

Varmus Delivers 1996 Harvard Commencement Address

Full text of address:

Mr. President, alumni, graduates,
parents, friends:

Many members of today's graduating class reacted to the news that I would give this year's Commencement Address, just as I did: with surprise. The *Harvard Crimson* recorded some undergraduate responses: "Who is he?" "Wow, that's boring. Everyone else got someone exciting." Editorials criticized the process by which "Dr. Who" was selected. I was featured in entertaining cartoons, something that hasn't happened during three years in Washington. I may never be this famous again.

(See Varmus p. 14)

Congress Supports NIH Funding Level

In the face of balanced budgets, deficit reduction, government shut-downs and gloomy forecasts, the NIH emerged from the 1996 budget battles with a 5.7 percent increase over 1995. In spite of the same fiscal pressures, NIH may benefit again in 1997 from the strong support of Congress with an increase well above that requested by the President (see chart on p. 2).

The President's fiscal year 1997 request for NIH provides an increase of 4.2 percent over the 1996 level. In large part, the difference in funding is due to the inclusion of \$310 million for NIH to finance the construction of a new Clinical Research Center on its Bethesda campus.

Under federal regulations, all funds for a federal construction project must be identified and requested in one lump sum. However, the Congress has

(See Budget p. 2)



1996 Harvard commencement speaker Dr. Harold E. Varmus is applauded by Dean Jeremy Knowles after delivering his speech on June 6, 1996. Varmus also received an honorary degree as a "Literate laureate whose research has deepened our understanding of genetics and disease; a brilliant and energetic marshal in the campaign for better human health."

(Photo courtesy, Kris Snibbe/Harvard News Office)

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Members Enjoy Annual Meeting in June

The annual membership meeting of the NIH Alumni Association was held at the Mary Woodard Lasker Center on June 15, 1996. About 75 members and guests attended, including NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of NIHAA's 1996 Public Service Award to Florence Mahoney. This award was given in recognition of her unique and sustained role in stimulating support for the programs of NIH. In making the award presentation on behalf of NIHAA, Dr. Richard Hodes, director of the National Institute

(See Annual Meeting p. 11)

Budget (continued from p. 1)

expressed some reservations about following this approach and may choose to allocate funds for the new clinical center over several years.

Depending on the outcome of House and Senate negotiations regarding funding for the Clinical Research Center, as much as \$200 million could be given to other funding mechanisms, including research project grants. In addition, the House has indicated the intent to provide a 6.9 percent increase for NIH, adding another \$300 million to the President's request.

This level of support from Congress signals strong bipartisan affirmation of the federal role in funding medical research. Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.), who chairs the House appropriations subcommittee that has jurisdiction over NIH, urged the scientific community to

become more active in educating the public and policy makers about the importance of research.

At a hearing of Nobel laureates in February 1995, Porter remarked, "I believe that if the message is heard very loudly and strongly in our society of what has and can be accomplished, that as a priority, biomedical research will stand at the very top of the list. The question is whether that message is being heard or not."

The final decisions on the FY97 budget await approval of the House level by the full appropriations committee and the full membership of the House. The Senate levels have not yet been through the first step of a subcommittee vote. Following votes in the House and Senate on the appropriations bills, the differences will need to be worked out by a conference before final passage.

Update

The NIHAA Update is the newsletter of the NIH Alumni Association. The NIHAA office is at 9101 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 530-0567.

Editor's Note

The NIHAA Update welcomes letters and news from readers. We wish not only to bring alumni news about NIH, but also to serve as a means for reporting information about alumni—their concerns, information on recent appointments, honors, books published and other developments of interest to their colleagues. If you have news about yourself or about other alumni, or comments on and suggestions for the NIHAA Update, please drop a note to the editor. We reserve the right to edit materials.

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	FY 1996 Estimate	FY 1996 President's	FY 97 Budget House
NCI	\$2,254,951	\$2,280,931	\$2,385,741
NHLBI	1,351,440	1,378,670	1,438,265
NIDR	183,478	186,781	195,596
NIDDK	768,530	784,923	819,224
NINDS	683,553	695,098	725,478
NIAID	1,171,168	1,208,730	1,256,149
NIGMS	944,409	963,623	1,003,722
NICHD	593,104	603,650	631,989
NEI	313,109	319,207	333,131
NIEHS	287,614	295,142	308,258
NIA	453,520	463,365	484,375
NIAMS	244,058	247,141	257,637
NIDCD	175,912	180,816	189,243
NIMH	659,981	671,205	701,247
NIDA	458,288	466,325	487,341
NIAAA	198,593	202,614	212,079
NINR	55,676	56,966	59,715
NCRR	389,429	377,599	416,523
NCHGR	169,311	179,875	189,267
FIC	25,284	25,547	26,707
NLM	140,563	146,579	150,093
OD	259,440	251,513	275,423
B&F	146,151	420,000	200,000
TOTALS	\$11,927,562	\$12,406,300	\$12,747,203

Source: OFM,NIH

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Thank you to the following companies and individuals who supported NIHAA in 1995-1996:

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Thanks also to our members who have contributed donations beyond their dues payment.

Research Festival '96 Includes Things Old, New

Research Festival marks its 10th anniversary this year on Sept. 16-20. In honor of the occasion, Dr. Henning Birkedal-Hansen, NIDR director of intramural research and the '96 festival chairman, has planned to include something old—VIP posters—and something new—a job fair for NIH postdocs. One hundred VIP posters were a highlight of the first research festival, and presented an opportunity for well-known established investigators and postdocs to meet. This year, the VIP posters will be scattered throughout the sessions. Invited VIP presenters include institute directors, scientific directors and from OD, Drs. Varmus and Gottesman. (See box on p. 4 for

week's schedule).

New to the festival this year will be a job fair, to be held Wednesday morning, Sept. 18, at the Natcher Conference Center and the Cloister (Bldg. 60). The NIH's Office of Education, the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences and the Technical Sales Association will arrange job interviews and meetings between NIH postdocs and representatives of biotechnology firms.

Also part of the week's activities on Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 18 from 2 to 5:15, NIDR will honor a recent alumnus, Dr. Stephan E. Mergenhagen (see box below) in the main auditorium of the Natcher Bldg. Mergenhagen

(See *Research Festival* p. 4)

Matrix, Microbes and Mucosa: Four Decades of Microbiology and Immunology

NIDR Alumni Symposium in Honor of Stephan E. Mergenhagen

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1996 2-5:30 p.m.

Natcher Bldg., Main Auditorium

2:00 p.m. *Welcome*

Dr. Hal Slavkin
 Director, NIDR

2:15 p.m. *Matrix and Disease*

Dr. George Martin
 Vice President, Scientific Affairs,
 Fibrogen

2:45 p.m. *New Thoughts on the Pathogenesis of Rheumatoid Arthritis*

Dr. William Koopman
 Professor & Chairman, Department
 of Medicine, University of Alabama

3:15 p.m. *Lipopolysaccharide: A Century of Puzzles*

Dr. Stefanie Vogel
 Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, USUHS

3:45 p.m. *Complement-Endotoxin Interactions: 30 Years Later*

Dr. Henry Gewurz
 Professor & Chairman, Department of Immunology, Rush Medical College

4:15 p.m. *From Cytokines to Chemokines*

Dr. Joost Oppenheim
 Chief, Laboratory of Molecular Immunoregulation, NCI

4:45 p.m. *Mucosal Decisions: Immunity, Inflammation or Tolerance*

Dr. Jerry McGhee
 Director, Immunobiology, Vaccine Center, University of Alabama

5:15 p.m. *Closing Comments*

Dr. Henning Birkedal-Hansen
 Director, Division of Intramural Research, NIDR

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Reception following Symposium in the Natcher Atrium to which NIHAA members are invited.

Please RSVP to (301) 496-4178
 (Ms. Chiquita Odinma)

NIH Research Festival 1996 General Schedule of Events

MONDAY, SEPT. 16

Symposium *Prion Diseases*

Natcher Bldg., Main Auditorium
8:30-11:00 a.m.

Poster Session 1

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
All Poster sessions are held in the Natcher Bldg.

Lunchtime Picnic

1:00 p.m. located outside the Natcher Bldg.
Tickets must be purchased in advance at NIH R&W stores (proceeds go to the Children's Inn at NIH); sponsored by the Technical Sales Association (TSA)

Workshop Session 1

1:30-4:30 p.m.

Poster Session 2

4:30-6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

Symposium *Genetics of Complex Disease: from Phenotype to Gene*

Natcher Bldg., Main Auditorium
8:30-11:00 a.m.

Poster Session 3

11:00-1:00 p.m.

Workshop Session 2

1:30-4:30 p.m.

Poster Session 4

4:30-6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18

Job Fair

In the morning at Natcher Bldg. and the Cloister (Bldg. 60)

NIDR Alumni Symposium *(See Box on p. 3 for details)*

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19 - FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

TSA Research Festival Show Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. *Located under the tents in Parking Lot 10D, near Bldg. 10*

Research Festival (continued from p. 3)

retired this year after an exceptionally distinguished career at NIH.

He joined NIDR in 1958 as a fellow in the Laboratory of Microbiology. He



Dr. Mergenhagen

was named chief of the first immunology section in 1965. In 1970, he became chief of the Laboratory of Microbiology and Immunology, which in 1988 was renamed the Laboratory of Immunology (LI). Among the most notable accomplishment of the LI during Mergenhagen's tenure were the characterization of the alternative complement pathway; identification of C5a and TGF-beta as potent chemoattractants; pioneering work on IL-1, IL-2, OAF and FAF; elucidation of prostaglandin-dependent macrophage collagenase production; and more recently, characterization of the antiviral activity of secretory leukocyte protease inhibitor.

Birkedal-Hansen has written the following tribute to Mergenhagen: "His contributions have consistently broken new ground and created new paradigms in general and mucosal immunology. Because of his unusual insights and efforts, Steve has inspired an entire generation of immunologists who are now playing leading roles in the field in the U.S. and abroad. He has trained and mentored nearly 200 scientists... NIH and NIDR owe Steve an immense debt of gratitude for his contributions to immunology and to oral health."

