

**DIRECTOR'S
STATUS REPORT
TO COUNCIL**

September 1999

National Institute on Aging

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DIRECTOR'S STATUS REPORT

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

I. Significant Legislative/Regulatory Action

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Access to Research Data/Revision of OMB Circular A-110--update

On August 11, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a new notice, "Request for Comments on Clarifying Changes to Proposed Revision on Public Access to Research Data," concerning pending revision to Circular A-110. The revision seeks to implement a federal statute making data generated under federally funded grants available to the public through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Public comments on this new notice were due by September 10. This is the second opportunity for the research community to respond to the proposed changes; OMB reports that it received over 9,000 comments to its first notice of proposed revision which were due by April 5.

In the August 11 notice, OMB asked for comments on certain specific issues, including the definition of the terms "data" and "publication" which remain undefined by the regulation, the scope of the regulation which at present relates to "published research findings produced under an award that were used by the Federal Government in developing policy or rules," the cost reimbursement implications for institutions, and the proposal that research institutions be permitted to redact data consistent with FOIA exemptions, with proper oversight by the funding agency. NIH continues to analyze the impact of the proposed OMB regulation on the research community and encouraged scientists to send responses by the September 10 deadline.

OMB intends to implement the revisions, in compliance with the Shelby statute, by September 30, 1999. The revised notice can be accessed on the OMB home page at: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=1999_register&docid=99-20683-filed.

S. 1204, Healthy Seniors Promotion Act of 1999

On June 10, 1999 Senator Bob Graham (D-FL) introduced the Healthy Seniors Promotion Act of 1999, a bill to "promote general and applied research for health promotion and disease prevention among the elderly" and to expand Medicare coverage for certain preventative benefits. The bill would establish within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) a "Healthy Seniors Working Group," with membership to include the Director of NIA. The working group would establish policies and criteria for the Secretary of HHS to follow in awarding, evaluating, and monitoring grants authorized by this bill. Further, the Secretary would be required to conduct an annual evaluation of the grants made under this Act, and report to the Congress, no later than December 31, 2002. Another section of the bill would require the NIA Director to conduct one or more studies focusing on ways to improve the quality of life for the elderly, develop better ways to prevent or delay the onset of age-related functional decline and disease and disability among the elderly, and develop new means of assessing the long-term cost-effectiveness of health promotion and disease prevention efforts among the elderly. By

January 1, 2005, the NIA Director would be required to submit a report to the Secretary regarding each study conducted, including a "detailed statement" of the research findings and conclusions. The bill authorizes \$100 million for fiscal years 2000 through 2005 for NIA to carry out this provision of the bill. S. 1204 was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Currently, the bill has no cosponsors.

II. Congressional Hearings and Briefings

Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) Visit to the NIA Gerontology Research Center

On June 4, 1999, Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) visited the NIA Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore, Maryland. The purpose of her visit was to tour the labs and conduct an on-site press conference. At the press conference, Senator Mikulski announced her support for doubling the NIA budget and for President Clinton's proposed Family Caregiver Support program.

Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease Reception

On June 8, NIA staff members, including Dr. Marcelle Morrison-Bogorad, NIA Associate Director for the Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging program, attended a reception on Capitol Hill to celebrate the announcement of the formation of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. Numerous members of Congress, including Congressman Ed Markey (D-MA) and Congressman Christopher Smith (R-NJ) who co-chair the task force, attended the reception, which was sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association.

Senate Special Aging Committee Forum on Costs of Loss of Independence

On June 10, 1999, Dr. Terrie Wetle, NIA Deputy Director, and Dr. Marcelle Morrison-Bogorad testified at a forum sponsored by the Senate Special Committee on Aging. At the forum, the Alliance for Aging Research released a report on the economic and social costs of lost independence and the four conditions that are common causes of disability that can lead to nursing home admission or dependent care in the home: vision loss, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease, and incontinence. Dr. Wetle provided an overview of aging research efforts to reduce loss of independence, while Dr. Morrison-Bogorad discussed major advances in Alzheimer's disease and future research directions.

