

*"Still
The Second
Best Thing
About Payday"*

The NIH Record

'A Deep Kinda Thing'

Black History Program Focuses on Women, AIDS

By **Carla Garnett**

At 23, Rae Lewis-Thornton was many things—ambitious honors college grad, hard-working political organizer and activist in the state of Illinois. She was an attractive, successful, single Black woman on the verge of a promising career and a fulfilling life. Her future looked bright to her. She was definitely “one fine sistah who had it goin’ on,” but she was also something she’d never considered and didn’t even know: she was HIV-positive.

Lewis-Thornton was working a brief stint in Washington, D.C., in 1986 when she volunteered to organize a blood drive at the local Red Cross. There had been a train derailment. Blood was in short supply. She thought nothing of rolling up her sleeve for the effort. She remembered filling out the reply card with her confidential number on it. If she called in a week or so, someone explained, she could find out about the blood she’d given. She never gave the card a second thought. Eventually she tossed it away, never intending to use it. Months after the donation, she came home tired following a long day at the office. A letter was waiting for her. The Red Cross letterhead caught her eye. Probably a

Keynote speaker Rae Lewis-Thornton

(See **BLACK HISTORY**, Page 8)

Report Plots Future Of Clinical Center

By **Sara Byars**

The Clinical Center should change the way it’s governed, funded, and managed in order to provide a stable, efficient foundation for clinical research into the next century, according to recommendations contained in an extensive report to HHS Secretary Donna Shalala released Feb. 9.

The report summarized findings of an options team that had a mandate to evaluate how best to structure the Clinical Center and its operations. “The recommendations contained in this report will allow the Clinical Center to remain in the forefront of biomedical research into the new century,” said Dr. John Gallin, CC director and a member of the team that examined and evaluated CC operations for nearly a year. “The recommendations in no way suggest that Clinical Center jobs are in jeopardy or that CC services will universally be contracted out.”

Major recommendations contained in

(See **CC RENEWAL**, Page 2)

NIMH Golden Anniversary

Science Writers Learn About Brain Research

Exploration of the brain and its link to behavior and mental illness is a new frontier in medicine. Brain research was cited by several Nobel laureates at congressional hearings last spring as the ultimate challenge of biomedical research in the next decade and a productive avenue leading to new treatments and preventives for mental and brain disorders.

1996 marks the 50th anniversary of the National Mental Health Act that created the National Institute of Mental Health as one of the first NIH institutes. During that half-century, NIMH research has revealed the biological bases of mental illness, explored the intertwining of biological and environmental causes, and paved the way for development of new strategies for conquering mental and brain disorders.

One focus of NIMH extramural and intramural research is brain imaging, which has helped to propel understanding of brain chemistry, anatomy, and function by providing a window into the living human brain. In this story, brain imaging conducted by NIMH intramural scientists is shown to 70 science writers whose tour of NIH imaging facilities was organized by the D.C. Science Writers Association.

Advances in brain imaging are opening windows into mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder. Brain imaging experts at the National Institute of Mental Health recently briefed science writers on new developments, showing colorful scans and new data on how the

(See **NIMH ANNIVERSARY**, Page 6)

Anthony Itteilag Named NIH Deputy Director

By **Rich McManus**

The six wooden inboxes spread across his conference table in Bldg. 1 say two things about Anthony L. “Tony” Itteilag, who joined NIH Jan. 8 as deputy director for management. First, he is new—the boxes help keep him from getting totally lost in paperwork—and second, he is busy, having become a sort of executive officer for NIH, with authority over virtually all the nonscience nitty gritty of running a \$12 billion-a-year enterprise.

The soft-spoken successor to Jack Mahoney, who left NIH almost a year ago to continue his career at the Health Resources and Services Administration, Itteilag is quite familiar to both ICD directors and top NIH officials—he has been a senior-level budget expert and manager at HHS for years. Most recently, he was in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, serving as deputy assistant secretary for management and budget. And, ironically, this

(See **DEPUTY DIRECTOR**, Page 4)

NIMH's Dr. Alan Breier briefs writers.

CC RENEWAL

(Continued from Page 1)

the options team report include:

- ❖ Develop a "clear and logical governance structure" to draw on the expertise of leaders from outside organizations and reflect the interests of CC clients—the institutes of NIH.
- ❖ Secure a clearly defined, separate budget for the CC, one that is as stable as the NIH budget as a whole.
- ❖ Develop a strategic plan with clear and measurable objectives.
- ❖ Establish the CC as a "reinvention laboratory" to explore options to enhance efficiency and effectiveness, especially concerning procurement, personnel management, and use of operational savings.

The review was part of Vice President Gore's Reinventing Government II initiative, designed to find ways to lower costs and improve the efficiency of government programs.

Gallin will distribute copies of the CC reinvention plan and discuss the options team recommendations during his annual address and awards ceremony on Feb. 29 at 2 p.m. in Masur Auditorium.

An Oregon firm has already been selected to design and spearhead planning for the CC's new clinical research facility—a new wing that NIH would like to add to the northwest facade of Bldg. 10. Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership, a 180-person architectural, planning, and interior design firm based in Portland, features a diverse portfolio of public and private projects in settings ranging from urban centers to university and research campuses.

Representatives from NIH; the project's developer, Boston Properties, Inc.; and experts from both the government and the private sector comprised the selection committee. As part of the selection process, six design teams were invited to participate in a design-concept competition to demonstrate creativity and technical ability. The candidates' models for the proposed facility were on display in the Visitor Information Center last December.

"We sought comments on the designs from throughout the Clinical Center and NIH," said Gallin, "and received more than 300 written comments from the NIH community. The selection team and the NIH family both came to the same conclusion in choosing this firm. They were selected based on flexibility of design, integration of the facility with the campus landscape, and adaptability for

This model of how the new Clinical Research Center could potentially look was prepared by the winning design team—Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership. It shows an H-shaped low-rise wing added on to the front of the clinic portion of the hospital. Much must be accomplished before such a vision is ever realized, however.

the future."

The team will devote a year to determining exactly what CC users want and need in their new facility, added Gallin. "Staff in all departments and at all levels will be extensively consulted."

Innovation of design will be only one hallmark of the project, he noted. "The CC renewal steering committee proposed and NIH approved hiring a private-sector developer to oversee construction and identify funding sources for this project. That's never been done at NIH before."

Boston Properties, Inc., was selected last August to oversee the project. "We tell the developer what we want and need in a facility and they will coordinate all phases of design, construction, and project management," Gallin explained.

