

The NIH Record

Dr. Vida Beaven Named NIH Assistant Director

Dr. Vida H. Beaven recently has been named NIH Assistant Director for Program Coordination by NIH Director, Dr. James B. Wyngaarden.



Dr. Beaven

In her new position, Dr. Beaven will provide staff advice on current and future agency policy implications of NIH-wide programs. She will review and coordinate major programmatic issues and studies impacting on the policies, direction, organization and functions of the NIH. In this role, Dr. Beaven serves as liaison with staff of the Office of the Director and Institutes, as well as directs the work of the Office of the NIH Executive Secretariat.

Prior to this appointment, she served as special assistant to NIH Deputy Director, Dr. Thomas E. Malone. Among her many responsibilities, she undertook special projects assigned by Dr. Malone and analyzed research, scientific issues, and problems of concern to the Office of the Director, NIH. She also oversaw the work of the NIH Committee Management Office.

After receiving bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana University, Dr. Beaven studied at the University of London for a year. She joined NIH in 1964 as a predoctoral fellow in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. She received her Ph.D. degree in 1968, after which she held a 3-year staff fellowship with NHLBI, conducting research in biochemical pharmacology.

Dr. Beaven served as a grants associate with the Division of Research Grants, and subse-

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NIAID Funds \$100 Million for 14 Centers To Evaluate Drugs in Treatment of AIDS

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has awarded contracts to 14 medical centers to test experimental drugs in persons with AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

The total of \$100 million will go to the 14 centers over the next 5 years, said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, NIAID Director, at a press conference held June 30 in Washington, D.C.

Annual funding for each unit ranges from approximately \$700,000 to \$2 million. Each unit will treat 50 to 150 patients during the initial phases of drug trials.

Dr. Fauci said that as many as 1,000 patients could be enrolled in the AIDS treatment evaluation units within the next 6 months. The patients will receive drugs that have potential for the treatment of AIDS and the various opportunistic infections and cancers that develop in AIDS patients.

AIDS has been diagnosed in more than 22,000 Americans since the first case was reported in 1981. There is no proven, effective treatment for the ailment at present.

AIDS treatment research has been conducted by a number of medical centers in the United States, including NIAID and other Institutes at NIH.

The network formed by the new treatment evaluation units will provide numerous research advantages, according to Dr. Fauci.

"We have enlisted a group of outstanding clinical investigators," Dr. Fauci said, "whose combined scientific expertise can be brought to bear on specific problems. We will be able to facilitate collaborative studies between institutions, and rapidly compare research findings by means of a computerized data base system."

The treatment evaluation units will study therapeutic agents that have shown promise in the laboratory or in preliminary clinical studies. These drugs include those with activity against the AIDS virus as well as those with potential effectiveness against the opportunistic infections and cancers associated with AIDS.