Briefing for Senate Special Committee on Aging on Exercise Research

At the request of Ms. Rebecca Jones, majority staff, Senate Special Committee on Aging, Dr. Terrie Wetle briefed Ms. Jones and Ms. Christie DeTilman, minority staff, on significant exercise research advances and activities. The staff requested the briefing to assist them in preparing for a hearing that the committee is planning to hold on physical fitness and seniors. Dr. Wetle was invited to testify at the hearing on September 14.

Briefing for Congressman Christopher Smith (R-NJ)

On Monday, July 26, Dr. Richard Hodes and Dr. Terrie Wetle briefed Congressman Christopher Smith (R-NJ) on Alzheimer's disease. The Congressman requested the briefing to prepare him for his role as co-chair of the recently formed Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. Mr. Smith, who serves on the House International Relations and Veterans Affairs Committees, expressed an interest in inter-agency collaborations as they relate to AD services and research.

Dr. Wetle conducted a similar briefing for a member of Mr. Smith's staff who visited the NIA campus on August 4, 1999.

STAFF CHANGES

Dr. Ronald Abeles Transferred to Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, Office of the Director, NIH

Since September 1998, Dr. Ronald Abeles, formerly Associate Director of NIA's Behavioral and Social Research Program, has been on a temporary assignment as a Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), Office of the Director, NIH. His transfer from NIA to OBSSR became permanent on August 28, 1999.

The Biology of Aging Program is very pleased to announce that **Barbara Mittleman, M.D.**, has joined as administrator of the basic immunology program. Dr. Mittleman received her M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh, and served residencies in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology. She comes to NIA following nine years in the intramural program of NIAMS, NCI, and NIMH, most recently as chief of the Neuroimmunology Unit in NIMH. At NIAMS, she gained extramural grants administration experience. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology.

Grant Izmirlan, Ph.D., Senior Staff Fellow in the Biometry Office of the Epidemiology, Demography, and Biometry (EDB) Program was reassigned in August 1999 to a permanent position with the National Cancer Institute, Division of Cancer Prevention, Biometry Research Group. Since joining the EDB Program in August 1996, Dr. Izmirlan has made substantial contributions to the EDB Program through his extensive research and consultations on statistical methods and statistical computing. He published and presented nationally and internationally results of methods research and data from the Honolulu-Asia Aging Study (HAAS). He provided new sets of sampling weights for use in the analysis of risk factor data in the HAAS for both incident dementia and for the subsample of HAAS participants included in the magnetic resonance imaging substudy. Dr. Izmirlan developed improved statistical methods for computing estimates of active life expectancy from EPESE longitudinal data, and he provided the means for correcting HAAS incidence and prevalence estimates for missed cases. He also contributed toward the development of sample size estimates for the proposed new AGES Study in Iceland.

New Chief of BSR's Demography & Population Epidemiology Branch. Rose Maria Li, M.B.A., Ph.D. has returned to NIA as Chief of the Demography and Population Epidemiology (DPE) Branch in BSR. Dr. Li has been a Program Officer with the Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, Center for Population Research, NICHD since July 1994. Prior to her appointment at NICHD, she served two years as a Program Officer in the DPE branch. Dr. Li received her Masters in Business Administration from the University of Chicago in 1986 and earned her doctorate in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University in 1992, with a concentration in Population Policy. As an NIA postdoctoral fellow in demography at the University of Michigan (1990-1992), she participated in the Comparative Study of the Elderly in Asia project, focusing her research on issues of social welfare, including property transfers and life insurance for old age security. At NICHD, Dr. Li was responsible for the scientific

management of a range of population research applications, grants, and contracts, including those related to immigration and migration, low birth weight and infant mortality, adolescent and adult mortality, ethnic and socioeconomic differences in health, applied/business demography, and Chinese demography. While at NICHD, she developed a national initiative on immigration that included the coordination of several Departments and Agencies--that was featured in the Director's Lecture that was televised at the February Council.