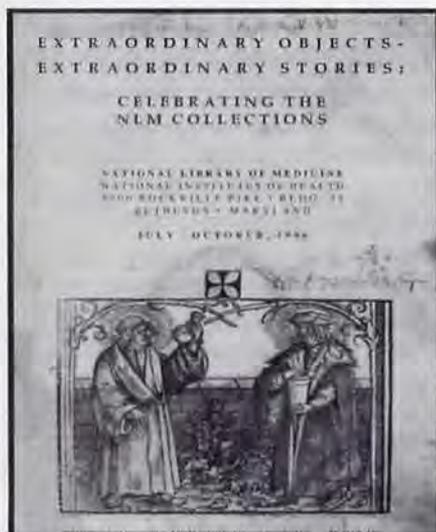
A booklet detailing all the workshops and poster titles is now available. A searchable program will be posted on the NIH Research Festival Web site: <http://mantis.dcrf.nih.gov/festival>.

For more information call Gregory Roa at the NIH Visitor Information Center at (301) 496-1776; e-mail: gr25v@nih.gov.

Calendar of Exhibits and Upcoming Events

October—February

"Extraordinary Objects, Extraordinary Stories: Celebrating the NLM Collection," an exhibit of material from the



acquisitions of the National Library will be displayed in the front lobby of NLM (Bldg. 38, 8600 Rockville Pike) until Oct. 31.

On **Nov. 14**, another exhibit on "Emotions and Disease" will open. This mixed media show will end Feb. 28, 1997. For more information call the History of Medicine Division, NLM, (301) 496-5405.

October—November

Medicine for the Public:

A lecture series on health and disease, presented by NIH physicians and scientists, and sponsored by the Clinical Center. Lectures are free and held on Tuesday evenings beginning at 7 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. For more information call (301) 496-2563.

Oct. 1—Drug Abuse: A Preventable Behavior; Drug Addiction: A Treatable Disease

Oct. 8—Heart Attacks and Cardiovascular Risks in Men and Women

Oct. 15—Nicotine Addiction: Science, Medicine, and Public Policy

Oct. 22—Drug-Resistant Bacteria: Old Foes with New Faces

Oct. 29—Colorectal Cancer Therapy Now and into the Next Millennium

Nov. 12—Aging: Genes, Cells, and Selves

The Florence Mahoney Lecture will be on **Sept. 25**, with Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Connor, professor and chairman, department of family and preventive medicine, UCSD, speaking on "The Gender Gap: Why Do Women Have Less Heart Disease Than Men?"

The DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Lecture is **Oct. 23**, with Dr. Baldomero Olivera, a professor of biology at the University of Utah talking on "Using Deadly Cone Snails to Learn Drug Design and Probe Nervous Systems."

The NIH Director's Cultural Lecture, "Women and Men in Conversation: A Linguistic Approach," will be given on **Oct. 28** by Dr. Deborah Tannen, University professor, department of linguistics, Georgetown University.

The Robert Gordon Lecture is **Nov. 13** with Dr. Joseph Fraumeni of NIH speaking on "Epidemiology of Cancer: An Interdisciplinary Approach."

The G. Burroughs Mider Lecture on **Nov. 20** with Dr. John I. Gallin, CC director, speaking on "Chronic Granulomatous Disease of Childhood: An Orphan Disease Yielding Important Insights."

Dr. Joseph Goldstein, Nobel laureate, has agreed to deliver the first James A. Shannon Lecture. Tentatively scheduled for winter 1997; invitations with details will be sent to NIHAA members.

For more information about other NIH lectures and events call (301) 496-1766. For more information about NIHAA events call (301) 530-0567.

October—March 1997

A concert series, sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, will be held, on Sundays at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are required. For more information call (301) 496-7976.

Oct. 6—Trio di Parma, violin, cello and piano

Dec. 8—Ignat Solzhenitsyn, piano

Jan. 19—Radu Lupu, piano

Jan. 26—Marina Piccinini, flute
Andreas Haefliger, piano

Feb. 9—The Vellinger String Quartet

Feb. 16—Helen Donath, soprano

Feb. 23—The New York Wind Soloists

Mar. 9—The Aurn String Quartet

Mar. 23—Andras Schiff, piano

A series of Wednesday Afternoon Lectures are held at 3:00 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. For information call Hilda Madine at (301) 594-5595.

News From and About NIHAA Members and Foreign Chapters

Dr. Elizabeth P. Anderson, who worked at NCI (1960-1995), first as a research chemist, and then in the Breast Cancer Program as a health sciences administrator in the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, has recently retired. She is now a consultant with the British Columbia Cancer Research Center and living on Saltspring Island in British Columbia.

Dr. Robert Haim Belmaker, who was a clinical associate at NIMH from 1972 to 1974, is now chairman of the division of psychiatry, Ben Gurion University School of Medicine in Beersheva, Israel. He writes, "I have been awarded the Eli Lilly Research Award of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology for 1996."

Dr. Katherine L. Bick, who was at NIH in OD and NINDS from 1976 to 1990, has moved to North Carolina where she reports, "My primary activities center around my role as a scientific advisor in neuroscience to the Charles A. Dana Foundation in New York. Additionally, I am writing on historical aspects of the research effort into Alzheimer's disease and the related dementias."

Dr. Marcel H. Bickel, a visiting scientist at the NHLBI in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology with Dr. Bernard

"Steve" Brodie, from 1961-1964, writes, "From the 1960's to 1993, I worked in psychopharmacology and pharmacokinetics and was



professor of pharmacology, University of Bern School of Medicine, Bern, Switzerland. I have made frequent visits to the U.S. with guest professorships at the University of Arizona, UCLA and Johns Hopkins. Since 1993, I have been a researcher and editor at the department of the history of medicine, University of Bern School of Medicine."

Dr. Paul Calabresi, who was a field investigator at NCI from 1956 to 1960, is professor and chairman emeritus, department of medicine at Brown University. He is also director, division of clinical pharmacology, Rhode Island Hospital, and a member of the President's Cancer Panel. In June, he received an honorary Doctor of Medicine degree, *laurea honoris causa*, from the University of Genoa.

Dr. George Canellos, with NCI from 1963-65 as a clinical associate, a senior investigator from 1967-74 and acting clinical director in 1975, is now at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He was recently appointed to a second 5-year term as editor of the American Society of Clinical Oncology's *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Dr. Philip A. Corfman, who began his federal career in 1964 at NICHD, was appointed the first director of the Center for Population Research in 1968. In 1984, he was detailed to the special program in human reproduction of the World Health Organization in Geneva where he was responsible for the program's research activities. In 1987, he joined the FDA and currently serves as team leader for fertility and maternal health drugs and executive secretary for the FDA's advisory committee for reproductive health drugs.

Corfman was awarded the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' (AGOG) Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions in the field of obstetrics and gynecology. The award, in recognition of his many notable achievements as a government official committed to the enhancement of women's health, was presented to him at AGOG's annual clinical meeting in Denver. He is the first career commissioned officer in the Public Health Service to receive this award.

Dr. Stanley N. Cohen, a clinical associate in the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch, NIAMD, from 1962 to 1964, is now professor of genetics and of medicine at Stanford University. Recently, he and Dr. Herbert W. Boyer were named recipients of the 1996 Lemelson-MIT Prize. The award was established in 1994 by Dr. Jerome H. Lemelson and his wife, Dorothy, to recognize the nation's most talented inventors and innovators. Through their research collaboration, which began in 1972, Cohen and Boyer developed a method of cloning genetically engineered molecules in foreign cells. This discovery paved the way for the mass production of hormones and other chemicals once only made by the human body.

Dr. Mark M. Davis, who was a staff fellow in the Laboratory of Immunology at NIAID from 1980 to 1984, is an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and professor of microbiology and immunology at Stanford University School of Medicine. He shared with Dr. Tak-Wak Mak, the 1996 Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Prize, which recognizes "the most outstanding recent basic science contribution," for their work in identification of T lymphocyte

receptor genes, the key to understanding immune reactions and essential to developing new strategies to prevent and treat cancer by immunological methods. The award is presented by the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation and each of the three GM Awards carries a monetary prize of \$100,000 and a gold medal.

Dr. Robert J. Fitzgerald, who was chief, gnotobiotics section at NIDR from 1948 to 1969, writes, "After retiring from PHS, NIH, and NIDR in 1969, I joined the VA in Miami as head of the dental research unit with concurrent appointments as professor of microbiology and chief of the oral microbiology laboratory at the University of Miami School of Medicine. I am now retired again with the title of professor (emeritus) of microbiology at the University of Miami and consultant to the Miami VA Research Service. I also work part time for the South Florida Veterans Affairs Foundation for Research and Education, which administers non-VA funds for VA investigators. While in the VA, I held the title of Research Career Scientist, a recognition given to non-physician researchers. On retirement I received the Secretary's Award and Medal for Exceptional Service. I served a number of years as a member of NIDR's caries task force advisory committee, NIDR's Intramural Research Advisors and as VA liaison to the National Advisory Dental Research Council. My work at NIDR with Paul Keyes was the subject of a recent profile in the *Journal of Dental Research* (vol. 74, no. 9, 1995)."

Dr. Eli Glatstein, chief of NCI's Radiation Oncology Branch from 1977 to 1992, has left his position at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School and the Center for Therapeutic Cancer Research in Dallas.

He is now in the radiation oncology department at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia.

Dr. Edison Goncalves, at NIDDK from 1986 to 1988, now an internist and endocrinologist practicing in Birmingham, Alabama, has been elected a fellow of the American College of Physicians. He is affiliated with Brookwood Medical Center, Shelby Medical Center, Healthsouth Medical Center and the Eye Foundation Hospital—all located in Birmingham. He is part of the private practice of Diabetes &



Endocrinology Associates.

Dr. Bernadine Healy, NIH director from 1991 to 1993, now dean of the Ohio State University College of Medicine, recently received the Jean Ellsberg Haseltine Catalyst Award from the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research. She has "provided a living model for young women who wish to enter the fields of women's health research and medical education and administration. As a physician, administrator and teacher, she has been a major force behind the changes in women's health research in the past decade."