Working with the Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership will be NBBJ of Seattle, specialists in planning health-care facilities; Earl Walls Associates and McLellan and Copenhagen, Inc., California firms with expertise in lab planning; and Metcalf Tobey Davis of Reston, Va., which will provide local coordination. □

Healthy Volunteers Needed

Healthy male and female volunteers without significant anxiety problems are needed for a 3- to 4-hour study evaluating cognitive and psychological aspects of anxiety. Eligible participants will receive a \$40 payment. For more information call Jack Trakowski at the USUHS department of medical and clinical psychology, (301) 295-3651. □

Normal Boys Sought

NIMH is recruiting healthy, normal-behavior boys ages 4-8 for a safe, noninvasive brain imaging study. Volunteers must not wear braces or have learning disabilities, and will be paid. If interested, leave message at 6-3175, ext. 2. Be sure to leave day and evening phone numbers. □

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Researchers Isolate Bacterium Causing Tick-Borne Disease

Researchers supported by NIAID have successfully isolated the organism that causes human granulocytic ehrlichiosis (HGE), a newly recognized and sometimes fatal infection transmitted to people by ticks.

Dr. Jesse L. Goodman of the University of Minnesota and his colleagues are the first researchers to grow the yet-unnamed bacterium in laboratory cell cultures, using blood from patients with HGE. They reported their findings in the Jan. 25 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

"Little is known about the agent that causes HGE, because until recently we have been unable to grow this intracellular pathogen in the laboratory," Goodman said. "Now that this bacterium has been isolated from patients, we can develop improved diagnostic tools and treatments, as well as better understand the biology and epidemiology of

"Now that this bacterium has been isolated from patients, we can develop improved diagnostic tools and treatments."

this emerging infection."

HGE was first described in 1994 in patients in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Subsequently, cases have been reported in California, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts and New York. Several dozen cases have been reported in the scientific literature, but the true prevalence of the disease is probably much higher, noted Goodman.

HGE appears to be transmitted by deer ticks, which also can transmit Lyme disease. It has been suggested that HGE may also be transmitted by dog ticks.

The HGE bacterium is closely related to bacteria of the genus Ehrlichia, including *E. chaffeensis*, which causes a human disease (ehrlichiosis) that is similar to HGE. Ehrlichiosis was first observed in humans in 1986, and *E. chaffeensis* was isolated in 1991. Other Ehrlichia cause diseases in dogs, horses, sheep and cattle.

Signs and symptoms of both HGE and ehrlichiosis due to *E. chaffeensis* are similar. They include fever, chills, headaches, muscle aches, nausea and vomiting. Laboratory findings often

include elevated liver enzymes, and a decrease in a patient's blood platelets and white blood cells. Both diseases typically last 1 to 2 weeks, and most patients who receive treatment recover without long-lasting complications. However, a small proportion of patients with HGE or ehrlichiosis due to *E. chaffeensis* may suffer more severe symptoms such as kidney failure, respiratory problems or meningitis. The case-fatality rate for both diseases may be as high as 5 percent. Severe infections

and death are most likely in older people, and in those who are not promptly treated.

An editorial that appeared with the finding stated, "The use of insect repellents reduces the risk of infection. Other precautions that discourage the attachment and feeding of ticks, such as the wearing of light-colored clothing, long pants and long-sleeved shirts, and thorough examination of the skin after walking in the woods or fields may also be helpful." □

Management Interns Welcomed, Recruited

NIH recently welcomed four new Presidential Management Interns (PMI) Lori Hirsch, Mary Jo Hoeksema, Kerri Burton-Danner and Silvia Cabrera and its three new NIH Management Interns (MI) Nnecheta Anochie, Karen Bashir and Leslie Stenull.

Both intern programs offer entry-level career development training designed for outstanding men and women who are committed to careers in public service. Both programs use rotational assignments to introduce interns to potential administrative career tracks, i.e., grant and contract management, general administration, human resource management, budget, legislation, and program/management analysis. Interns may also take specialized training to supplement their experiences.

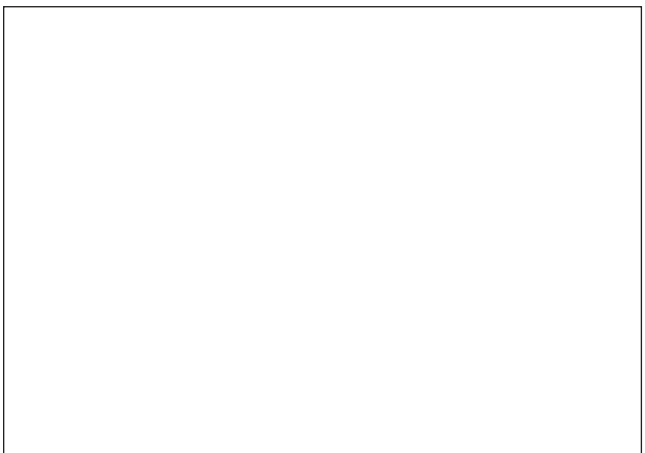
The NIH intern program began in 1957 and has graduated 290 interns, many of whom have reached a variety of top level administrative positions.

The MI program is administered by the administrative training committee. The program will open Mar. 12 and close Apr. 12. This year's program will be limited to DHHS employees only. Application packages will be available on Mar. 4 and may be obtained from most NIH personnel offices or by calling the Division of Career Resources, 6-2403.

Information sessions will be held at the following locations; all sessions last from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., except the last one, which is 1-2:30 p.m:

*Mar. 6 Parklawn Bldg./Chesapeake Rm.
Mar. 7 Rockledge II/Conf. Rm. R9B1
Mar. 12 Bldg. 31/Conf. Rm. 7
Mar. 13 Natcher Bldg./Conf. Rm. E
Mar. 14 EPN/Conf. Rm. G
Mar. 15 Clinical Center/Masur Aud.*

The Presidential Management Intern Program began at NIH in 1985 and has graduated 38 interns. These interns, like their NIH counterparts, have reached a variety of senior level positions. The Office of Personnel Management is responsible for the PMI program's overall policy direction including marketing, recruitment, screening, selection, placement, career development, and program evaluation. Only graduate degree recipients are eligible; these candidates may obtain information from their college or university.



NIH recently welcomed four new Presidential Management Interns and three NIH Management Interns. They are (front, from l) Nnecheta Anochie (MI), Mary Jo Hoeksma, Kerri Burton-Danner. Standing are (from l) Silvia Cabrera, Lori Hirsch, Leslie Stenull (MI) and Karen Bashir (MI).

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

(Continued from Page 1)

isn't the first time he has succeeded Mahoney in a job—the two have held the same high PHS and department posts at various times.

"Jack and I have known each other for years," he said. Mahoney's advice to him about the NIH job was short and simple: "He thought I'd enjoy it, and find it a challenge, but said it's a doable job and I should jump at the chance."

What Itteilag, a native of Westerly, R.I., and former management intern in the Navy Department, has jumped into can be explained by those inboxes. Two of them are dedicated to his bosses, Drs. Varmus and Kirschstein. The rest belong to people who now report to him: Steve Benowitz, Office of Human Resources; Steve Ficca, Office of Research Services; Leamon Lee, Office of Administration; and Francine Little, Office of Financial Management.