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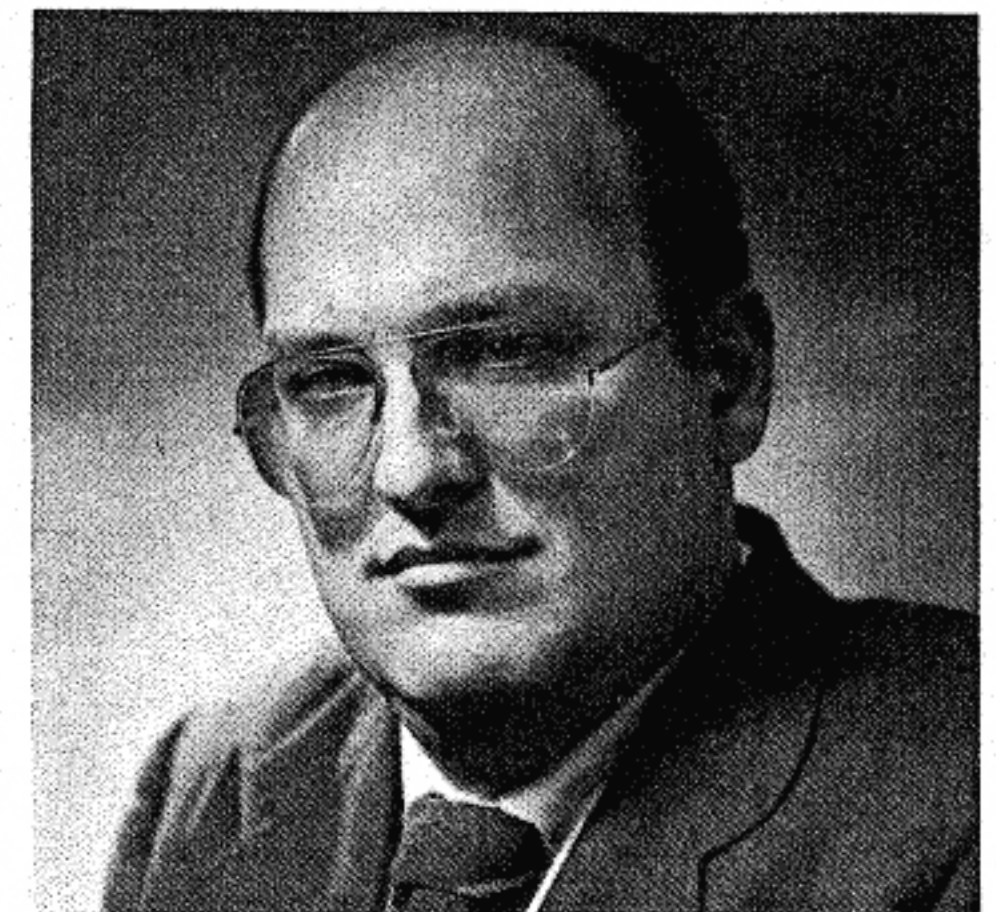
NICHD's Dr. David B. Gray Named Director Of National Institute of Handicapped Research

Dr. David B. Gray has left NIH to become Director of the National Institute of Handicapped Research (NIHR), a component of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the U.S. Department of Education.

An expert on learning disabilities, Dr. Gray was nominated for the position by President Reagan and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. He has been a health scientist administrator in the Human Learning and Behavior Branch of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

NIHR supports grants, contracts and cooperative agreements to states, public and private agencies and other organizations to plan and conduct research, demonstrations or related activities pertinent to the rehabilitation of handicapped individuals. The institute's budget for fiscal year 1985 was \$39 million.

Dr. Gray has had extensive experience in research and service programs related to disabled individuals. He was director of research and development at Rochester State Hospital and director of the Institute Programs for the Mentally Retarded of the Social Adaptation Center in Rochester, Minn. He also worked as supervisor of behavior modification at the Mental Retardation Institute at New York Medical College in Vahalla, N.Y.



Dr. Gray

In 1966 Dr. Gray received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lawrence College in Appleton, Wis. He then went on to earn a master's degree in that subject in 1970 from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, and his Ph.D. in psychology, with a minor in genetics, in 1974 from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

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Belgian Prince and Princess Visit



A number of Belgian scientists now working at NIH are shown with Prince Albert and Princess Paola of Belgium and Dr. James B. Wyngaarden, NIH Director at a June 11 coffee in the conference room of Stone House for Belgian scientists at NIH. Shown (l to r) are: Dr. Thierry Velu, Dr. Anne Marie Labague, Dr. Jean Pierre Kinet; Belgian Ambassador Herman Debennin, Mrs. Debennin; Prince Albert, Princess Paola, Dr. Wyngaarden, Dr. Jean Joris, Dr. Jacques Gielen, Dr. Muriel Moser and Dr. Jan Balzarini.

DR. BEAVEN

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quently was appointed special assistant to the associate director of extramural programs in the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.

In 1973 Dr. Beaven was appointed biomedical health programs advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health, DHHS, and was named assistant to the executive secretary of the HEW Secretary's Review Panel on New Drug Regulation in March 1975.

Dr. Beaven returned to NIH as special assistant to the NHLBI Director in 1976 and joined Dr. Malone's staff in 1977. During 1980 she served as Acting Director, FIC.

She received the PHS Special Recognition Award in 1982 and the NIH Director's Award in 1985. □

Fun-for-One Club for Singles

R&W will sponsor a social mixer on July 30 at 5 p.m. in the FAES House (corner of Old Georgetown and Cedar Lane) to introduce its newest club, the Fun-For-One Club. The Fun-For-One Club, designed to help employees meet new people and meet new friends, will specialize in social activities geared toward single adults. Attend the social mixer on July 30 to learn more about the Fun-For-One Club and get to know your fellow employees here at NIH. □

AIDS CENTERS

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Immunomodulators, or agents designed to enhance the immune system, may be tested alone or in combination with other drugs or therapies.