Dr. Roy Hertz, who was at NIH starting in 1941 and is now scientist emeritus, recently received the Fred Conrad Koch Award and medal, the



The National Cancer Institute and the U.S. Postal Service are joining forces in a breast cancer awareness campaign. The Postal Service will issue 100 million Breast Cancer Awareness stamps this year as the centerpiece of this national campaign. NCI's Cancer Information Service toll-free number (1-800-4-CANCER) will appear along the border of each sheet of stamps as the source for state-of-the-art information on cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment. The stamp went on sale nationwide on June 15 in conjunction with the 1996 Race for the Cure in Washington, D.C. Introducing the stamp here are (from l) Marvin Runyon, postmaster general, Dr. Richard Klausner, NCI director, and Dr. Barbara Rimer, chair of the National Cancer Advisory Board and an NIHAA member.

highest scientific honor bestowed by The Endocrine Society, for his illustrious career in basic and clinical



endocrinology. The award was presented during the 10th International Congress of Endocrinology held in San Francisco in June 1996.

Dr. Georgeanna Seegar Jones, who had a fellowship at NIH in 1938-39, was honored by the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health with an award named for her because of the pioneering work she performed that established infertility as a credible field deserving of research. She was the first woman president of the American Fertility Society, professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and established the first *in vitro* fertilization facility in the United States. She was also responsible for the delivery of the first IVF baby in this country in 1981.

Dr. William Jordan, former director of the Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program, NIAID, 1976-1987, and a past member of the NIHAA board of directors and currently chairman of the nominating committee, has been honored by NIAID. In 1981, Jordan became involved in the program for the accelerated development of vaccines, which issues an annual update on the state of vaccine development. The 10th update on the status of vaccines is entitled "The Jordan Report" in recognition of his vision in conceiving the program.

Dr. Hussein Khaled, secretary of the NIH-Egyptian Alumni Association writes, "I would like to inform you that I have been elected a board member of the Egyptian Cancer Society." He adds that the new dean of the National Cancer Institute in Egypt is professor Mohamed Reda Hamza. He is a medical oncologist and a board member of the NIH-Egyptian Alumni Association.



Dr. Herbert C. Lansdell, who has been a health scientist administrator in the Division of Fundamental Neurosciences, NINDS, since 1958, writes, "I shall retire this year and I expect to hang around for a year as a 'guest researcher' to finish off some manuscripts."

Dr. Stanley R. Mohler, who worked in the Center for Aging Research from 1957 to 1961, is professor and vice chair at the school of medicine, department of community health at Wright State University and also director of aerospace medicine. He informs NIHAA that he has moved and adds, "I enjoy reading about many of my former acquaintances at NIH."

Dr. Bayard Morrison, III, at NCI from 1958-1988, mostly as assistant director, has moved to Florida. He has resigned as a member of the NIHAA board and writes the following: "The total process of moving from my Gaithersburg home of 27 years has been among my most traumatic experi-

ences. Almost everything went wrong at the Maryland end and when I reached Florida I was presented with the prospect of being threatened by Hurricane Bertha. Depending on how things go in the future I may get a Florida tag inscribed 'now what'."

Helen R. Schroeder, a grants policy officer in DRG, NIGMS and OD from 1957 to 1982, and an NIHAA board member since 1988, moved from Bethesda to Lexington, Kentucky in August 1996.

Dr. Leon G. Smith, who was at NIAID as a staff fellow (1957-59), has been chosen as one of the top five infectious diseases specialists in New Jersey following a statewide poll of physicians conducted by *New Jersey Monthly* magazine. Smith, a nationally renowned infectious diseases expert, is director of medicine and chief of infectious diseases at Saint Michael's Medical Center in Newark. He is also professor and chairman of the department of internal medicine at Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Education and professor of medicine and preventive medicine/community health at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Dr. Norman Topping, who was in the Division of Infectious Disease in 1937 and NIH associate director from 1948 to 1952, was honored in March 1996. The Dr. Norman Topping Tower was officially opened at the University of Southern California Comprehensive Cancer Center. Topping was president of USC from 1958 to 1970. From 1970 to 1980, he served as chancellor of USC.

Dr. J. Craig Venter, chief of the receptor biochemistry and molecular biology section, NINDS, from 1987 to 1992, is a new member of the NIHAA

board of directors. He is president and director of the Institute for Human Genome Research, Gaithersburg, Md. Recently he was presented the 1996 Gold Plate Award by the American Academy of Achievement. The award is presented annually to about 40 "distinguished men and women of exceptional accomplishment" in a variety of fields.

Dr. Herbert S. Waxman, at NIH from 1964 to 1966 as a research associate in NCI's Laboratory of Physiology, has moved to the American College of



Physicians as senior vice president for education. In this position he is responsible for the wide variety of educational products and programs for the college's 95,000 members. He joined ACP from Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, where he was chair of the department of medicine and residency program director in internal medicine. He was also senior associate chairman of the department of medicine at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia.

Dr. John H. Weisburger, formerly a USPHS officer at NCI (1949-1972),

studied mechanisms of carcinogenesis and developed the NCI carcinogen bioassay program along with Dr. Elizabeth Weisburger and the late Dr. Michael Shimkin. Weisburger is now senior member, American Health Foundation, Valhalla, N.Y., and researching the prevention of cancer and heart disease, utilizing natural products such as tea as inhibitors. In April 1995, he "gave a keynote lecture at the Conference of the International Federation of Societies of Toxicology Pathology in Tours, France on the need to change legislation on food safety and eliminate the Delaney Clause." In November 1995, he "was the banquet speaker at the 6th International Conference on Carcinogenic/Mutagenic N-substituted N-aryl Compounds, in Monterey, California." In January 1996, The Chemical Society of Westchester named him Distinguished Scientist, and the Mid-Atlantic Society of Toxicology made him an honorary member.

Dr. Peter F. Weller, a research associate in the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, NIAID, (1974-1976), is now professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. He writes, "I have become the chief of the infectious diseases division, department of medicine, at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston."

Dr. Samuel A. Wells, Jr., at NCI from 1964-66, was honored by the American Association for Cancer Research at its recent annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Wells received the first Joseph H. Burchenal AACR Clinical Research Award for clinical excellence as an oncologist and oncologic surgeon and for his promotion of cancer clinical care and research. He is the Bixby professor and chairman of surgery at Washington University, St. Louis.

Dr. Peter H. Wiernik, who was at NCI (1961-1981) in the Division of Cancer Treatment, was president of the



American Radium Society, 1993-1994. He writes that he "received the Janeway Medalist from the American Radium Society in 1996 for contributions to cancer research."

Dr. Gary Williams, at NCI in the Etiology Division, 1969-1971, now at the American Health Foundation, has sent the following information: The American Health Foundation's 4th International Course on the Safety Assessment of Pharmaceuticals will be held on Oct. 20-25, 1996, at the Crowne Plaza, White Plains, N.Y. For a brochure and registration information please contact Ms. Nancy Rivera at the American Health Foundation, 1 Dana Road, Valhalla, NY 10595-1599, (914) 789-7144 or fax: (914) 592-6317.

What's Your News?

We want to hear from you. Please send your news with photo if possible to Harriet Greenwald, NIHAA Update, 9101 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814-1616.

DRG Celebrates 50th Anniversary

The Division of Research Grants recently held several events to mark its 50th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of peer review at NIH. Following the end of World War II and the publication of *Science—The Endless Frontier* by Vannevar Bush, director of the U.S. Office of Scientific Research and Development, the NIH Office of Research Grants was established on Jan. 1, 1946. The new office was to manage 66 medical research contracts that had been transferred to the Public Health Service from the military and also develop and administer an extramural peer review and award system involving contracts and grants.

The peer review and award system has grown dramatically over the years. Originally, the instructions for a grant application were contained in 4 pages, a single study section was constituted, and the workload was eight applications. In 1996, NIH uses a number of application kits (all longer than 4 pages) for more than 40,000 grant applications submitted each year and reviewed by several hundred initial review groups within DRG and other components of NIH.

The centerpiece of the celebration was a symposium on the "Past, Present, and Future of Peer Review" held at the Natcher Conference Center and attended by more than 500 people. Speakers included Dr. Donald Luecke, acting director of DRG, and Dr. Harold Varmus, NIH director. The history of peer review was discussed by Dr. Victoria Harden, NIH historian, Dr. Jerome Green, past director of DRG (1986-1995), and Dr. Richard Mandel, historian and author of *A Half a Century of Peer Review*. A panel discussion led by Dr. Thomas Malone, past deputy director of NIH, considered some key events in peer review at NIH.

The current status, and predicted



Among the participants in a panel discussion on peer review at the DRG celebration were three NIH alumni: (from l) Dr. Thomas Malone, former NIH deputy director; Dr. Donald Fredrickson, NIH director (1975-1981); and Dr. Eugene Confrey, DRG director (1963-1969).

future, of peer review were discussed by distinguished panels. The newly designated director of DRG, Dr. Elvera "Ellie" Ehrenfeld, of the University of California, Irvine, contributed thoughts on the future of peer review that were read by NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein; Ehrenfeld, who couldn't be present, begins part-time work at DRG this month and joins NIH full time in January.

Overall, the symposium provided an opportunity for colleagues and friends to discuss 50 years of peer review at NIH and its impact on biomedical research. There have been many changes in science and the process of peer review at NIH over time. However, its fundamental principles remain as established by Drs. Cassius Van Slyke and Ernest Allen, early directors of DRG. The NIH system is based on scientists judging the work of their fellow scientists.

Following the symposium, a recep-

tion was held at the Natcher Center. That evening, the Friends of DRG held a dinner at the Washington Court Hotel. Featured speakers were Dr. Paul Berg of Stanford University and Paul G. Rogers, former member of Congress and presently chair of Research!America.

A number of events for present and former DRG staff were held at the Rockledge II Bldg., DRG's home for the past year. Alumni who remembered working in Bldg. T-6 and the Westwood Bldg. were interested in touring the new facilities. Many staffers participated in several humorous skits and songs, including lists of the top 10 reasons staff miss the Westwood Bldg. and the top 10 reasons they like Rockledge. Everyone joined in the singing of "I Can't Get Enough Reinvention" to the tune of "Satisfaction" and the DRG version of the Village People led a rousing rendition of "The New DRG."