A "great believer in the value of a liberal arts education," (he majored in political science, minored in history at

"We use a lot of the taxpayers' money, and I'm here to see that we make the most efficient and effective possible use of those resources."

the University of Rhode Island), he favors a collegial style of management that relies less on big meetings than casual visits and use of email; as he spoke, Kirschstein leaned in the door for a comment or two. "Formal meetings are a necessary evil," he declares.

Asked what issues have seized his attention in the early going, Itteilag mentioned several: getting on top of NIH's commitment to reinvention, reengineering and streamlining; serving as overall representative in Bldg. 1 for management issues faced by the institutes, centers and divisions (this is his "executive officer" role); and helping shepherd the Bldg. 10 addition, known as the Clinical Research Center, through the budget review process toward fruition. Another priority, he adds, is "interfacing with DHHS offices on overall management issues."

He doesn't think Varmus and NIH have received enough credit for what has already been accomplished via reinven-

Anthony L. "Tony" Itteilag

tion. "Folks want miracles, they want to see enormous FTE and administrative savings *now*," he said. "But that's not what happens when you approach reinvention in a conscientious way."

Throughout the interview, he emphasizes the gravity of public trust, of handling responsibly such new delegations of authority as the NIH director's ability to appoint at the Senior Executive Service level and the Senior Biomedical Research Service. The phrase "careful stewardship of public money," emerges repeatedly.

"We use a lot of the taxpayers' money," he said, "and I'm here to see that we make the most efficient and effective possible use of those resources."

After a month on the job, he seems genuinely delighted to have landed in one of the brightest corners of the federal bureaucracy. "This is a first-rate organization," he enthuses. "My colleagues in the Office of Management are outstanding. The intelligence level here is probably unique in government. There's a sense of community that is not duplicated downtown. You get some of the same sense visiting CDC in Atlanta, but at very few other places."

He continued, "At NIH, you feel a great sense of belonging to a unique entity. There's an *esprit de corps*, a mutual respect that people have for one another's views. It's really a pleasure and a privilege to be able to work at NIH—there are lots of other places that are nowhere near the quality of this operation."

Itteilag's office is in Bldg. 1, Rm. 103. He can be reached at 6-3271 or via email, ItteilaT@od1tm1.od.nih.gov. □

Forum on Communication Issues Between Genders

There will be a STEP Forum on "Improving Communication: Gender Differences Before and Beyond Venus and Mars." The talk will be held Thursday, Mar. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Natcher Conference Center.

The best-selling book in 1995 was psychologist Dr. John Gray's *Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus—A Practical Guide to Improving Communication*. But before the Gray release, Georgetown University linguistics professor Dr. Deborah Tannen had already published two popular books that dealt with the differences between men and women and their conversational styles. Fellow Georgetown sociolinguists Shari Kendall and Keller Magenau are the forum's guest speakers. They will use Tannen's research, combined with their own observations, to explain conversational styles, their elements and their role in the workplace.

Participation is limited to 100. To register in advance, send an email note to yba@cu.nih.gov by Mar. 11. □

Prevent Blindness America (PBA) recently honored NEI director Dr. Carl Kupfer with the 1995 "Person of Vision" award during the national health organization's annual meeting. The award honors individuals who have significantly contributed to eye health and safety nationwide; Kupfer was recognized for "unwavering dedication to vision research throughout his career." He delivered the meeting's keynote address entitled, "Vision and Aging—Meeting the Challenge through Medical Research." PBA is the nation's oldest voluntary health organization dedicated to preserving sight and fighting vision loss.

Wisconsin's Kettl To Give Executive Seminar

The second seminar of the 1995-96 Executive Speakers Seminar Series, which focuses on contemporary trends in human resources management, will be held on Wednesday, Mar. 13, at 2 p.m. in the Natcher Bldg. auditorium. Dr. Donald F. Kettl, professor of public affairs and political science at the University of Wisconsin and nonresident

senior fellow in the Center for Public Management at the Brookings Institution, will speak on "Managing for Performance: Downsizing or Smartsizing the Federal Government."

Dr. Donald Kettl

A student of public policy and public management, Kettl is the author or editor of 11 books and monographs, including *Inside the Reinvention Machine: Appraising the National Performance Review*, edited with John J. Dilulio, Jr.; *Sharing Power: Public Governance and Private Markets*; and *Improving Government Performance: An Owner's Manual*.

DCRT Offers Molecular Modeling Support

Most researchers working on molecular structure or relationships between structure and function will sooner or later be drawn to the three-dimensional world of molecular modeling and molecular graphics. If you're an NIH scientist working in this field, you may have already benefited from molecular modeling hardware and software provided by DCRT in the past. Through DCRT's new Center for Molecular Modeling (CMM), you will now be able to access a wider array of resources, guidance and scientific collaboration in molecular modeling than ever before. Learn about the CMM and its services by attending a Molecular Modeling Town Meeting on Monday, Mar. 4, at 10 a.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

The meeting will be targeted to a general scientific audience. "NIH is already home to several renowned molecular modeling groups, but lots of experimental labs here could also benefit from modeling," says CMM chief Dr. Robert Pearlstein. "We can't realistically train the large scientific audience here, but we hope that by providing

He is the author of the widely cited Brookings Center for Public Management report *Reinventing Government: Appraising the National Performance Review* and is the coauthor of the Brookings reports, *Cutting Government* and *Fine Print: The Contract with America, Devolution, and the Administrative Realities of American Federalism*. He has appeared on national television shows ranging from *Good Morning America* and the *CBS Evening News* to the *MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour*. Kettl has testified frequently at congressional hearings. He has also published widely in professional journals.

Kettl has consulted for a broad array of public organizations, including the Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. House of Representatives committee on the budget, and the Federal National Mortgage Association. He has served as a member of the U.S. secretary of energy advisory board's task force on radioactive waste management.

No registration is required for this seminar. For more information, call Joyce Laplante, Division of Workforce Development, 2-3380. □

state-of-the-art software and hardware resources in NIH's distributed computing environment, the labs will have a greater incentive to develop or recruit in-house expertise."

For more information about NIH's molecular modeling resources, see the NIH molecular modeling home page at <http://molbio.info.nih.gov/modeling>, or call the Center for Molecular Modeling at 2-3043. Email address is staff@cmm.dcrt.nih.gov. □

BIG Training Summit Set

Blacks in Government (BIG), region XI, will host its annual training summit Mar. 15-17 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. The theme is "Affirming Our Goals." Summit '96 will provide workshops and forums designed to help direct members' energies toward affirming goals as a professional organization and within communities. Registration fees are \$70 (members), \$85 (nonmembers) and on-site, \$80 (members) \$95 (nonmembers). For more information call Jacque Ballard, 6-8603 or (301) 572-4407. □

Dr. Lynn M. Amende has been named director, Division of Extramural Programs, of the National Institute of Nursing Research. She was previously director, Office of Review, National Center for Research Resources, and was responsible for the initial peer review of all NCRR programs. She began her career at NIH in 1979 as a postdoctoral research fellow with the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke. Since then, she has served as a senior staff fellow in the Laboratory of Cell and Developmental Biology, NIDDK. She has also been acting chief, International Research and Awards Branch, Fogarty International Center, and a scientific review administrator at NHLBI. Last summer, she received the NIH Director's award for her work at NHLBI's contracts, clinical trials and training review section.

