIMH (1946-1967) and NICHD (1980-1981), died Feb. 11 of complications from Alzheimer's disease. At NIMH, he was chief of research grants and fellowship programs. After he left in 1967, he was president of the W.T. Grant Foundation in New York. He returned to work at NICHD in the Center for Research for Mothers and Children and retired in 1981 ... **Elizabeth Marie "Betty" Sherman, 66**, who worked at both NCI and the FDA, died of cancer Jan. 18 at the NIH CC in Bethesda. She had non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and participated in a number of studies at NCI to help find a cure. She was the incentive awards officer at FDA's Center for Development and Radiological Health ... **Dr. Charles Smart, 79**, a surgeon, a diagnostician, and a pioneer in the computerized use of cancer data repositories and guidelines to detect breast tumors early, died Jan. 28 of myelodysplastic syndrome, a bone marrow disease, at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City. After he retired in 1985 from LDS Hospital, Smart came to NCI, where he worked in the Division of Cancer Control and Prevention. As head of the Early Detection Branch, he developed guidelines for the early detection of breast cancer. He returned to Utah in 1991 ... **Dr. David W. E. Smith, 71**, a physician, scientist, educator and author, died on Sept. 12 of complications from multiple sclerosis. In 1962, Smith came to NIH as a research associate for 2 years with Dr. Bruce Ames and then worked at NIAMD in the Laboratories of Molecular Biology and Experimental Pathology until 1967. He spent 3 years at Indiana University, but then went to Northwestern, where he retired in 2000 as professor emeritus in the department of pathology and the Buehler Center on Aging. In 1988, he became interested in gerontology and in

1993 wrote his book, "Human Longevity," which focused on the biology of aging ... **Dr. James E. Strickland**, a senior investigator at NCI from 1972 until his retirement in 1996, died Sept. 19 of B cell lymphoma. He died a month short of his 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday. He first worked in the tumor virus program on the Frederick campus, where his research focused on leukemia viruses, the mechanisms underlying genetic susceptibility to cancer, stromal-epithelia interactions and crosstalk between normal and neoplastic cells in a mouse model. He was an accomplished photographer whose work appeared in major magazines and newspapers. Strickland was the official photographer for the Washington Ballet Company and did studies of ballet and classical Indian and Chinese dancers. His photographs may be seen at <http://classical-images.com> ... **Adrian Virginia Strong, 80**, who worked at NIH from 1973 to 1994 as the manager of the operating room surgical unit at the CC, died Sept. 15 at Craven Regional Medical Center. She lived with her husband at the Fairfield Harbour community in New Bern, N.C. She enjoyed playing golf and bridge, gardening, cooking and traveling. Her remains have been donated to medical research ... **Marian H. Talbert, 82**, died Nov. 5 at her home in Rockville. She worked at the Heart Institute (1957-1982) in a variety of jobs involving grants training and administrative management ... **Mary William Taylor, 94**, died Nov. 14 at Rebecca House in Potomac. She had dementia. In the 1960's and 1970's, she worked as a secretary at NIH, retiring as secretary for the head of the molecular biology lab ... **Dr. Louis Barton Thomas, 86**, a clinical pathologist and cancer researcher, who worked at NIH from 1958 to 1978, died after a stroke at a hospital in Fort Collins, Colo. He was the chief of the pathology laboratory at NIH for 10 years and helped train new residents in clinical pathology. He wrote or co-authored 101 articles for scientific journals and did research on breast and cervical cancer. He and his wife retired to Fort Collins, where he raised money through the Lions Club to create the Rocky Mountain Eye Institute. He also helped establish a low vision skills center in Fort Collins ... **Vernon J. Tice, 87**, the manager of the FAES Social and Academic Center (1984-2004), where many NIH events have been held and where NIHAA has its office, died after a fall at his home on Aug. 9.

**BALLOT**

**PLEASE TEAR OUT AND RETURN WITH YOUR VOTE**

In accordance with the bylaws of the NIHAA, alumni members of the association are to elect one-third of the board of the association. The nominating committee, appointed by President J. Paul Van Nevel, has nominated the alumni members listed below, each of whom has agreed to serve on the board of directors, if elected, to occupy positions on the board left open by expiring terms of present members. Each NIHAA member may vote for four (4) of these nominees. Please note that associate members (current NIH employees) are not eligible to vote in this election.