INSTITUTE-SPONSORED MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

I. Scientific Meetings Held Since Last Council

Informal Briefings by Staff of the U.S. Treasury Department and the President's Council of Economic Advisors

Drs. Mark McClellan and Robert Schoeni, NIA grantees funded by the Behavioral and Social Research Program, who took leave from their respective NIA grants to work in the U.S. Treasury Department and the President's Council of Economic Advisors, briefed NIA and NIH staff on April 29 and June 16, respectively. They discussed current policy debates among the President's financial and economic advisors relating to issues of interest to NIA and discussed how research products from NIA-funded research have practical value in policy debates. At the time of the briefings, Dr. Mark McClellan was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy at the Treasury, working for the Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, Dr. Lawrence Summers, and Dr. Robert Schoeni was a senior economist at the Council of Economic Advisors to the President. Both have been heavily involved in the Social Security and Medicare reform debates as well as long term care issues and other aspects affecting the elderly and social and behavioral science. Both have made considerable use of NIA funded research during their year in the Administration. (Contact: Dr. Richard Suzman, BSR, 301-496-3131).

Workshop on Phytoestrogens and Healthy Aging: Gaps in Knowledge

A Workshop on Phytoestrogens and Healthy Aging: Gaps in Knowledge, co-sponsored by the Biology of Aging Program, the Office of Dietary Supplements, and the Office for Research on Women's Health, was held June 2-4, 1999, in Tempe, AZ. This workshop reviewed current phytoestrogen (as a food or dietary supplement) research related to the cardiovascular and skeletal systems, various organ tumor sites such as breast, prostate, colon and endometrium, as well as regulatory overview issues and consumer behaviors. It was clear from the presentations and subsequent discussions that further research is needed in this important area since phytoestrogens have the potential to provide relief from postmenopausal health complaints and possibly promote prostate health in older men. Currently unknown, however, are the active components and proper dosing amounts and schedules. Sufficiently extensive human studies with unambiguous results and a better understanding of underlying molecular and cellular mechanisms are also needed. The organizing committee is preparing a summary of the workshop for publication. (Contact: Dr. Frank Bellino, BAP, 301-496-6402).

Symposium on Insulin Signaling Pathways: Implications for Aging and Longevity

A symposium on Insulin Signaling Pathways: Implications for Aging and Longevity was held

June 13, 1999, during the 1999 Endocrine Society Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. This symposium was co-sponsored by the Biology of Aging Program, the Endocrinology of Aging Interest Group, and the Glenn Foundation/AFAR. Speakers and topics were: Nuno Oliveira (from Cynthia Kenyon's laboratory), UCSF, "Insulin/IGF-1 Homolog Controls the Aging Process in *C. elegans*;" Michel Bernier, GRC, NIA, "Insulin Receptor Antiapoptotic Function;" Alan Shuldiner, Univ. of MD, "Insulin Resistance: A Consequence or Cause of Aging?" (Contact: Dr. Frank Bellino, BAP, 301-496-6402)

Antioxidants: Strategies for Interventions in Aging and Age-Related Diseases Workshop

The Antioxidants: Strategies for Interventions in Aging and Age-Related Diseases Workshop, co-sponsored by the Biology of Aging Program and the Office of Dietary Supplements, was held July 14-16, 1999. The purpose of this workshop was to develop basic research strategies for investigating the relationship between antioxidants, aging, and disease. Antioxidants have become very popular as dietary supplements. Many researchers have suggested that antioxidants may have a beneficial effect by slowing down or preventing the degradative processes that occur during aging. The research is just beginning to link antioxidants with the aging process and has demonstrated that organisms with higher levels of antioxidants have a longer life span. These results are intriguing and need to be investigated further. To this end, speakers and participants at the workshop explored various aspects of antioxidant biochemistry, physiology and therapeutic potential in aging and disease. The goal of the workshop was to discuss the current status, identify existing gaps in knowledge and suggest areas for new research initiatives to help elucidate antioxidants' effects during aging and in disease processes associated with age. Proceedings from the workshop will be published in the journal *Antioxidants and Redox Signaling*. (Contact: Dr. Pamela Starke-Reed, BAP, 301-496-6402)

NIA/RAND Mini-Med School for Demographers and Economists and Summer Institute

The second NIA/RAND-Andrus/AARP Mini-Med School for Demographers and Economists (co-sponsored also by NIH/OBSSR) was held June 23-24, 1999 in Santa Monica, CA. The Mini-Med School was designed to educate demographers and economists who do research on aging issues, disease prevention and progression. Subject areas covered this year-included diabetes, arthritis and musculoskeletal disease, cancer, biomedical biomarkers of aging, and vision.