Bob Bingaman of the NIH Ski Club gives a free ski lesson to (from l) Chris and Alecia Englehart of Richmond and Patrick Beebe of Waldorf, Md., during Special Love, Inc.'s family ski weekend for children with cancer. More than 40 families with children being treated for cancer spent President's Day weekend at Canaan Valley Resort in Davis, W. Va. NIH'ers pitched in to make the weekend—a winter counterpart of summer's Camp Fantastic—fun.

NIMH ANNIVERSARY (Continued from Page 1)

brain works. The writers toured Clinical Center PET (positron emission tomography) and fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imaging) facilities and met informally with researchers during a recent evening event, "New Frontiers in Brain Imaging."

During presentations in Lipsett Amphitheater, Dr. Daniel Weinberger, chief of the NIMH Clinical Brain Disorders Branch, spotlighted the potential of fMRI for studying mental illness. Use of MRI scanners to visualize the brain's activity, as opposed to its structure, has revolutionized neuropsychology research in the past few years, he said. Unlike PET, which requires a radioactive tracer, fMRI permits subjects to be scanned repeatedly. PET typically yields averaged data about a group of subjects (e.g., schizophrenia patients), while fMRI excels at capturing an individual's unique brain activity. PET scans show what the brain is doing during sustained tasks of 20 seconds or more; fMRI offers a continuous series of 3-second snapshots, revealing the ever-changing patterns of activation.

Indeed, fMRI data can be displayed as a movie, in near real-time. The science writers viewed a few fMRI movies, produced by NIMH physicist Dr. Peter Jezzard. The films showed brain activity during word generation, looking at flashing diodes and performing and learning a finger-tapping task. This ability to image transient, idiosyncratic brain events may someday even revolutionize the psychiatric interview by making it physiologically interactive, suggested Weinberger. In this futuristic vision, a supercomputer coupled with an fMRI scanner could visualize the patient's brain activity in real time, allowing the investigator to adapt experimental conditions based on the subject's previous responses. fMRI also holds promise for discovering the signatures in the brain of genetic defects that may predispose for mental disorders, he added. While functional brain imaging isn't yet ripe for routine use in psychiatric diagnosis, many hospitals already have MRI scanners that could be adapted for such use. PET requires

for a short period of time, while an area along the rear, bottom surface of the brain processed the actual seeing of faces. The brain uses a different pattern of organization for remembering the spatial location of faces within the visual field.

Brain imaging has emerged as a key tool in understanding schizophrenia, which devastates 1 percent of the population in the prime of life—young adulthood. Dr. Alan Breier of the NIMH Experimental Therapeutics Branch

Dr. Peter Herscovitch (l), chief of PET imaging for the Clinical Center, explains positron emission tomography scanning to touring science writers.

expensive nuclear medicine installations only available at major research centers.

That each person activates slightly different brain areas when performing the same task was illustrated in fMRI and PET scans from studies of visual cognition shown by Dr. James Haxby, chief of the section on functional brain imaging in the NIMH Laboratory of Psychology and Psychopathology. In this series of studies, investigators are methodically

Advances in brain imaging are opening windows into mental illnesses.

mapping the brain circuits responsible for various functions—perception of where objects are vs. what they are, faces vs. places, knowledge of color vs. action. For example, one PET study revealed that storage of knowledge about an object, such as its color, is located in about the same brain regions as perception of its color. Another study found that certain frontal areas are responsible for holding the image of a face in "working memory"

briefed the writers on new PET studies that employ drugs, not only as radioactive tracers, but also as experimental challenges to the brain. One study has pinpointed a site in the prefrontal cortex associated with the thought disorder, or loss of reality, that schizophrenia patients typically experience. This likely seat of psychosis lit up conspicuously in yellows and reds in scans when subjects were infused with ketamine, an anesthetic that can also trigger a temporary psychotic state in subjects by blocking NMDA receptors. Thus, it appears that the thought disorder is mediated by NMDA receptors on cells in this prefrontal area.

In another study, Breier devised a way of visualizing what until now investigators could only infer: that schizophrenia involves abnormally high release of the brain chemical messenger dopamine. Antipsychotic drugs are known to work by reducing dopamine activity. First he gave medication-free patients a radioactively tagged drug, raclopride, that binds to the same receptor on brain cells as dopamine, and scanned them. Next, he gave them amphetamine, which stimulates dopamine and tends to push raclopride out of the receptors, then scanned them again. Compared to control subjects, the patients showed a higher displacement of raclopride from the receptors, indicating abnormally high dopamine levels. Breier hypothesizes abnormal brain circuitry in schizophrenia, involving prefrontal NMDA and striatal dopamine systems.

Even faster at imaging changes in brain activity than fMRI is a technique called ECOG spectral analysis, which visualizes the brain's electrical activity in real time. It employs a grid of electrodes surgically implanted directly on a patient's brain to

Dr. Peter Jezzard (second from r) of NIMH's section on functional brain imaging takes science writers on tour of MRI center.

Photos: John Keith

NLM Hosts History Lectures

Evelynn M. Hammonds, assistant professor of the history of science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will deliver this year's third annual African American History Month lecture at the National Library of Medicine. She will speak at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 29 in Lister Hill Auditorium (Bldg. 38A). Her topic will be "Race, Gender, and AIDS: An Historical Perspective."

NLM's first Women's History Month lecture will be held on Thursday, Mar. 14. Mary Fissell, assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University Institute of the History of Medicine, will speak on "Vernacular Bodies: Popular Medical Works for Women." The lecture will also be held in Lister Hill Auditorium at 2 p.m.

The lectures are sponsored by NLM's History of Medicine Division, in cooperation with the NLM EEO office and committee. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For more information, call Dr. Stephen Greenberg, 6-5405. □

APIAAC Seeks Nominations

The NIH Asian/Pacific Islander American advisory committee (APIAAC) seeks nominations from the NIH community for its 1996 annual outstanding achievement awards. Two awards each in the following three categories will be made: Category I is for achievement in advancing ICDs' EEO goals; Category II is for achievement in the scientific field and/or administrative work; and Category III is for achievement in advancing NIH's EEO goals.

Nominees are reviewed for the extent of participation and accomplishments in the respective categories. Recipients will be honored during the evening program of the Asian/Pacific Islander American Heritage Month celebration in May.