Annual Meeting (continued from p. 1)

on Aging, paid special tribute to her untiring efforts for the establishment of the NIA. Hodes told of Mahoney's significant role and of her unusual "ability to communicate science" effectively on behalf of biomedical research. He called her a "champion with real vision."

Dr. John Sherman, chairman of the awards committee, read the citation that accompanied the award, which is crystal with an etching of the Shannon building. In expressing her appreciation for the award, Mahoney told of her high regard for many NIH individuals with whom she had worked on behalf of biomedical research. During a reception that followed the meeting, she spent almost an hour in warm conversations with new and old friends among the alumni.

C. Robert Eaton, director of programs of the Suburban Maryland High Technology Council, was the featured speaker for the annual meeting. He spoke on "Ten Years of Service to the

Bioscience Industry" that the High Technology Council has provided. He reported that NIH has been a highly active member since the council was founded a decade ago as an organization of private, state and federal laboratories. The council serves both as a catalyst and linkage for the bioscience agencies. Eaton is an NIH alumnus who worked 4 years in the NHLBI Laboratory of Molecular Cardiology.

NIHAA President Calvin B. Baldwin Jr., gave a brief report on the status of the association. Pointing out that there are currently some 1,400 active members, he said that efforts must be extended to secure new members and to encourage renewals. He reported that locating former NIH employees is a continuing problem. He also said that plans are nearing completion for soliciting the past members of the many NIH advisory committees as members. He emphasized that the association needs not only to increase the number of active members, but also to gain

other sources of funding beyond membership dues. Solicitations will be going out shortly to area industry, business and community interests. Baldwin asked the association for suggestions of possible funding sources.

Before closing the meeting, he announced that the following alumni have been elected (or re-elected) to 3-year terms as members of the NIHAA board of directors:

- Ms. Belia L. Ceja
- Ms. Mary Calley Hartman
- Dr. Joe R. Held
- Dr. Lloyd Law
- Mr. Terry Lierman
- Dr. Seymour Perry
- Dr. Paul Peterson
- Mr. Randy Schools
- Dr. Mary E. Sears
- Dr. John F. Sherman
- Dr. J. Craig Venter

Invitations with details of fall NIHAA events will be sent to members.



NIHAA members and friends greet Florence Stephenson Mahoney (front row, center) at the annual meeting of the association held on June 15, 1996, at the Mary Woodard Lasker Center.

NIH Information: Dial Direct or Try The Net

NIH is expanding electronic access to its existing scientific databases, adding these and other biomedical information resources to the global virtual library.

From NIH's World-Wide Web (WWW) home page—at <http://www.nih.gov/>—users can access information resources and services that include clinical practice guidelines aimed at physicians, on-line CME credit, specialized scientific databases, research funding opportunities and policy and information materials for patients and the general public. The NIH home page and those of its individual institutes are changing continuously, so any description of what's available is a freeze frame.

Several of the six headings on the home page have resources of interest to alumni. Among them, "Welcome to NIH" has information on research and training opportunities for scientists and an e-mail listing of NIH personnel. Extramural and intramural research news, job and budget information and a listing of meetings is available under "News and Events." Funding opportunities and policy and links to extramural offices are on the "Grants and Contracts" page. "Scientific Resources" lists NIH special (scientific) interest groups, the home pages of some research labs, molecular biology and modeling resources and pointers to on-line journals.

The "Health Information" heading is one of several avenues for reaching the NCI's CancerNet™, which provides access to statements from NCI's PDQ® database on cancer prevention, screening, detection, treatment, supportive care and drugs; citations and abstracts from NCI's CANCERLIT® database; and other full-text informa-



The NIH Home Page

tion for the public and health professionals. Information is also available in Spanish. CancerNet™ is produced by NCI's International Cancer Information Center (ICIC), whose home page can also be reached from the "Health Information" page. Here, on-line news and abstracts from the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* are available as well as links to other NCI resources, such as clinical trial information and lists of NCI publications for physicians and patients.

Also under the NIH home page's "Health Information" heading is a link to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases that connects to their gopher server and offers press releases and fact sheets on AIDS, links to other AIDS-related agencies and groups, and full-text on-line publications (written for the general public) on sexually-transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS-related opportunist-

tic infections.

Selecting "NIH Consensus Development Program" under "Health Information" connects the user to searchable full-text consensus conference statements and an option for earning CME credit for completing on-line questionnaires based on individual conferences. Another option, the National Library of Medicine's "HSTAT" (Health Services/Technology Assessment Text) includes the full text of clinical practice guidelines, quick-reference guides for clinicians, consumer brochures developed with the support of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR), and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Guide to Clinical Preventive Services. The growing list of other resources that can be accessed under "Health Information" includes the NIH Information Index, which alphabetically lists diseases and

research areas and the phone number of the specific NIH information office to call.

Starting from "Offices and Institutes" on the NIH home page, users can view the home pages of the individual institutes. These pages vary in content and organization, but common items include publication lists, organizational and research program information, and clinical trial directories. The National Eye Institute, for example, has a link to clinical studies under way with recruitment information as does NCI's home page, under "Intramural Research/Clinical Science."

Many of the publications listed on-line are aimed at the general public, but may interest physicians looking for materials for their patients. The National Institute on Drug Abuse has put their extensive publications list on-line, with ordering information. Publications that are aimed at physicians include those on the pharmacology and toxicology of abused drugs and the epidemiology of drug abuse.

Particularly extensive is NLM's "HyperDOC" home page, which has information on the array of NLM databases and means of access. NLM's MEDLINE—in operation for 24 years as an on-line search service—and some 40 other NLM-sponsored medical databases are now accessible through WWW, gopher, FTP, telnet, or CD-ROM. Most of the databases require a paid user account, but AIDS-related services are free. NLM's new Internet Grateful Med (IGM) is a user-friendly software package for searching NLM's MEDLINE. Other NLM databases will be added in the near future. IGM has a greatly expanded "metathesaurus" for shaping a search, and direct connection to other NLM on-line resources. (The NLM home page address is

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/> and off-line information is available at (800) 638-8480.)

One of the most compelling features of the WWW is the ability to view on-line graphics and photographs. NLM's History of Medicine offers hypertext/multimedia exhibits—on subjects like cesarean section and medicine and art—and a collection of nearly 60,000 history of medicine images, all viewable on-line. Another valuable digital archive is NLM's Visible Human Project. It has assembled a 3-D library of transverse CT, MRI, and cryosection images of a representative male cadaver and recently released an analogous set of images with a female. The size of the combined data set—55 gigabytes—makes this a resource for institutions, but anyone can view sample images.

Off the internet, toll-free access to a dial-up bulletin board is offered to members of NCI's Information Associates Program. The bulletin board system includes access to the full PDQ® database and on-line conferences. For information call (800) 624-7890 or (301) 496-7600. ICIC also offers CancerFax®, which provides the same information as CancerNet™ but is available through a facsimile machine. This service is accessed by dialing, from a fax machine, (301) 402-5874. The National Institute of Mental Health has a similar service, reached by dialing, from a fax machine, (301) 443-5158. You can obtain a variety of materials including research reports and texts of NIMH publications.

Electronic communications are not only an engaging but also an inescapable part of the technological future. On-line networks give users virtually instantaneous access to distant information; NIH is using this capability to speed the integration of research findings into medical practice.

Johns Hopkins, Suburban Link Includes Benefits for Clinical Center

Expanded clinical practice and research opportunities for Clinical Center physicians, clinical associates, and fellows will be a byproduct of a recently announced affiliation between Johns Hopkins

Medicine and Suburban Hospital.

The Hopkins-Suburban alliance, designed to foster exploration of new,



Dr. John I. Gallin

cooperative health-care ventures, will include satellite outpatient clinics in the Washington area.

"This venture opens up new training, clinical research and patient-care opportunities for CC and Hopkins physicians while strengthening the clinical services available at Suburban Hospital," said Dr. John I. Gallin, CC director.

"This will allow CC patients access to areas such as obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedic surgery and gastroenterology," added Gallin.

Johns Hopkins Medicine includes the School of Medicine and Hopkins's two hospitals. Suburban, in business for 50 years, is a 392-bed hospital across from NIH on Old Georgetown Rd. It is the county's designated shock-trauma center.

Varmus (continued from p. 1)

There is an advantage to starting from low expectations. Agreed, I am not running for President, and I am not a prime minister or a general. But I speak for an element of our culture at least as important as politics or war—an element that has not been at this podium since Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin, addressed the graduating class of 1945. That element is science.

The products of science shape and pervade our lives. Sir Francis Bacon made this point in 1620. "Printing, gun-powder, and the magnet," he wrote, "have changed the whole face and state of things throughout the world....no empire, no sect, no star seems to have exerted greater power and influence in human affairs." Modern equivalents are legion: consider e-mail, nuclear weapons, biotechnology.

I will speak today about the effects of science on our lives. But I will also emphasize science in its most fundamental form, the process by which we make discoveries about the world—like the atom or the gene—that precede practical inventions. At its core, science is a way of thinking—making judgments, often creative ones, that are based on evidence, not on desires, received beliefs, or hearsay. Thinking in this way is not unique to the natural sciences; it is important for many disciplines. But the pursuit of evidence, through experiment and observation, is the lifeblood of science.

My own brand of science is biology—more specifically, biology linked to medicine. I was not born a scientist. In my youth, I preferred tennis and novels to chemistry sets. My father, Harvard Class of '28, was a physician, so medical topics were often at the dinner table. Like my friends, I grew up listening to parental concerns about polio, the crippling illness then common among children and famous for

afflicting our family hero, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In summertime, public swimming pools were forbidden. Neighborhood kids nearly died of the disease. For my generation, the announcement of an effective polio vaccine was a landmark. For us, the recent eradication of naturally acquired polio from this hemisphere still seems unbelievable.