Immediately following the Mini-Med School, the annual NIA/RAND Summer Institute on the Demography, Economics, and Epidemiology of Aging was held. Leading researchers gave "master lectures" to pre- and post-doctoral students and junior faculty members on the measurement of health, dementia, intergenerational transfers, health and socioeconomic status, and social security reform. Speakers included Christopher Murray, WHO and Harvard School of Public Health; Duncan Thomas, RAND and UCLA; Tiffany Chow, UCLA; Jill Shapira, UCLA; Robert Pollak, Washington University; Elizabeth Frankenberg, RAND; Paula Fomby, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Michael Wadsworth, University College London; Michael Hurd, RAND, Greg Drevenstedt, University of Pennsylvania; Jeffrey Liebman, Harvard University; Shripad Tuljapurkar, Mountain View Research; and Robert Bourbeau, University of Montreal. (Contact: Dr. Rose Maria Li, BSR, 301-496-3138)

Sleep and Host Defense Mechanisms

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) along with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) sponsored a workshop on "Sleep and Host Defense Mechanisms" on August 24 to 26 in Bethesda, Maryland. The objective of this workshop was to review and assess the current state of knowledge on the molecular and genetic basis of sleep and circadian immune interactions, and the adaptive value of sleep in preventing infection and aiding recovery. (Contact: Dr. Andrew Monjan, NNA, 301-496-9350).

Economics and Psychology

On August 25, 1999, BSR hosted a workshop, chaired by Dr. David Laibson of Harvard University, to discuss a research agenda at the intersection of psychology and economics. Following Dr. Richard Thaler's (University of Chicago) overview presentation of behavioral economics, the workshop participants spent the day in a series of roundtable discussions. Dr. Daniel Kahneman (Princeton University) led the discussion of whether or not we can measure the welfare outcomes of economic policies; Dr. Fredda Blanchard-Fields (Georgia Institute of Technology) led the discussion of decision-making, cognition and aging. Dr. Colin Camerer (California Institute of Technology) led the discussion of learning, bounded rationality, and experimental methods. Dr. George Lowenstein (Carnegie-Mellon University) led the discussion on planning and mis-planning for the future. Dr. Laibson led the discussion on saving over the life cycle. Dr. Thaler led the discussion on investing over the life cycle. Finally, Dr. Meltzer (University of Chicago) led the discussion on research opportunities at the interface of psychology, medicine and economics. (Contacts: Dr. Rose Maria Li, BSR, 301-496-3138 and Dr. Jared Jobe, BSR, 301-496-3137).

Identifying Diabetes in Older Adults--Implications of Changes in Diagnosis and Classification Criteria on Epidemiologic Research and Clinical Practice

The effect of hyperglycemia in old age has been controversial, and until recently, relatively few data were available to evaluate the importance of elevated glucose in older adults in relation to micro- and macrovascular endpoints and mortality. New guidelines for the diagnosis and classification of diabetes mellitus have brought the issue of hyperglycemia in older adults to the forefront. Under the new criteria, a group of individuals will exist, many of whom are at older ages, who do not meet the fasting glucose criterion for diabetes mellitus, yet who are hyperglycemic.