Nominations should take the form of a letter of recommendation that should state the nominee's record and accomplishments. These should be sent to the chair of the education and awards subcommittee, Dr. Albert Lock, Bldg. 13, Rm. 3K04. The closing date for nominations is Mar. 21. □

Tax Help for Visitors

Income tax workshops for visiting workers will be held at the following times and places. Each workshop is divided into two sessions: 9 a.m. to noon for visiting associates and scientists, and 1 to 4 p.m. for visiting fellows. Bring your 1995 tax forms and be prepared to fill them out:

Monday, Mar. 4 - Bldg. 31C, Conf. Rm. 6
Monday, Mar. 11 - Bldg. 31C, Conf. Rm. 6
Monday, Mar. 18 - Bldg. 31C, Conf. Rm. 10
Monday, Mar. 25 - Bldg. 31C, Conf. Rm. 10
Monday, Apr. 1 - Bldg. 31C, Conf. Rm. 10

Help is also available from the IRS forms hotline; dial 1-800-829-FORM, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Saturdays. □

Seminar Series Discusses New Careers for Scientists

This series grew out of postdoctoral fellows' concerns that the job market for their skills is shrinking. All seminars are held in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. If too many people show up, a video link will be provided in a nearby room. The remaining talks in the series are:

Mar. 6, 10 a.m. "From Physical Examinations to Final Examinations: A Journey from Medicine to Secondary School Teaching," Dr. Victoria Metz; and "Working as a Scientist at a Small Liberal Arts College," Dr. Rick Moog.

Mar. 11, 10 a.m. "Science Journalism," Dr. Larry Altman; and "Journalists & Scientists: Any Skills in Common?" Dr. Joe Palca.

Mar. 28, 2 p.m. "One Example of a Non-Research Path in Science: Grants Management," Dr. Mary McCormick; and "Extramural Realities," Dr. Wendy Baldwin.

For more information, call Kathy Partin, 6-9347.

Science Education Lectures

The Office of Science Education is sponsoring a series of free lectures open to NIH employees and the public.

Upcoming speakers in the series include:

Bill Nye the Science Guy (host of a PBS television show that presents science to an audience of youngsters), "Family Science Night," Mar. 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m., main auditorium, Natcher Bldg.

Dr. David Sadker, "Gender, Equity, and Science Education," May 7, 3-4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

Sign language interpretation will be provided. For reasonable accommodation, call 6-2906 v/tty. For more information call 2-2469. □

NIMH scientist Dr. James Haxby

detect suppression of alpha brain waves, which signals increases in neural activity. Dr. Nathan Crone of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine presented data, including dramatic video, on how the brain organizes language and hearing, from patients who were undergoing surgery for epilepsy.

While no one predicts that brain imaging will soon become a routine tool of clinical practice, Weinberger said it has already profoundly altered psychiatric research. No longer are investigators limited to just listening to patients' subjective reports of experiences like hallucinations and delusions, he observed. They can now also see what's awry in the brain and potentially use this knowledge to design better treatments for mental disorders. —Jules Asher □

Dr. Andrew Blauvelt of the Dermatology Branch of NCI's Division of Clinical Sciences, received a 1996 Young Investigator in Dermatology Award from the American Academy of Dermatology at its Janssen reception on Feb. 11. He received a commemorative award in addition to a \$5,000 cash prize, which he will share with NCI's Dermatology Branch.

BLACK HISTORY

(Continued from Page 1)

thank-you note for her donation, she thought. Then she read the letter. Something was wrong with her blood. The note didn't say what, but politely asked if she would call and make an appointment as soon as possible. Early the next morning, after a frustrating night spent first calling the closed offices of the Red Cross, then tossing and turning as dire possibilities coursed through her imagination, Lewis-Thornton went in to see the Red Cross counselor.

"It took her 5 minutes to tell me that at 23 I was dying," the keynote speaker recalled in a soft, firm voice to a hushed Masur Auditorium crowd gathered for NIH's annual African American History Month observance. "I was HIV-positive. I was eventually going to get AIDS. There's no cure for AIDS. I was just beginning to live and I was dying. It's a deep kinda thing. I left the Red Cross and returned to my office, where I proceeded to live my life in a state of massive denial. Seven years later, [doctors] said, 'You have full-blown AIDS.' I'm telling you, it's a deep kinda thing."

Sponsored by several NIH components, the program used the national 1996 Black History theme "African American Women: Past, Present and Future" and was dedicated to the memory of former U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, the outstanding lawyer, orator and first Black woman elected to the Texas Senate who died Jan. 17. The observance also honored four NIH'ers with African American History Month Awards: NHLBI's Dr. Clarice Reid, for past achievement; NIDDK's Dr. Griffin Rodgers, for present contributions; NIAID's Dr. Sharon Jackson, for future promise; and CC's Cynthia Crews, who was named 1996's "unsung hero best exemplifying the spirit of NIH and its mission." Sharing their talents at the event were pianist Vivianne Baskins, a recent NIDA retiree; soloist Joy Pinkney, chair of the Black employees advisory committee; NIAMS secretary Gale Saunders, who read Maya Angelou's poem "And Still I Rise"; and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Choir, which performed several selections including one of Ellington's favorites, "Solitude," that brought the audience to its feet.

"After watching these young people perform," remarked Dr. John Ruffin,

The female ensemble of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Choir performs one of Ellington's favorites, "Solitude," during NIH's annual Black History Month observance.

Photos: Ernie Branson

NIH associate director for research on minority health, "certainly we can say our future is much brighter than our present and our past."

It's the future that compels Lewis-Thornton to speak "from the heart, without notes," especially to young Black people. AIDS has become the leading cause of death among all Americans ages 25 to 44, she reported.

"Why do I do it?" she asked, describing the humiliating, intimate questions she willingly answers for audiences nationwide and the insulting, insinuating comments she routinely fields while biting her tongue. "I do this because people don't see themselves at risk. They're too rich or too educated or too fine to have HIV and AIDS. I'm no scientist, I admit, but it's mind-boggling to me why there are any new cases. We know how you get this."

Pleading with the audience to get

serious about protecting themselves, the now-petite ("AIDS did what all those famous diets couldn't—I used to be a size 12 and this jacket I have on now is a size 2," she confided), now-married (her husband, Kenny, travels with her regularly and was seated supportively at her side in the front row) Lewis-Thornton, a 9-year NIH study participant who was featured on the cover of *Essence* magazine and who won an Emmy for her TV special featuring first-person accounts of people with HIV and AIDS, concluded, "It's not easy living with AIDS. It's not easy dying with AIDS, either. Fine clothes don't matter. That Emmy sitting in my living room doesn't matter. I often wonder what Kenny will do with them when I die. I'm telling you what matters. If African American women want a future in this country, then we better start living like we want a future. We must, in a real way, move beyond arrogance and denial and begin to deal with AIDS. If we don't, then we don't have a future." □

Moppetts Pop Up at NIH

The 27th Annual Bunny Benefit musical variety show, "Moppetts Around the World With Love," comes to NIH on Mar. 9 and 10 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are \$5. Proceeds benefit the Children's Inn. Call (301) 279-7353 or (301) 598-0621 for tickets. □

Treatment for Panic Attacks

People currently experiencing panic attacks may be eligible for a free treatment outcome study evaluating nondrug treatments for panic and anxiety. For more information call Jack Trakowski at the USUHS department of medical and clinical psychology, (301) 295-3651. □

Dr. Sidney McNairy of NCRR was emcee at NIH's 1996 Black History program, which was dedicated to the memory of former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan.