When I was fourteen, and Jonas Salk had just achieved fame for the first polio vaccine, my parents taught me an important lesson about how progress occurs in medical research. I had intended to describe Salk's triumph in a public speaking contest (a contest, which, incidentally, I did not win). But they persuaded me to talk instead about John Franklin Enders. A member of the Harvard Medical School faculty, Enders and two younger colleagues had been the first to grow the polio virus abundantly, by infecting animal cells in laboratory flasks. Previously, virus was prepared with difficulty, mainly from the brains of infected primates. Enders' discovery was pivotal, because Salk needed to inactivate vast amounts of poliovirus for use in a vaccine. Making and testing vaccines—Salk's and later Sabin's—came to seem less stirring to me than the more subtle triumph of learning how to grow the virus. And Enders



Dr. John Franklin Enders
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard News Office)

became a heroic figure for me, even before I knew about his long path to science—studying English literature at your graduate school and converting to microbiology at nearly thirty.

I too had trouble settling on a career. While my fellow pre-meds worked late in their labs, I was editing the Amherst College paper and writing about Charles Dickens.

In a prolonged adolescence as a Harvard graduate student, I read Beowulf, Shakespeare, and Sir Thomas Browne, and listened to Bill Alfred, Harry Levin, and Anne Ferry. Finally I went to medical school—in part, because someone once told Gertrude Stein that it "opened all doors," in part because medical students seemed more eager than I was to get out of bed in the morning.

Like many physician-scientists of my generation, I learned to do and to love research while working at the National Institutes of Health, the Federal agency that supports most of the basic medical research in this country. I arrived at the NIH as a twenty-eight year-old doctor seeking two things: the credentials to become a medical school professor and an alternative to service in Vietnam. Then, one day some months later, I was abruptly transformed into a committed scientist, when a method I was developing to detect expression of a gene suddenly worked. The technique was not especially novel, and the questions I was asking were of interest only to a few people in the world. But, at that moment, I knew the intoxicating power of measurement and the sweet anticipation of my own results.

For more than twenty years afterwards, at the University of California in San Francisco, I enjoyed many measurements and many results. Despite the common myths about science, it was not lonely work. Much of the pleasure came from companionship—with my colleague, Mike Bishop—a

newly minted Harvard Overseer—and our students, postdocs, and technicians. Most of our experiments lacked discernable practical goals. We followed our hunches, working with cancer viruses from chickens and mice, supported largely by grants from the NIH. Eventually, over many years, patterns emerged. We had learned that cancer genes in viruses are derived from normal cellular genes—some of the genes that guide our growth and development. These genes, now called oncogenes, undergo the mutations that are the defining events in cancer. Obscure viruses from experimental animals had in this way allowed us to touch directly the heart of human cancer. A path to understanding had been opened.

Like researchers in all fields, I have also known disappointment, boredom, surprise, and even irony. One example was especially instructive. The painful reality of cancer has always loomed in the background of my work, because my mother and her mother died of breast cancer.

For this reason, for many years my lab studied a virus that causes breast cancer in mice, in hopes of finding relatives of human breast cancer genes. Ultimately, we discovered interesting genes that guide formation of the brain and other organs. But, in this case, they don't appear to be involved in human cancer of any kind. There is no simple road map for this kind of research.

In 1989, our discovery of oncogenes was publicly recognized with the award of a Nobel Prize.

Four years later, when President Clinton and Secretary Shalala invited me to become the Director of the NIH, I could hardly say no. My indebtedness was deep. The chance to repay it with public service has been gratifying.

This new job has given me a deeper appreciation of the measured pace of progress in medical research. Every



President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicating the Bethesda campus, Oct. 31, 1940.

morning, on the way to my office, I cross the portico from which Franklin Roosevelt dedicated the first NIH buildings on a late fall day in 1940. His paralyzed legs braced with metal, his energies worn down by his third Presidential campaign, his mind focused on the World War already being waged in Europe, FDR made a powerful statement about medical research:

The total defense, which this Nation seeks, [he said] involves a great deal more than building airplanes, ships, guns and bombs. We cannot be a strong Nation unless we are a healthy Nation. And so we must recruit not only men and materials but also knowledge and science in the service of national strength.

Roosevelt's optimism about medical research seems, in retrospect, amazing. Doctors could not prevent or treat the poliovirus infection that had paralyzed

him nearly twenty years earlier. John Franklin Enders and vaccines were still in the future; the main therapies were iron lungs and warm baths. Most of the staples of modern medicine were also still unknown. Antibiotics. Hormone replacements. Effective drug therapies for psychotic illnesses. Prenatal testing. Coronary bypass surgery and artificial joints. Also in the future were medications that could have lowered FDR's blood pressure and perhaps forestalled the stroke that killed him less than five years later, at the now relatively young age of sixty three.

Still, FDR's optimism proved to be justified. Even before the War was over, the chemical synthesis of quinine improved treatment of malaria for soldiers in the Pacific, and the manufacturing of Fleming's penicillin effectively controlled wound infections for the first time in the history of warfare. Following the War, inspired by these

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successes, the federal government made unprecedented investments in many fields of science, through the NIH and other agencies. These investments have been essential for the vitality of American science ever since.

Polio vaccines and other early successes that encouraged public enthusiasm for research are now the stuff of legends. Let's consider a more recent and less famous success that gives a different perspective on the pace of progress. About two months ago, as I began to worry about this talk, the senior Senator from Massachusetts, a member of the Harvard Class of 1956 and of our Senate authorizing committee, paid a visit to the NIH. He and I were sitting on a pediatric ward in our research hospital in Bethesda, listening to a 27-year-old blind man who looked like a skinny 8-year-old boy. The patient was born with a disease called cystinosis, having inherited one damaged gene from each parent. In this very rare condition, the amino acid cystine cannot be removed from small sacs within his cells. As a result, cystine accumulates and forms crystals in those sacs, damaging the kidneys, eyes, and other tissues.

The patient told us how he was rescued from death by a kidney transplant at the age of 10, gradually lost his vision, and has lived with chronic pain. Sen. Kennedy asked whether he had brothers and sisters. The patient replied, quite matter-of-factly, that two older brothers had died from the disease when he was very young, because kidney transplants were not yet available.

So he felt fortunate to have been born recently enough to benefit from a life-saving transplant—the procedure pioneered by the Harvard surgeon, Joseph Murray (who, as it happens, spoke to the Medical School graduates today).

The patient was also glad that affected children born yet more recently could avoid the kidney disease altogether; a recently-developed medication prevents formation of the crystals. A few minutes later a normal looking, 11-year-old boy who had inherited the same disorder bounded into the room and spoke animatedly about sports, hobbies, school—and about the unpleasant taste of the medicine he had been taking nearly all his life.

This episode embodies many of my messages today: the message that science can improve lives in ways that are elegant in design and moving in practice; that the Federal government, much maligned in current politics, can be a powerful force for public benefit; that the government can work productively with universities, where the cellular defect in cystinosis was studied, and with industries, where the new drug was manufactured; and, finally, that progress in medical science occurs at a pace that may seem slow at the time to desperate parents, but astoundingly rapid in retrospect. Just consider: in the space of a generation, this lethal disease was made survivable with transplants, then curable with drugs.

Despite such triumphs, we have a long way to go. Yes, we can treat cystinosis and a few other genetic diseases, but there are thousands of inherited conditions we do not even understand. Yes, we have controlled polio and smallpox, but we are now struggling around the world with a new and intractable virus, HIV, and worried about invasions by exotic viruses, like Ebola and Lassa Fever. Yes, we can treat most bacterial infections with penicillin and other antibiotics, but many bacteria have now become resistant to what were once our most effective drugs. Yes, we have dramatically reduced the death rates for heart attacks and strokes, but we are still seeking

ways to repair the hearts and brains damaged by poor blood flow. Yes, we know the mutant genes responsible for many cancers, but we haven't transformed that knowledge into better therapies. Yes, we have improved the well-being of most people in the industrialized countries, but malaria, childhood diarrhea, and tuberculosis are still common in the developing world. And, yes, we have extended the average life span in this country to nearly eighty years, but we have made little progress against the maladies that make advanced age intolerable for so many people.

Old age and its illnesses are deepening concerns to all of us in this audience—even to youthful graduates. When Alexander Fleming spoke here 51 years ago, only one in seven graduates could expect to reach the age of 85. By conservative estimates, nearly half of you will live past that age. Today, less than four million Americans are over 85; when some of you reach 85, there will be about 20 million. This is not just good news. Today the government spends \$25 billion each year on medical care for this group alone. Multiply that by five. Add on the costs of care for the much larger group between 65 and 85. Without more public revenues from taxes, there will be little or no money left for other things the government buys, including the scientific research that might help. Clearly, if science cannot soon relieve the disorders of aging, we will confront some impossible choices.

Of all these disorders, the one we fear most is Alzheimer's Disease. We are right to fear it. It is a modern polio, and more. It destroys the brain and the personality. Its victims become a burden to spouses and children. Unlike polio, once common and now eradicated, or cystinosis, rare and now

curable, Alzheimer's Disease is both untreatable and common. Unless things change, nearly half of us who reach the age of 85 will have signs of the disease.

Until recently, all we knew about Alzheimer's Disease was the ugly appearance of brain slices under the microscope and the unremitting deterioration of mental function. Traditional methods—chemistry and enzymology, microbiology and immunology, so successful in approaching polio and cystinosis—provided few clues.

Hope is coming from a new direction. One day about ten years ago, a middleaged Massachusetts man in the early stages of Alzheimer's Disease sought help from Dr. Daniel Pollen, a neurologist at the University of Massachusetts. His was not the most common form of the disease—the onset was early, and his relatives had been affected early too. With the help of the patient's family, Dr. Pollen reconstructed the family lineage and traced the disease back to one woman, named Hannah, born one hundred and fifty years ago in a Byelorussian village. Scientists here at Harvard, at the NIH, in Canada, and several other places, have tracked several inherited forms of Alzheimer's Disease to abnormal versions of single genes. These genes have been isolated in pure form, and we know the proteins they encode.

So an obvious question: How do we get from Hannah's gene to a remedy for Alzheimer's Disease?