Agents likely to be tested in the first year of the study include ribavirin, azidothymidine (AZT), interferon alpha, foscarnet, HPA-23 and possibly dideoxycytidine. With the exception of dideoxycytidine, which is still undergoing studies in animals, all of these drugs have been studied previously in humans.

Initial studies will focus on determining safe dosages and establishing therapeutic value that is sufficient to warrant further trials. Relative risks and potential benefits to each individual will be weighed carefully and fully explained before the patient enters treatment, Dr. Fauci said.

The drugs will be tested for safety and effectiveness in persons with fully developed AIDS, and those with AIDS related complex (ARC). Drugs shown to be safe and effective can be tested eventually in persons with antibody to the virus but without symptoms. Outpatients as well as inpatients will participate in the studies.

The complexity of the disease complicates the search for effective treatment strategies. Drugs are needed to inhibit growth of the AIDS virus, which attacks the body's immune system. Also needed are ways to restore and revitalize the weakened immune system.

Treatment is also needed to fight the host of opportunistic infections and malignancies to which AIDS patients are vulnerable. Patients with AIDS fall prey to *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia and other opportunistic infections such as candidiasis, and severe herpes simplex, cytomegalovirus and toxoplasma infections. They also develop Kaposi's sarcoma and B cell lymphomas, which are forms of cancer.

"Everyone in the scientific community who works in AIDS research shares the sense of urgency that is felt throughout the country, and

now the world, as we face a rapidly growing public health problem, and as we see the toll AIDS is taking in the lives of men, women and children," Dr. Fauci said. "We believe that this new effort should greatly enhance our research capabilities and bring us closer to the answers we seek."

Institutions which will receive contracts for the treatment evaluation units and the principal investigators involved in the studies follow:

AIDS Treatment Evaluation Units	
Institutions	Principal Investigators
Harvard University	Martin S. Hirsch, M.D. Clyde S. Crumpacker, M.D. Jerome E. Groopman, M.D.
Johns Hopkins University	John G. Bartlett, M.D. Paul S. Lietman, M.D. B. Frank Polk, M.D.
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center	Donald Armstrong, M.D. Michael Fanucci, M.D. Susan Krown, M.D. Jonathan Gold, M.D.
New York University	Fred T. Valentine, M.D. Michael Green, M.D.
Stanford University	Thomas C. Merigan, M.D.
University of California, Los Angeles	Michael S. Gottlieb, M.D. Ronald Mitsuyasu, M.D. Yvonne Bryson, M.D.
University of California, San Diego	Stephen A. Spector, M.D. Douglas D. Richman, M.D.
University of California, San Francisco	John Mills, M.D. Paul Volberding, M.D.
University of Miami	Margaret Fischl, M.D. Gordon Dickinson, M.D. Gwendolyn Scott, M.D. Stephen Richman, M.D. Wade Parks, M.D.
University of Pittsburgh	Monte Ho, M.D. Charles Rinaldo, M.D.
University of Rochester	George Pazin, M.D. Raphael Dolin, M.D. Richard C. Reichman, M.D. Donald Blair, M.D.
University of Southern California	Michael Apicella, M.D. John M. Leedom, M.D. Alexandra M. Levine, M.D.
University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute	Peter W. A. Mansell, M.D. Adan A. Rios, M.D.
University of Washington	Lawrence Corey, M.D. □

CORRECTION

Dr. Gunhild Kestermann's phone number for prospective experienced mother volunteers to call is (301) 496-6832, not 8632 as was given in the July 1 Record. □

He who laughs, lasts.—Anonymous

DR. GRAY

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Last year Dr. Gray received the Public Health Service "Outstanding Handicapped Employee Award" for "inspiring physically disabled and able-bodied individuals alike to achieve their utmost potential and to serve their communities unselfishly."

Recently Dr. Gray co-edited *Biobehavioral Measures of Dyslexia* with Dr. James F. Kavanagh, associate director of NICHD's Center for Research for Mothers and Children. □