COR Presents Future Mental Health Researchers

The caliber of research that undergraduate minority men and women presented recently at a scientific colloquium left NIMH sponsors and other guests pleased with efforts to attract these students to mental health research early in their careers.

"If we could tap even a portion of the energy and intelligence evident in this group, it would be a boon to neuroscience and mental health research," said keynote speaker and NIMH acting director Dr. Rex W. Cowdry.

In 1975, NIMH developed the minority undergraduate training program—which led to the annual colloquium—with a two-pronged aim: to boost minority educational opportunities and enhance minority representation in the mental health research field. Since then, Career Opportunities in Research Education and Training (COR) has helped to ready thousands of minority third- and fourth-year honor students for graduate programs in neuroscience, behavioral science, and mental health research. COR-funded colleges and universities serve substantial numbers of students from racial/ethnic minority groups.

A cadre of principal investigators—some of whom were once COR participants themselves and now are faculty at these colleges and universities—selects COR students from a pool of qualified applicants. They mentor the students in mental health research design and provide opportunities to conduct independent research during the 2-year program term.

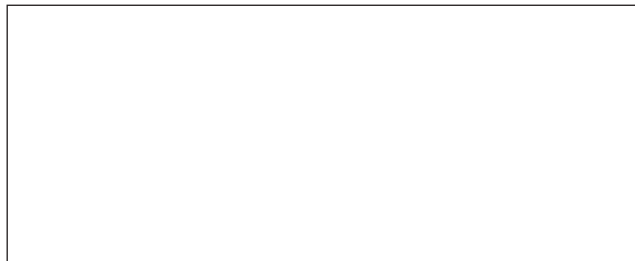
Nearly 110 juniors and seniors at the meeting—which was held in San Juan near the University of Puerto Rico, one of the 12 COR grantee institutions—exhibited their research projects at poster sessions or slide presentations.

Among COR speakers was Tassy Parker, a Native American senior at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Parker discovered something in her study on the prevalence of mental disorders in American Indians that community physicians at a local health clinic had earlier missed: diagnosis of mental illness in nearly 20 percent of 100 of their American Indian patients who participated in her research and marginal

mental disorders in an additional 16 percent.

One of several themes at the meeting was the blending of neuroscience and behavioral research. In a poster session on brain and mating behavior, Pierre Maignan and Walter Sargeant, juniors at the State University of New York at Old Westbury, examined the complex determinants of animal mating. In the Mongolian gerbil, they discovered that mating depends on a range of both physical factors in the female partner—including age, size, weight, and color—and behavioral factors such as aggression or submission.

In another study of biology and behavior, Dawn Bishop, a junior at Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., looked at stress in preschool children. Bishop gave young boys and girls the task of trying to get peer



COR meeting participants included (from l) Dr. Ethel Rios-Orlandi, Guillermo Bernal, Tassy Parker, Dr. Norman Anderson, Dr. Margarita Alegria, and Dr. Delores Parron.

cooperation in watching a movie. The children who worked hardest at trying to influence others developed elevated levels of the stress hormone cortisol. This finding led Bishop to conclude that a "physiological cost" comes with being the "boss," particularly for boys in her study, who were the most active in swaying authority and control.

"Each of these studies has implications not only for future research on mental disorders, the brain, and behavior, but also for the quality of the emerging pool of scientists in these areas," said Sherman Ragland, COR program administrator and deputy director of the NIMH Office for Special Populations. "It was very gratifying to witness the student presentations. In most cases, they were sophisticated and professional—as good as some I've seen conducted by more senior scientists."

Dr. Norman Anderson, guest speaker and director of the NIH Office on Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, emphasized the importance of continued

and increased collaboration among neuroscience and behavioral researchers.

"It's becoming more clear," he said, "based on COR and other research over the last several years, that combined study of biomedical and behavioral events could play a major role in understanding mental health, the causes of mental illness, and treatments for mental disorders."—Sophia P. Glezos □

Edwin Nichols To Address BIG History Program, Mar. 1

The NIH Chapter of Blacks in Government is sponsoring a history program on Friday, Mar. 1, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, featuring Dr. Edwin J. Nichols, a clinical/industrial psychologist working in organizational development and director of Nichols and Associates, an applied behavioral science organization. His presentation, "The Philosophical Aspects of Cultural Differences," will address multi-ethnic and cross-cultural differences from an intergroup and a philosophical perspective.

From 1969 until his retirement in 1989, Nichols held various positions at the National Institute of Mental Health including director of technology transfer, Division of Education and Service Systems liaison; chief, the Staff College, and chief, special populations section, Psychopharmacologic and Somatic Treatments Branch.

All are invited to attend. For more information, call Ivan Wallace, 6-5775.

DBRT Training Classes

The Molecular Modeling Initiative	
at NIH: A Town Meeting	3/4
Getting Started with Windows	3/4
Introduction to Image Processing	3/5
Relational Database and Client/Server	
Access Overview	3/5
Electronic Forms Users Group	3/6
Macintosh Shortcuts and Info	3/7
Real Time Systems	3/8
Using SQL to Retrieve Data	3/11-12
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	3/12
Memory Management on the PC	3/12
Configuring Windows and Windows 95 for	
PARACHUTE Network Access	3/13
ENTER BBS - the Bulletin Board System	
on the Mainframe	3/13
Programming in Perl	3/13-15
Introduction to the Helix Systems	3/14
Using SQL to Retrieve Data	3/15

All classes are on campus and are given without charge. □

DCRT Offers Spring Computer Training

Beginning in March, DCRT will offer 85 classes in computer training for NIH staff with topics ranging from a brief look at the features of Windows 95 to 5-day courses on PowerBuilder and Oracle Forms. A variety of seminars address the scientific uses of computing, including a special town meeting in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10 on Mar. 4 to kick off the molecular modeling initiative at NIH.

Statistics and Data Analysis

Statistical analysis is a central focus in the NIH computing world; this term offers a many-faceted program. In April, William S. Cleveland, a leading researcher in statistical methods, will teach a 2-day class, "Visualizing Data: The New Frontier of Data Analysis," in the Natcher Auditorium. A new class, "Producing Graphs with the SAS System," will supplement the traditional offerings in SAS fundamentals and SAS/FSP. Users who like to do statistical work on their desktops may be interested in "Overview of the SAS System for Windows" or "Introduction to StatView for the Macintosh." Scientists interested in applying partial differential equations to data analysis may be interested in the two-session seminar, "Finite Element Analysis for Medicine and Biology." A two-session course on the MATLAB scientific computing language will enable students to use this powerful tool for matrix computation, time-series analysis, signal processing, and 2D and 3D graphics.