This, of course, is precisely what I can't tell you. I can't even tell you how to proceed. All I can do is predict the pace and flavor of the first moments. I imagine a brilliant young neuroscientist, our new Enders, who is trying to understand cell survival—perhaps studying a hormone that keeps nerve cells alive in a dish. One of her stu-



The speakers and honorary degree recipients at Harvard Commencement in June 1945: Dr. Alexander Fleming, who spoke on science, is the second person on the left in the front row.

(Photo courtesy of the Harvard News Office)

dents, working late, suggests a novel interaction between the hormone and the protein made from Hannah's gene. The results are surprising, but reproducible. Someone in a lab thousands of miles away learns about this experiment and tries it in a different way, perhaps in a mouse model, and gets an even more interesting result. A young Salk, seeking an anti-Alzheimer drug at a biotechnology company, tries to block the interaction. We are on our way.

What do we need to make these things happen? New talent. Enthusiasm for science. Money. Strong institutions.

In that speech from the NIH steps on the eve of World War Two, FDR knew what we needed:

All of us are grateful [he said] that we in the United States can still turn our thoughts and our attention to those institutions of our country which symbolize peace—institutions whose purpose it is to save life and not to destroy it.

FDR's confidence then underscores the dilemmas that now plague us in the aftermath of the Cold War. The federal

government is broke and under attack by its own citizens. Other countries have recently surpassed our rate of spending for basic research. Universities and colleges are more strapped for funds than ever before. And many industries are turning away from research investments.

Dr. Who is not the person who can solve these problems. Instead I hope to recruit you to my passions. That our institutions must be fit to nurture talent. That new talent is essential to advance science. And that science, a source of beauty and delight, is also our best hope for fighting the threats of Alzheimer's and many other diseases.

Several hundreds of you graduating today have already enlisted to fight these battles, as future scientists or physicians. But the battle does not engage only those on the front lines. It will affect all of you. As worried patients, parents, and caretakers of parents. As taxpayers and good citizens of the world. And as thoughtful Harvard graduates, who know that science—like "no empire, no sect, no star"—can eventually change "the whole face and state of things throughout the world."

Congratulations to you and good luck.

Science Research Updates

NINDS-Funded Clinical Trial Leads to Stroke Therapy

An emergency drug treatment for stroke was approved June 18 by the FDA, following a 5-year clinical trial funded by NINDS. The trial demonstrated that treatment with the clot-dissolving drug t-PA was an effective emergency treatment for acute ischemic stroke despite some risk from bleeding. Results were first published in the Dec. 14, 1995, issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The nationwide study of more than 600 carefully selected stroke patients found that those treated with t-PA within 3 hours of their initial stroke symptoms were at least 30 percent more likely than untreated patients to recover from their stroke with little or no disability.

"The FDA action means that we now have an approved emergency treatment for stroke, the leading cause of adult disability," said Dr. Zach W. Hall, NINDS director. "This is an exemplary demonstration of careful scientific investigation and of the power of partnership between industry, academia and the federal government."

The next step, according to Dr. Michael D. Walker, director of NINDS's Stroke and Trauma Division, will be developing a national educational approach to reach the many members of the public who must be involved in this new treatment. "A bold three-tiered program is envisioned in which patients, their families and friends must become aware of the signs of stroke and the need for prompt action; physicians and medical personnel must become familiar with diagnosis and treatment regimens; and emergency medical systems in the field and

in the hospital must become accustomed to rigid timetables, rapid scanning and the need for immediate treatment."

Each year, about 500,000 Americans suffer a stroke. As the third leading cause of death in the country after heart disease and cancer, stroke kills about 150,000 Americans each year. The overall cost of stroke to the nation is estimated to be \$30 billion a year.

Nonsurgical Option for Gum Disease Uncovered

Persons with severe periodontal disease may be able to avoid surgery by taking antibiotics, according to a recent study; scaling and root planing (deep cleaning of teeth above and below the gum) combined with short-term use of oral and locally applied antibiotics dramatically reduced the need for gum surgery and tooth extractions by 88 percent.

Periodontal disease is a progressive infection that without treatment can destroy the gums and other supporting structures of the teeth and lead to tooth loss. The condition is typically treated by clearing away pockets of harmful bacteria (debridement) that cause periodontal disease. When this fails, surgery is usually recommended. This involves lifting back the gums, removing the hardened plaque buildup, then stitching the gums back in place.

In a study supported by the National Institute of Dental Research, Dr. Walter J. Loesche of the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, Dr. James Giordano at the University of Detroit/Mercy School of Dentistry, and their colleagues used debridement plus antibiotics to significantly decrease levels of these damaging bacteria and reverse the majority of what were inevitable surgical cases. Loesche said,

"This antimicrobial regimen not only provides a treatment option for severe periodontal disease, but also brings such treatment into the realm of greater accessibility for many individuals."

The investigators concluded that debridement plus antimicrobial treatment is likely to be successful for most people with advanced gum disease for whom surgery is initially recommended.

Role of Telomerase in Cancer Detection is Debated

For a day and a half, researchers from around the world met to debate the role of telomerase in the early detection of cancer. Although it is one of the most widespread cancer markers discovered, it was not known, until now, if telomerase has any clinical utility.

There was consensus by the end of the conference that telomerase may prove useful for early diagnosis of at least two types of cancer, breast and lung, and for predicting disease outcome for meningiomas and advanced neuroblastomas, specific types of brain tumors. Telomerase also shows promise in several other areas.

The workshop, organized by Dr. Sudhir Srivastava, program director of the Early Detection Branch, NCI, and cochaired by Drs. Adi Gazdar and Jerry Shay of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, took place on June 6-7 in the Natcher Conference Center.

"This meeting was a very important step to guide the future of telomerase research and its use as a molecular marker for cancer diagnosis," said Srivastava. "The short presentations allowed ample time for discussion, and will help us prioritize which directions are most important to pursue."

NIH Notes from April to August 1996

AWARDS AND HONORS

Dr. Peter H. Bennett, chief of NIDDK's Phoenix Epidemiology and Clinical Research Branch, received the American Diabetes Association's Banting Award for his career contributions to the understanding of diabetes prevention and treatment ... **Shelby Buford, Sr.**, associate director of the Office of Contracts Management, Office of Administration, OD, recently received a National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education 1996 Distinguished Alumni Citation of the Year Award for making significant contributions to American society during the organization's 21st National Conference on Blacks in Higher Education ... **Dr. Lois K. Cohen**, director, Division of Extramural Research, and assistant director for international health, NIDR, was recently awarded the International Association for Dental Research's Behavioral Science Health Services Research Award. She was honored for "outstanding achievements in the areas of behavioral science and health services research as they related to dentistry" ... **Dr. Robert A. Craigie**, chief of the molecular virology section in NIDDK's Laboratory of Molecular Biology, is the winner of Maryland's 1996 Outstanding Young Scientist Award for his leadership and significant contributions in retroviral research ... **Dr. Giovanni Di Chiro**, chief of the NINDS Neuroimaging Branch, has received the American Society of Neuroradiology Gold Medal for his contributions to the field of neuroradiology. Di Chiro was chosen for the advances he has pioneered over a 40-year research career working with every basic area of neuroimaging including roentgenography, nuclear medicine and, most recently nuclear magnetic resonance ... **Dr. Roselyn Payne Epps**, a special expert in the Public Health Applications Branch of NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, has received the sixth annual Achievement Award for Advocacy by the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research because of her tireless dedication to advocacy for women's health issues ... **Dr. Anthony S. Fauci**, NIAID director, has recently received a number of

awards and honors: an award from the National Council for International Health Leadership for his work in promoting public awareness of international health issues; two honorary degrees, a doctor of science degree from Colgate University and a doctor of medical science degree from the Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann University School of Medicine ... **Dr. Claude B. Klee**, chief of NCI's Laboratory of Biochemistry, has been chosen by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology to receive the 1997 FASEB Excellence in Science Award. She is being recognized for her important discoveries of the mechanisms involved in calcium regulation of cell growth and her contributions to the study of abnormal growth in cancer. Her work on calcium regulation in nerve cells has been important in understanding how cells communicate with each other in the brain ... **Dr. Eleni E. Kousvelari**, director of the saliva and AIDS program in NIDR's Division of Extramural Research, was honored as a distinguished alumna at Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine recently. She received the award for her work in the areas of regulation of gene expression in exocrine glands and the development of salivary glands ... **Dr. Zelmira Lazarova**, a fellow in NCI's Dermatology Branch, is the 1996 recipient of the Everett C. Fox Award for her presentation of the most outstanding paper ("Anti-laminin 5 antibodies induce subepidermal blisters in neonatal mice") at the American Academy of Dermatology residents and fellows symposium ... **Dr. Warren Leonard**, chief of NHLBI's Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, has received the 1996 Outstanding Investigator Award for basic science from the American Federation of Clinical Research Foundation. His studies have clarified many features of cytokine signaling. He has been a leader in interleukin-2 (IL-2) receptor research and his work has included investigations of both the receptor's structure and molecular regulation ... **Dr. Ira Levin**, NIDDK's deputy director for intramural research, is the recipient of the Bomem-Michelson Award for his significant contributions in infrared and Raman spectroscopy ... **Dr. Michael S. Levine**, a professor of biology at the University of California, San Diego, and an NIGMS grantee for the past 12 years, received the National Academy of Sciences Award in Molecular Biology for his