An NIA-sponsored meeting was held on September 8, 1999 with several goals: (1) to facilitate the exchange of epidemiologic data highlighting the impact of recent changes in the diagnosis and classification criteria on prevalence and incidence of diabetes mellitus in ethnically diverse cohorts of older adults; (2) to investigate in older adults the association between endpoints such as micro- and macrovascular complications and mortality in relation to the old and new diagnosis and classification criteria; (3) to discuss the clinical implications of these data for older adults and to hypothesize how, if at all, the new criteria will influence clinical practice; and (4) to discuss new areas of future investigation in the epidemiology of diabetes in older adults with an emphasis on the role of HbA_{1c} and subclinical disease. (Contact: Dr. Helaine Resnick, EDB, 301-496-1178)

Facility for Testing Biological Interventions to Promote Healthy Aging

The Biology of Aging Program and the Intramural Research Program co-sponsored a workshop on "Facility for Testing Biological Interventions to Promote Healthy Aging," held near San Antonio, TX on September 14-16, 1999. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss whether it is both scientifically sound and economically feasible to fund such an activity. (Contacts: Dr. Huber Warner, BAP, 301-496-6402, and Dr. Donald Ingram, IRP, 410-558-8180)

Extracellular Matrix and Aging Workshop The Biology of Aging Program held an exploratory workshop to review the state of the field and stimulate basic research on extracellular matrix and aging on September 21-22, 1999. This workshop was designed to (1) summarize current knowledge on the status of the changes which occur in the extracellular matrix in various organ systems with advancing age and (2) to identify research opportunities in the area of aging biology. (Contact: Dr. David Finkelstein, BAP, 301-496-6402)

II. Planned Meetings, Workshops, Conferences

Imaging and Biological Markers for Diagnosis and Progression of Alzheimer's Disease

The National Institute on Aging, specifically, the Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging program, is organizing a workshop on Imaging and Biological Markers for Diagnosis and Progression of Alzheimer's Disease. The workshop will be held on September 27 and 28, 1999 at the Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland. The workshop will focus on the potential usefulness of various neuroimaging modalities (e.g., MRI, MRS, fMRI, PET, SPECT) and biological markers (e.g., beta-amyloid, tau, inflammatory, oxidative) in the initial diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and in assessing disease progression and response to treatments. (Contact: Dr. Neil S. Buckholtz, 301-496-9350)

Taking the Next Step: Workshop for Minority and Emerging Scientists and Students Seeking Careers in Aging Research

The National Institute on Aging is announcing the 1999 Taking the Next Step: Technical Assistance Workshop for post doctoral and pre-doctoral students, and other individuals with recent Ph.D., M.D., or related doctoral degrees who are members of groups under-represented in aging research. Workshop faculty will provide information and technical assistance on applying for funding from NIA. Depending on career stage, participants will make brief research presentations in workshops and receive feedback from peers and NIA staff. The workshop will be held on November 18 and 19 in San Francisco, California, immediately prior to the Gerontological Society of America's 52nd Annual Scientific Meeting. Participation is by competitive application--submission date was August 16, 1999. The applicant may be new to the NIH application process or poised to begin an independent program of research. Investigators who demonstrate a commitment to research careers related to minority aging issues are also encouraged to apply.

(Contact: Dr. Taylor Harden, OD, 301-496-0765)

Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

The National Institute on Aging, specifically, The Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging program, is organizing a workshop on the Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease and Related

Dementias in conjunction with the Ronald and Nancy Reagan Institute of the Alzheimer's Association. The workshop will be held on December 13-14, 1999 on the NIH campus, in conference room E1/E2 of the Natcher Building (#45) on Center Drive in Bethesda, Maryland. Questions related to a genetics-based analysis of Alzheimer's disease and other neurological conditions associated with aging will be explored. Researchers involved in genetic analysis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, with input from experts in the genetics of other complex human diseases, will provide an overview of the genetics of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and assess recent progress in this field. (Contact: Dr. D. Stephen Snyder, 301-496-9350)

Behavioral Medicine

BSR, with input from NNA, is planning a small meeting to exchange information between behavioral medicine researchers and principals of major population surveys supported by BSR. Our goal is to expose demographers to physiological measurements that might be worthwhile to add to ongoing social science data collection activities. This would further research on socio-economic status and health by allowing deeper exploration of underlying mechanisms to explain health disparities. (Contact: Dr. Rose Maria Li, BSR, 301-496-3138).