Scientific Seminars

A highlight of the scientific seminar program this spring is a new four-session series, "Theory and Applications of van der Waals Forces," given by Dr. Adrian Parsegian, chief, Laboratory of Structural Biology, DCRT. Two brief seminars extend topics presented in earlier terms: "Protein Secondary Structure Prediction Methods" given by Dr. Peter Munson and Dr. Valentina Di Francesco, and "Approaching the Folding or Construction of Many Protein Sequences," by Richard Feldmann.

For researchers interested in understanding image processing techniques currently being used at NIH, a series of six classes in "Introduction to Image Processing," given by Dr. Benes Trus, will explain image sampling, image enhancements, hardware considerations, data compression and averaging. Students will view applications in electron and light microscopy, gel electrophoresis,

and radiology.

A tour and demonstrations will introduce the facilities of DCRT's SCRC in the "Scientific Computing Resource Center Overview." Jai Evans of the SCRC staff will conduct a more specialized demonstration in "Densitometric Analysis of 1-D Gels Using NIH Image" using software developed by NIMH's Wayne Rasband.

Client/Server Computing

Client/server applications and graphical user interfaces are in development in critical areas of data management at NIH such as the Administrative Database (ADB) and grants processing (IMPAC II). Classes in this area range from management overviews to hands-on technical labs. Managers and planners may enjoy "Overview of Client/Server for Management," presented by Steve Blaze from Learning Tree and "Overview of the ADB" by Mary Back, chief, Information Systems Branch, DCRT. New technical offerings include week-long courses in PowerBuilder and Oracle Forms, as well as 2-day courses on Oracle PL/SQL and Oracle for Application Developers. A half-day class, "Concepts in Object-Oriented Programming" will provide a useful background for those intending to work on graphical user interface applications. As always, the monthly Database Technology Series welcomes anyone who wants to keep current in this rapidly developing field.

Networking

Recent developments in personal computers and networking are reflected in a number of new classes including: "A Look at Windows 95," "Macintosh Shortcuts and Info," "Windows NT Overview," "Configuring Windows and Windows 95 for PARACHUTE Network Access," "Mac Configuration for PARACHUTE Network Access," and "An Overview of FDDI."

Unix

Unix users will find a range of courses and seminars from "Fundamentals of Unix" to "Unix Support: An Overview of the ALW System" and two courses in C language. Popular scientific software is presented in two hands-on classes, "Analyze Workshop" and "GCG Sequence Analysis."

Security

Computer security is always a topic of great concern, and this term's offerings include "Introduction to Data Security," "Backing Up Personal Computer Data," "PC Viruses," "Computer Data and the

Privacy Act," and "Disaster Recovery."

Full information on classes in the spring program is available online through the World Wide Web at <http://www.nih.gov/dcrt> and from Gopher at gopher.nih.gov. It has also been published in the new DCRT Computer Training brochure now available from the Training Program, Bldg. 12A, Rm. 1011, phone 4-DCRT (4-3278). □

ACS Elects NIGMS Grantee, Advisory Council Member

Dr. Ronald C. Breslow, an NIGMS grantee, and Dr. Paul S. Anderson, a

former member of the National Advisory General Medical Sciences Council (1992-1995), have been elected to leadership roles in the American Chemical Society (ACS).

Dr. Ronald C. Breslow professor in the chemistry department at Columbia University, will serve as president of the society; Anderson, vice president of chemical and physical sciences at DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Co., will serve as president-elect. Anderson's term as president will begin on Jan. 1, 1997.

The ACS consists of approximately 150,000 members representing a wide range of disciplines. □

Chamber Music Concert

The Rock Creek Chamber Players will perform at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Mar. 10 in the 14th floor assembly hall, Bldg. 10. The program, presented by the Clinical Center recreation therapy section, will include Quantz's Trio Sonata in C minor for flute, oboe and continuo; Constance Cooper's *Crusoe in England*, for solo bass viol; and Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes, which had been scheduled for a performance on Jan. 14 that was postponed. For more information call (202) 337-8710. □



TRAINING TIPS

The Division of Workforce Development, OHRM, offers the following courses:

Courses and Programs *Starting Dates* *Management and Supervisory*

Interviewing Skills: Selecting the Right Person for the Job	3/5
Congressional Operations Workshop for NIH	3/11
Positive Stress Management	3/12
Meetings That Get Results	3/13
Recognition Secrets: Innovations for Rewarding Today's Workers (1/2 day)	3/19
Time Management	3/20
Performance Appraisal	3/28
Assertive Leadership	3/26
Federal Budget Process	3/4

Communication Skills

Writing Skills Review	3/27
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Scientific and Medical

Introduction to CRISP	3/22
How to Write & Publish Scientific Papers	3/6

Administrative Systems

Delegated Acquisition Training Program	3/4
Basic Time and Attendance Using TAAMS	3/20
Time and Attendance for Supervisors Using TAAMS	3/28
Domestic Travel	3/25
Foreign Travel	3/14
Introduction to NIH Property Management	3/18
IMPACT for Administrative Staff	3/12
IMPACT for Personnel Staff	3/20

Administrative Skills Development

Increase Your Word Power	3/21
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Personal Computing

Intro to WordPerfect 6.0 (DOS)	3/12
WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows	3/12
Intro to Windows 3.1	3/5
Lotus for Windows	3/26
Welcome to Macintosh	3/7
Advanced Macintosh Techniques	3/21
Pagemaker 5.0 (Win & Mac)	3/4
Intro to MS Word 6.0 (Mac)	3/12

Singers Recruit, Perform

Experienced singers of all voice ranges are invited to sing with the NIH Chamber Singers, an R&W organization. This is a small *a cappella* group that sings a variety of music. It rehearses and performs locally. Contact Susan Hauser by email (preferred) at hauser@nlm.nih.gov or phone 6-4496 for more information.

You can see the group in performance on the first day of Spring (Mar. 21) during its Equinox Concert. The group will usher in the balmy weather and help turn NIH'ers' fancy with a set of songs about love: happy songs, sad songs, serious songs, and silly songs, songs about love found and love lost.

The performance is at noon in Bldg. 10's Masur Auditorium. □

NIDDK Mourns Scientist Emeritus Yale J. Topper

Dr. Yale J. Topper, scientist emeritus and retired chief of NIDDK's former section of intermediary metabolism, died recently of emphysema and leukemia. He was 79.

Topper was a pioneer in research on the influence of hormones on the mammary gland's production of milk proteins. Through strategic manipulation of hormones such as insulin, hydrocortisone and prolactin in mouse mammary gland tissue, he was able to analyze the tissue for various growth aspects or functional production of milk.