"insightful contributions to our understanding of gene regulation networks and molecular mechanism governing the development of organisms with a segmented body plan" ... **Dr. David Lipman**, director of NLM's National Center for Biotechnology Information, has received the 1996 Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities Award for "his work in computational biology and the development of software for the comparison of both nucleic acid and protein sequences" ... **Carolyn McHale**, chief of NIAMS's Scientific Information and Data Systems Branch, was recently selected as one of 1996's "Top 100 Women in Computing" by the McGraw-Hill companies. The honor acknowledges her achievements and contributions to information services and technology; she was the only woman in the federal government to be awarded this honor ... **Dr. Ronald L. Melnick** of NIEHS's Laboratory of Quantitative and Computational Biology, has been elected to the Collegium Ramazzini, a group of scientists who study environmental and occupational health. He is in the midst of a 1-year assignment to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; he is helping prepare an interagency assessment of potential health risks associated with oxygenated gasoline ... **Ruth Nowjack-Raymer**, a public health research specialist in NIDR's Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Branch, recently accepted the William B. Clark fellowship in clinical research from the American Association for Dental Research to explore the most recent advances in clinical periodontology ... **Dr. Barbara Packard**, associate director for scientific program operation and director of the Office of Science and Technology, NHLBI, has been named a PHS assistant surgeon general ... **Dr. Kenner Rice**, chief of NIDDK's Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, received the American Chemical Society's 1996 Division of Medicinal Chemistry Award for his many contributions to the fields of organic and medicinal chemistry. His accomplishments included the design and development of the NIH Opiate Total Synthesis ... **Dr. Matilda White Riley**, senior social scientist at NIA, was honored recently by Bowdoin College with dedication of a building in her name to house the college's department of sociology and anthropology ... **Dr. John B. Robbins**, chief of NICHD's Laboratory of

Developmental and Molecular Immunity, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Robbins is known worldwide as a pioneer of new methods for developing vaccines and methods that enhance the immunogenicity of antigens that are weak or do not protect infants ... **Dr. Griffin Rodgers**, chief of the molecular hematology section in NIDDK's Laboratory of Chemical Biology, was recently selected by the Black Commissioned Officers advisory group to receive the 1995 Hildrus A. Poindexter Award for his discoveries in the detection and treatment of life-threatening hemolytic diseases ... **Dr. Elliot R. Siegel**, NLM associate director for health information programs development, has been elected chair-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's section on information, computing and communication. His 3-year term runs through January 1999 ... **Dr. Leo A. Whitehair**, director, Comparative Medicine Program, National Center for Research Resources, was recently inducted as an honorary member of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, for his program leadership in supporting "federal funding for research to improve how animals are used in research."

APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL CHANGES

Dr. Faye C. Austin has been appointed director of the recently created Division of Cancer Biology at NCI. She has been acting director since last October. She first came to NCI in 1976 to work in the Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis. She has also served as chief of NCI's Cancer Immunology Branch and associate director for the extramural research program in the former Division of Cancer Biology, Diagnosis and Centers ... **Dr. Karyl S. Barron** has been named deputy director of NIAID's Division of Intramural Research ... **Dr. Otis W. Brawley**, a medical oncologist on the staff at NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, has been named to head a new Office of Special Populations that will oversee the development and assessment of research, education, training and outreach programs related to cancer in distinct racial, ethnic, underserved and other special populations ... **Jeff Carrow**, chief of the immunology grants management section, NIAID, has been selected as grants

management officer and chief, Grants and Contracts Management Branch of NINR ... **Dr. Philip C. Fox**, chief of NIDR's clinical investigations section, was recently named NIDR clinical director ... **Michael Goldrich**, deputy director of NIAID, has joined the CC as deputy director and chief operating officer. He has been at NIH for 25 years at NCI and NIAID; he started his career at the CC and helped establish the radiation oncology and surgical oncology programs ... **Judith Grover**, who was deputy chief of the Grants Information Office, DRG, and former editor of NIH Peer Review Notes has joined the Extramural Outreach and Information Resources Office, Office of Extramural Research, OD, NIH ... **Dr. Bela J. Gulyas** has been named director of NCRR's Office of Review ... **Nancy Hazelton**, who previously worked in the International Health Office of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, has joined the Office of Alternative Medicine to direct international and professional programmatic activities ... **Dr. Carole Hudgings** recently joined the Office of Alternative Medicine to direct research information and evaluation activities ... **Dr. Barnett S. Kramer** has been named deputy director, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, NCI. Since joining the division in 1990, he has served as associate director of the Early Detection and Community Oncology Program ... **Dr. Edison Liu**, chief of the division of molecular genetics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, has been appointed head of the new NCI Division of Clinical Sciences, which encompasses the institute's intramural clinical research activities ... **Dr. George Lucier** has been named director of the Environmental Toxicology Program, NIEHS; he had been serving in an acting capacity since 1993 ... **Dr. Ernest Marquez**, formerly chief in the Office of Review, National Institute of Nursing Research, has been appointed chief of the Minority Biomedical Research Support Branch, Division of Minority Opportunities in Research, National Institute of General Medical Sciences ... **Dr. Albert F. Marra** is NCRR's new executive officer ... **Dr. Stuart J. Nelson**, formerly associate professor of medicine at the Medical College of Georgia, has joined the NLM as head of the medical subject headings section ... **Dr. Sheila A. Newton**, a health scientist admin-

istrator at NIEHS since 1992, has been named director of the Office of Policy, Planning and Education, NIEHS ... **Dr. Jean Ann Pennington**, a nutritionist for the FDA Division of Programs and Enforcement Policy, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, has joined the NIDDK Division of Nutrition Research Coordination as a research nutritionist to coordinate trans-NIH and DHHS nutrition education activities. ... **Dr. Helen R. Quill** of NIAID has been named chief of the Basic Immunology Branch in the institute's Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation. Previously, she served as special assistant to the division director ... **William L. Risso** has been named acting director of DCRT following the retirement of Dr. David Rodbard. As DCRT's deputy director for the past 5 years, he has joined the NIH administrative community in seeking new ways to apply computing to NIH business processes ... **Dr. Michael E. Rodger** has been named director of the Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry of NIGMS, a position he has held on an acting basis since 1993 ... **Helen M. Simon**, planning officer for NCHGR, has been appointed director of the Office of Program Planning and Evaluation, NIAMS ... **Dr. Edward Sondik**, deputy director of NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, has been named director, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ... **Dr. Linda Thomas** has joined the NIDR Division of Extramural Research as director of the Craniofacial Development and Disorders Program ... **Dr. Eugene Vigil** was recently hired by NIGMS to administer grants in the Division of Minority Opportunities in Research. Before joining NIGMS, Vigil, a cell biologist, worked at the Agriculture Department's Climate Stress Laboratory in Beltsville ... **Dr. Samuel Wilson** has been appointed deputy director of NIEHS ... **Dr. Robert E. Wittes** has been named director of NCI's Division of Cancer Treatment, Diagnosis and Centers. He assumes this position having served as a clinical investigator at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, NCI associate director for cancer therapy evaluation, and senior vice president for cancer research, Bristol-Myers Co., In 1990, he returned to NCI to serve as chief of the Medicine Branch and for the past

year has been serving as acting director of the Division of Cancer Treatment and more recently acting director of the new DCTDC.

RETIREMENTS

Dr. Robert L. Berger, chief of the biophysical instrumentation section, Laboratory of Biophysical Chemistry, NHLBI, recently retired in May 1996, after 34 years of federal service. From 1962 until 1990 he was in NHLBI's Laboratory of Technical Development. Since 1994, he has been on detail as the senior scientific advisor to the blood resources division, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. He plans to become active in the NIHAA ...

Dr. John D. Boice, Jr., chief of the Radiation Epidemiology Branch, NCI, retired at the end of June 1996. He has joined the International Epidemiology Institute in Rockville, MD as scientific director. He had been with NCI for 18 years and is renowned for his research on the effects of ionizing radiation ... **Robert H. Brunelle**, deputy chief of the Computing Facilities Branch, DCRT, has retired after 37 years. One of the first computer professionals hired by NIH, he helped bring leading-edge computing to campus. After retirement he plans to perfect his golf swing, create new woodworking designs, and spend more time on his boat ... **Dr. Joseph Ciardi**, a health scientist administrator at NIDR, retired recently after 38 years of federal service, the last 25 of which were with NIDR involving various programs. He and his family will stay in the area where they can enjoy their nearby mountain retreat and he can participate in NIDR's extramural activities ... **James Del Priore**, chief of DCRT's communications technology section, has retired from DCRT and the PHS Commissioned Corps after 30 years of service. His pioneering work enabled computer networking at NIH to grow from a few dozen workstations in 1984 to more than 12,000 today ... **Charles M. Goldstein**, chief of the Information Technology Branch in NLM's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, recently retired after 21 years at the library ... **Dr. Joseph J. Kaiser** of the Referral and Review Branch, DRG, has retired after 32 years of federal service. In retirement, he plans to do some traveling and a lot more sailing on Chesapeake Bay ... **Roy Milton**, chief of the Biometry

Branch and deputy director of the Division of Biometry and Epidemiology, NEI, has retired after 27 years of government service. He was instrumental in promoting the use of biostatistical and epidemiologic methods and principles in the field of vision research. Retirement will not be full time because he has joined EMMES Corp., an organization that provides statistical and operational support for biomedical research ... **Dr. John G. Miller**, deputy director of NIH's Office for Protection from Research Risks, has retired after nearly 30 years of federal service. On Aug. 1, he became the executive director of the recently renamed Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International, which is responsible for accrediting over 600 organizations worldwide ... **Delphine Moeller** retired recently after a CC career in the pharmacy department that covered 40 years. Her future plans include gardening, reading, visiting art exhibits and her family ... **Floyd M. Price**, a biologist in the NCI's Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology, has retired after 31 years of federal service. He spent much of his career studying tissue culture and investigating the mechanism of carcinogenesis. He has recovered slowly from a fall in 1993 that paralyzed him from the neck down and he is able to play Celtic music on his recorder ... **Ruby Ross**, supervisory grants technical assistant in NIGMS's Division of Extramural Activities, has retired after nearly 29 years with the institute ... **Dr. David Scheim**, chief of NEI's Management Information Systems Branch, has retired. He was one of the pioneers of client-server database technology at NIH. Computer technology is just one of his many areas of expertise—he is a best-selling author and an accomplished musician on both the piano and the harp. He plans to travel, play music and visit his family.

