

Linda S. Birnbaum

Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
and National Toxicology Program

On January 18, 2009, noted toxicologist Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S., began her tenure as the Institute's fifth director in its 43-year history. Birnbaum is the first toxicologist to head the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP).

As director, Dr. Birnbaum will oversee a \$730 million budget that funds multidisciplinary biomedical research programs, prevention, and intervention efforts that encompass training, education, technology transfer and community outreach. The Institute currently supports more than 1,240 research grants.

Prior to her appointment as NIEHS Director, Dr. Birnbaum was a senior advisor at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she has served for 16 years as director of the Experimental Toxicology Division.

A native of New Jersey, Dr. Birnbaum earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Illinois, Urbana. She is a board certified toxicologist and has served as a federal scientist for nearly 29 years — the first ten of those at NIEHS — first as a senior staff fellow at the NTP, then as a principal investigator and research microbiologist, and finally as a group leader for the Institute's Chemical Disposition Group.

Dr. Birnbaum has received numerous awards, including the Women in Toxicology Elsevier Mentoring Award, the Society of Toxicology Public Communications Award, EPA's Health Science Achievement Award and Diversity Leadership Award, and 12 Science and Technology Achievement Awards, which reflect the recommendations of EPA's external Science Advisory Board, for specific publications.

The author of more than 700 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, abstracts and reports, Dr. Birnbaum's research focuses on the pharmacokinetic behavior of environmental chemicals; mechanisms of actions of toxicants, including endocrine disruption; and linking of real-world exposures to effects. She is also an adjunct professor in the School of Public Health, the Toxicology Curriculum, and the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, as well as in the Integrated Toxicology Program at Duke University.

Dr. Birnbaum's appointment has been well received within the scientific community, where she is a highly regarded member. She was president-elect of the International Union of Toxicology, the umbrella organization for toxicology societies in more than 50 countries; former president of the Society of Toxicology, the largest professional organization of toxicologists in the world; former chair of the Division of Toxicology at the American Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics; and former vice president of the American Aging Association.



Welcoming Ceremony

for

LINDA S. BIRNBAUM

Director, NIEHS and NTP

March 13, 2009 • 10:00 a.m.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
David P. Rall Building • Rodbell Auditorium
111 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health



Order of Service

WELCOME

George Lucier, Ph.D.

Former Associate Director, National Toxicology Program

REMARKS AND FORMAL SWEARING-IN

Raynard Kington, M.D.

Acting Director, National Institutes of Health

REMARKS

Linda Birnbaum, Ph.D.

Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
and National Toxicology Program

SALUTATIONS FROM CAPITOL HILL

Congressman David Price, 4th District

Congressman Bob Etheridge, 2nd District

CLOSING REMARKS

George Lucier, Ph.D.

Former Associate Director, National Toxicology Program

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lisa Birnbaum

RECEPTION

Main Lobby

Afternoon of Science

1:00 P.M.

*From Neonate to Nanosensor A 2010 Study Odyssey:
The Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study (CCAAPS)*

Grace LeMasters, Ph.D.

University of Cincinnati

Member, National Advisory Environmental Health Sciences Council

2:00 P.M.

Coherent RNA Dynamics in Mammalian Cells

Jack Keene, Ph.D.

Duke University

Chair, Division of Intramural Research Board of Scientific Counselors

3:00 P.M.

Skin: Barrier or Portal for Entry of Environmental Contaminants?

Jim Riviere, D.V.M., Ph.D.

North Carolina State University

Member, National Toxicology Program Board of Scientific Counselors