Dr. Joseph E. Rall, an NIDDK scientist emeritus and former NIH deputy director for intramural research, called Topper's research "marvelous," saying "it impacted not only breast cancer research, but also our understanding of normal breast development and the biology of how hormones and molecules work."

The hormonal manipulations that Topper established used a mouse explant system, developed by Dr. Joel Elias from the University of California at San Francisco. With this culture system, Topper showed that mammary tissue from pregnant mice could be cultured in vitro, and that casein synthesis occurred only in the combined presence of insulin, hydrocortisone and prolactin. Dr. Lothar Hennighausen, NIDDK developmental biologist and an expert in mammary gland gene expression, said Topper's study "built the foundation of our understanding of the molecular mechanism of hormone

controlled gene expression."

Topper was also first to show that insulin is essential for the transcriptional activation of the beta-casein gene and that glucocorticoids exert a dual effect, induce transcription and stabilize mRNA.

His research provided a basis for hormonal manipulations in breast cancer as well, said Dr. Barbara Vonderhaar, one of Topper's postdocs, now chief of the cellular and molecular physiology section in the Tumor Immunology and Biology Laboratory, NCI. She explained that Topper's

research allowed scientists to use the estrogen response signals of breast cancer cells in culture to develop markers that are now used in the clinical diagnosis of breast cancer.

Topper graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University in 1942. A year later, he received an M.A., and in 1947, a Ph.D. in chemistry from Harvard. He was recruited to NIH in 1954 by Dr. DeWitt Stetten Jr. Topper was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1963. In 1975, he became chairman of the experimental biology committee of NCI's breast cancer task force. He wrote more than 100 papers before retiring in 1987. In the weeks before his death, Topper was planning an experiment on the molecular biology of signal transduction during milk production. "He didn't let go," said Vonderhaar. "He was thinking in terms of signaling events for the hormones. He was sharp until the end."—Sharon

Ricks

Dr. Yale J. Topper

Ernest Just Honored with Stamp and NINDS Program

The late Dr. Ernest Everett Just, a world-renowned African-American scientist who served as professor and head of the department of physiology at Howard University, recently became the 19th person featured by the U.S. Postal Service in its popular Black Heritage stamp series. The 32-cent commemorative stamp was issued on Feb. 1. Just is primarily known for his research in marine biology, focusing in particular on the process of fertilization in marine invertebrates. He also served as a leader in the field of zoology, where he challenged the scientific theories of some of the great biologists of the 19th and 20th centuries. Just was a pioneer in experimental embryology and was one of the first to reveal the secrets of how cells reproduce.

In 1995, NINDS created the Ernest Everett Just Faculty Research Career Development Award, which is intended to further career development of faculty members as neuroscientists at historically Black colleges and universities. The program provides support to enable the recipient to develop his or her research skills, with the ultimate objective of making the recipient more competitive for traditional NIH grant support. The experiences provided by the award are also expected to increase the recipient's collaborations with neurological scientists in research-intensive institutions. □

NICHD Summer Student is Westinghouse Semifinalist

By Anne Blank

Dina Beth Penny, an NICHD summer student and a senior at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, has been chosen as a semifinalist in the 55th Westinghouse Talent Search, a nationwide science contest for high school students.

For the past two summers, Penny has worked in the Developmental Endocrinology Branch, NICHD, which is headed by Dr. Carolyn Bondy. "I feel extremely fortunate to have been given the opportunity to work at NIH," Penny said. "I have found the greatest challenge and reward in applying what I have studied in books and in the classroom to real-life research."

Dina Beth Penny

While at NICHD, Penny studied cell growth in the primate ovary. It was for this research project that she was selected one of 300 Westinghouse semifinalists, four of whom attend Walt Whitman High School.

Working with Dr. Jian Zhou in Bondy's lab, Penny developed a methodology for the histological molecular analysis of sections of primate ovarian follicles. Using this technique, she characterized the metabolic and growth state of individual cells, both in the presence and absence of insulin-like growth factor (IGF) expression.

"These studies represent novel and important contributions to the understanding of the mechanisms whereby only a very small minority of ovarian follicles survive and produce a healthy oocyte during a woman's lifetime," Bondy explained. "On both the technical and intellectual levels, Dina was able to make substantial contributions to our lab's efforts to elucidate the role played by local IGF production in embryonic development and ovarian follicle growth."

NICHD scientific director Dr. Arthur Levine says Penny stands out as an exceptional student. "Dina has met, and, in fact, exceeded, the very high expectations which we held for her in respect to effort, productivity, and an intellectual contribution to the research

work of which she was a part," he said.

Despite her early success in the lab, Penny says she did not always love science. Like many young students, she was under the impression that science and scientists were "nerdy and boring," and "not even all that relevant to my life." She credits freshman biology with changing her view, and says that by the end of ninth grade, she was "completely intrigued by DNA and the genetic engineering revolution."

Penny hopes one day to become a physician-scientist, and credits her experience at NIH with strengthening her determination. "Being exposed to one of the most intense, motivating, and exciting research climates in the world, and being introduced to several creative and inspiring scientists, has made me want to pursue a career in science all the more," she said.

Science is not Penny's entire life, however. In addition to being on the honor roll, she competes in public speaking and debate tournaments, is a cheerleader, and sews clothes in her spare time. She is also completing her last year of high school, where she is taking physics, anatomy, physiology, and psychology, among other courses, and is busy applying to such colleges as Brown, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale. □

Wednesday Afternoon Series

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series continues in March with a variety of talks—all at 3 p.m. on their namesake day in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

On Mar. 6, Dr. Bruce L. McNaughton will speak on "The Hippocampus, Space and Memory: The Stuff Dreams Are Made Of." He is professor of psychology and physiology, Arizona Research Laboratories, division of neural systems, memory and aging, University of Arizona. The talk is hosted by the Neuroscience Interest Group.

Dr. John J. Mekalanos visits on Mar. 13 to discuss, "Genetic Approaches To Understanding Bacterial Pathogenesis: Trying To Teach the Old Dog (E. Coli) Some New Tricks." He is a professor in the department of microbiology and molecular genetics at Harvard Medical School. Host for the event is the Lambda Phage Interest Group.

For more information or reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595.

What Will Ysaye Play?

The seventh concert of the 1995-96 FAES Music Series features the Ysaye String Quartet, 4 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 3, in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are \$20 at the door; \$10 for students. For more information call 6-7975. □

"It's Up To You"—Participating in the recent CFC raffle are (from l) Richard Sherbert, NINDS executive officer; Jodi DeOms, R&W; Meredith Estep, R&W; Jack Patterson, formerly of NIDR; Lillian Graham, ORS; and Theresa Raymer, NHLBI. Graham and Raymer picked the winning tickets, among them keyworker winner Debbie Dixon of NCI, who won two USAir tickets; Bessie Hoskins from Executive Plaza also won the same prize. Vernary Taylor, NIDCD, won the TV/VCR combo. Thanks to all NIH'ers who contributed to the annual charity event!