DEATHS

Katharine Pease Beardsley, 85, a psychologist and educator, died Aug. 7 at Manor Care of Bethesda nursing home. She had Parkinson's disease. In 1971, she joined NIMH as executive assistant to the director of manpower and training programs and retired in 1976 ... **Dr. Edward Birkenmeier**, 48, a geneticist who was a leader in using mice as models for medical

studies, died from a brain tumor on July 27 at his home in Bar Harbor, Me. He was a senior staff scientist at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor. Before joining the Jackson Laboratory in 1980, he had worked at NIH ... **June L. Carroll**, 75, who joined NIH in 1957 and retired as its travel chief in 1977, died of cancer April 20 at her home in Silver Spring ... **Dr. Clive J. Dawe**, 75, a retired NCI pathologist, died July 9 after sustaining injuries in a glider crash. He was a research consultant in the department of pathology at Harvard University School of Medicine at the time of his death. During his years at NCI, he pursued two major interests: analysis of the interactions of the polyoma virus with various cell types, and comparative oncology, the study of cancer in lower animals such as sharks, clams, frogs, insects and worms. He played a crucial role in establishing the Registry of Tumors in Lower Animals at the Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution ... **Patricia M. Gilliam**, 57, a practical nurse at the Clinical Center for 24 years until she retired on disability in 1983, died July 10 at the Washington Adventist Hospital. She had diabetes and recently underwent triple-bypass heart surgery ... **Ruth Myne Hahn**, 82, a former librarian who had been a Red Cross volunteer at the Clinical Center for the last 29 years, died May 25 at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital after a stroke ... **Dr. Rolla Bennett Hill, Jr.**, 66, a pathologist who served on the Pathology Study Section at NIH, died of stomach cancer at home in Philo, Calif ... **Marian Bradford Jasch**, 69, a secretary who retired in 1986 after almost 20 years at NIH, died of cancer April 24 at her home in Bethesda ... **Dr. Yvon Lamour**, 48, a leading French researcher on aging and Alzheimer's disease, who worked at NIH (FIC fellow from 1979 to 1980 and NIA from 1988 to 1990), was killed in the crash of the TWA flight 800 on July 17. He was returning to Paris from a conference in New York City ... **Elaine C. Lee**, 67, a grants management specialist who worked 25 years for NIH and the PHS before retiring in 1986, died of congestive heart failure June 11 at Montgomery General Hospital ... **Dorothy Williams Lehman**, 64, a secretary at NIMH for 22 years, died Apr. 3 at Greater Baltimore Medical Center of renal failure related to complications from a stroke ... **Martha Harris Littman**, who worked at NIMH from 1955 until 1980 as an informa-

tion specialist in the news clipping office, died June 14 of pancreatic cancer at her home ... **George Luhn**, 72, who retired from the Office of Logistics Management, OD, NIH, died Apr. 29 of heart failure in Olney. He began his career with NIH in 1952 as a supply clerk when the Supply Management Branch storeroom was located in the sub-basement of Bldg. 1. He advanced in the inventory management specialist field and served in the Inventory Liaison Office at the time of his retirement in 1991 ... **Dr. Carl F. T. "Ted" Mattern**, 72, a physician and research scientist who had worked at NIH, died of pneumonia and sepsis May 6 at Holy Cross Hospital. In 1949, Mattern joined the PHS and served as medical director of NIAID, assistant chief of the virus laboratory, senior investigator in the parasitic diseases lab, head of the electron microscopy unit and head of the biophysical section. He did basic clinical work in the development of the Coulter counter, which is used in industry and medicine to count and analyze blood cells. He retired in 1982. From 1983 until retiring in 1990, he was a visiting professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Johns Hopkins University Medical School and director of the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases with the Baltimore Health Department ... **John Hunton Moss**, 73, a retired consultant who specialized in medical issues, died of cardiac arrest June 2 at his home in Kensington. In the mid-1970's, he joined NIH and worked as science director of the smoking and health program. He did consulting from 1976 until retiring in 1989 ... **Dr. Thomas Benjamin Owen**, who was at NCI for 19 years, died of cancer May 19 at Georgetown University Hospital. He moved to the Washington area in the 1960's to become the vice president of Melpar Inc., where he developed the "clean room" for recovery and examination of the astronauts. In 1970, he joined NCI as a program director and retired in 1989 ... **Louis J. Pecora**, 85, a research physiologist and grants administrator at NIDR, died of skin lymphoma May 23 at home in Potomac. During World War II, he served in the Navy and studied high altitude flying, deep sea diving and exposure to high heat at the Naval Medical Research Institute. After the war, he joined the industrial hygiene group of NIH. He left NIH in 1951, but returned in 1967 to work as grants administrator in NIDR ... **Dr. J. Kiffin Penry**, 66, former

chief of NINCDS's Epilepsy Branch and director of the Neurological Disorders Division, died from complications of diabetes at his home in North Carolina on Mar. 31. At the time of his death, he was professor emeritus of neurology at Bowman Gray School of Medicine. An internationally recognized expert in epilepsy research, Penry played an enormous role in the dramatic progress made in the treatment of epilepsy through his scientific work and authorship of standard tests on the use of antiepileptic drugs. He joined NINCDS in 1966 and is credited with starting the NINDS drug development program for finding new antiepileptic drugs, promoting international epilepsy research and pioneering ways to monitor and care for patients. In 1979, he returned to his alma mater, Bowman Gray, as associate dean for neuroscience development. There, he continued his research efforts ... **Helen Dorothy Telford Reeves**, 86, a retired federal statistician, died May 25 at Memorial Hospital in Ranson, W. Va., after a heart attack. From 1964 to 1973, she worked at NIH. Following her retirement, she was active in community projects at the Church of the Savior in Washington, until 1994 when she moved to Charles Town, W. Va. ... **Dr. Moses O. Seton**, 49, a radiologist and oncologist who had practiced at Howard University Hospital, died July 4 at Holy Cross Hospital after a heart attack. He worked at NIH in 1991 and 1992. He was very active in organizing aid to Liberia where he had received his medical training. During the 1970's he had served as one of three personal physicians to then-Liberian president William R. Tolbert ... **Dr. Nahum Raphael Shulman**, 70, chief of NIDDK's Clinical Hematology Branch, died Apr. 10 of cancer at the Washington Home Hospice. Shulman was a pioneer in research on immunohematology, blood coagulation and fibrinolysis, hepatitis, and the physiology and biochemistry of platelets. His clinical studies increased understanding of the mechanisms of autoimmune, alloimmune, and drug-dependent cytopenia and led to the definition and treatment of post-transfusion purpura. At the time of his death, Shulman was studying mechanisms of immune-mediated cellular injury, specificities of platelet-specific autoantibodies, and factors influencing the regulation of plasma levels of thrombopoietin, a newly characterized growth factor ... **Dr. James G. Sites**, 72, a retired physician and medical professor who

was chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Fairfax Hospital, and an NIH consultant, died of cancer May 27 at his home in Arlington ... **Clara Smith**, who first worked at NCI (1942-1949) and then in the Division of Etiology (1952-1986), died recently in Rock Hill, S.C. ... **Ernest Robert Stevens**, 98, a retired biological laboratory technician and a Baptist pastor, died of congestive heart failure May 9 at Providence Hospital. He began working at the National Institute of Health in 1930 as a laboratory technician and he retired in 1960. He was pastor from 1979 to 1984 of the Rising Sun Baptist Church in Washington ... **Dr. Alan Van Dervort**, 41, CC physician, was shot in a Gaithersburg parking lot on May 24 and died the following day at Shady Grove Hospital. A member of NHLBI's pulmonary critical care medicine branch since 1994, Van Dervort came to NIH in 1987 as a staff fellow. He studied communication systems employed by cells, research relevant to pulmonary disease in the critically ill patients and recently he studied the role of nitric oxide in regulating inflammation. The case is still not solved ... **Dr. William A. Walter, Jr.**, 74, retired physician and PHS captain who worked for 30 years at NCI, died of cancer Aug. 11 at his home in Bethesda. He retired in 1984 as deputy director of NCI's extramural activities division.

If you are not a life member, you received a dues notice from NIHAA in May. Dues are an important source of our income and we need your continued support. Check your address label. If it says "please renew," do so promptly.

NIH Retrospectives



Summer 1956

A long-range construction program is under way at NIH. The project includes four new buildings, additions to three and the remodeling of several others ... On July 11, 1956, NIH conveyed 25,000 feet of land to the Bethesda Fire Department, to build a secondary fire station at Old Georgetown Road and Cedar Lane ... Leroy E. Burney, former assistant surgeon general and deputy chief, Bureau of State Services, PHS, was promoted to the post of surgeon general on Aug. 8. He succeeded Dr. Leonard Scheele, who resigned Aug. 1.



Summer 1966

Dr. James A. Shannon, NIH director, received the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service in a ceremony in the White House East Room June 15. This award, the highest honor the government can give career employees, was presented to Shannon by President Johnson "with profound appreciation, high esteem and great personal satisfaction" ... A new portable clinical facility for long-range clinical and epidemiological studies in arthritis, diabetes and diseases of the gastrointestinal tract was formally dedicated June 13 at Sacaton, Ariz., on the Gila River Indian Reservation.



Summer 1976

Metro construction that started a year ago is proceeding on schedule and Shaft #4 excavation is essentially complete. Conventional tunneling will begin south from Pooks Hill Road in about 3 weeks. Construction of this segment of Metro is scheduled for completion in January 1979 ... The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences recently purchased the Public Health Service Officers' Club at Old Georgetown Road and Cedar Lane to serve as an academic and social center. It has been redecorated and air-conditioned and may be rented for meetings or other functions. [The

remodeled side porch now serves as NIHAA's office—see photo below].



Summer 1986

Time Magazine paid glowing tribute to NIH in a special edition citing what is best in America. NIH was described as "clearly a major factor in America's primacy in medical research," and the article agreed with Dr. Lewis Thomas when he called NIH "one of the nation's greatest treasures" ... The first annual intramural NIH Research Day is scheduled for Sept. 25. Intramural scientists will be able to meet and exchange ideas. It will be a day filled with workshops, poster sessions and symposia focusing on emerging fields and topics under active investigation.



The FAES Social and Academic Center is a large house on 1.6 acres of land, which was purchased in 1975, but officially opened on June 17, 1976, after redecoration and renovation. It is used for a variety of functions and activities. Since August 1988, the NIH Alumni Association's office has been in the side porch at right.