**NOMINEES FOR 2006-2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Please vote for four (4) nominees and return your ballot to the NIHAA office by May 10.

**Nominees**

**Last NIH Affiliation and NIH Dates**

- Mr. James S. Alexander OD, Office of Intramural Training and Education — NIH (1974-2004)
- Mr. Calvin B. Baldwin, Jr. OD, Associate Director for Administration — NIH (1953-1986)
- Dr. Dennis F. Cain NCI, Division of Cancer Treatment, Protocol Office — NIH (1968-1994)
- Dr. Donna J. Dean NIBIB, Acting Director and Deputy Director — NIH (1977-2005)
- Dr. George Galasso\* OD, Office of Extramural Programs — NIH (1968-2000)
- Ms. Janyce Hedetniemi\* OD, Director, Office of Community Liaison — NIH (1977-2002)
- Dr. Gerald S. Johnston CC, Chief, Department of Nuclear Medicine — NIH (1971-1982)
- Dr. Kira K. Lueders NCI, Intramural Scientist — NIH (1962-2005)
- Dr. Ramesh K. Nayak CSR, Scientific Review Administrator/Referral Officer—NIH (1978-2005)
- Dr. Theodore J. Roumel OD, Office of Technology Transfer — NIH (1967-1969 and 1993-2004)
- Dr. John F. Sherman OD, Deputy Director — NIH ( 1953-1974)
- Mr. Marc Stern\* OD, Office of Communications and Public Liaison — NIH (1967-2002)

\*CURRENT BOARD MEMBER WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A SECOND TERM

## NIH Retrospectives: 5 Decades of History



### Spring 1956

A short ceremony was held in Wilson Hall at 4 p.m. on Jan. 31, 1956, for the unveiling of Dr. William Sebrell's portrait. He was director from 1950 to 1955. The painting was done by Mr. Byorn Egeli, and was financed by contributions from NIH employees. [In 2006, all the portraits of the former NIH directors in the Shannon Bldg. are receiving new labels. They contain biographical information, notes about accomplished during his/her tenure, and comments on the portrait details] ... The annual Hamster show will be presented in late May. This year's presentation is titled "Health's a-Popping" and includes a cast of over 50.



### Spring 1966

Dr. Roy Hertz, scientific director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, admitted NICHD's first patient to the Clinical Center on Jan. 16, 1966, thus marking another milestone in the history of clinical research at NIH. Hertz had also admitted the first patient to the CC 13 years before ... The R&W Hamsters are holding auditions for their spring production of "Kiss Me Kate" ... According to a recent National Health Survey on the physical dimensions of adult Americans, men average 168 pounds in weight, and 5 feet 8.2 inches in height; 90 percent of women average 142 pounds in weight and 5 feet 3 inches in

height. [In 2005, the latest vital statistics for the US are: men average 175 pounds in weight, and 5 feet 9 and 1/2 inches in height, women average 150 pounds in weight and 5 feet 4 inches in height.]



### Spring 1976

A conference on a new issue in genetics and its potential impact on science and society was held Feb. 9-10, 1976, at NIH. The Advisory Committee to the NIH Director and other participants considered proposed guidelines and requirements for NIH support of recombinant DNA research ... On June 25, the National Heart and Lung Institute was renamed the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, reflecting an expansion in blood-related activities within the Institute ... Dr. David Scott was named director of the National Institute of Dental Research ... Funding for the construction of the Lister Hill Center has been passed. The building is scheduled for completion in 1979.



### Spring 1986

On Apr. 8 NIADDK's Division of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases became the core of the new National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. The NIADDK was renamed the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases ... On Apr. 18 the National Center of Nursing Research at NIH was established.



### Spring 1996

In late 1995 and early 1996, two events halted work at NIH: Nearly 3 weeks of furlough caused by a budget impasse, then a week of intense snow forced government closures ... Florence S. Mahoney, was selected NIHAA's 1996 Public Service Awardee, for her influential support of medical research since pre-World War II years and her relationship to bringing about legislation for NIH.



A familiar sight in front of NLM is this stand of Arnold flowering crab apple trees, or *Malus arnoldiana*, which have been pruned in a distinctive umbrella shape. They are about 50 years old and sadly are not in good health and will have to be replaced. Lynn Mueller, head of grounds maintenance at NIH's Office of Research Facilities, is searching for replacements that are hardier and sturdier. He said that it takes about 10 years to develop the shape that has become an NIH landmark each spring.