Inclusion of Language Minority Populations in National Studies

Although the proportion of minority elderly with language issues is expected to increase rapidly in the United States, little is known about the extent of the problem in national surveys. BSR is collaborating with NICHD and ORMH to support an FY 2000 workshop on this topic, entitled "Inclusion of Language Minority Populations in National Studies." As background to this workshop, BSR is reviewing how major surveys (e.g., Census, CPS, PSID, NLSY, NHIS, NHANES, Add Health, HRS, ECLS-B, NLTC, NIS, SIPP) deal with multiple languages, including the decision criteria used to translate into additional languages, types of incentives used to promote participation, and potential biases from the use of proxies. (Contact: Dr. Rose Maria Li, BSR, 301-496-3138)

III. Public Information Activities

The Office of Communications and Public Liaison (OCPL) has been actively engaged in the dissemination of documents through its information center. Since the last NACA meeting, over 309,141 publications have been distributed. The Institute's popular handbook *Exercise: A Guide From the National Institute on Aging* (now in its 4th reprinting) was promoted by the AARP magazine *Modern Maturity*.

Since the last NACA meeting, OCPL revised and printed the Age Page -- *Smoking: It's Never Too Late To Stop*.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honored the National Institute on Aging public service announcements *The Package* and *John Glenn/Wink* at the 1998 Community Service and Public Service Announcements (PSAs) Emmy Presentation held in New York City on August 25, 1999.

The Package also was awarded a Golden Eagle Award by CINE, a nonprofit organization that recognizes content and production excellence in television PSAs. In addition, *The Package* received a Telly Award, a national award recognizing outstanding non-network and cable television commercials. The Washington Film and Video Council honored Roger Vilsack, the producer of the PSAs with three Peer Awards: best director and best cinematography awards for *The Package* and best screenwriting award for *John Glenn/Wink*. These PSAs are also under consideration for awards by the National Association of Government Communicators Gold Screen Awards and the Aesculapius Award for communicating health information to the public. (Contact: Ms. Jane E. Shure, OCPL, 301-496-1752)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Awards to NIA Grantees

NIA grantees have been selected as recipients of several awards. Dr. Junko Oshima of the University of Washington will receive the Nathan Shock New Investigator Award, and Dr. Phyllis Wise of the University of Kentucky will receive the Kleemeier Award at the GSA meeting in San Francisco in November, 1999. Dr. Stavros Manolagas of the University of Arkansas Medical School is the 1999 recipient of the AlliedSignal Award for Research on Aging. Dr. Judith Campisi of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is the recipient of the 1999 GSA Glenn Foundation for Research in the Biology of Aging Award to be awarded at the GSA meeting in San Francisco.

1999 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers

Dr. Weidong Wang, a Tenure-Track Investigator in the Laboratory of Genetics at NIA's Gerontology Research Center, was nominated by Dr. Varmus as one of 12 NIH-supported investigators who will receive the 1999 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. Dr. Wang's research has focused on the role of demethylase.

Symposium on Aging, Function, and Social Environment

The Division on Adult Development and Aging of the American Psychological Association (APA) held a symposium in honor of Ronald P. Abeles on August 22, 1999 at the annual meeting of the APA in Boston. Dr. Denise Park, University of Michigan, convened the symposium to recognize Dr. Abeles' programmatic and scientific contributions to the psychology of aging and to the Division over the past 20 years. The symposium on *Aging, Function, and Social Environment* featured research supported by NIA's Behavioral and Social Research Program during the period that Dr. Abeles served as the Program's Deputy Associate Director and Associate Director. The participants were: (1 & 2) Carmi Schooler and Leslie Caplan (National Institute of Mental Health): Socio-Environmental Effects and the Psychological Functioning of Older Individuals, (3) Neal Krause (University of Michigan): Social Support: New Directions for Research Late in Life, (4) Margie Lachman (Brandeis University): The Sense of Control and Aging, (5) Fredda Blanchard-Fields (Georgia Institute of Technology): Age Differences in Causal Reasoning: The Influence of Social Schematicity, and (6) Robin Barr (National Institute on Aging): Discussion.

1999 North American Menopause Society/Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals Award

Dr. Sheryl Sherman, Chief of NIA's Endocrinology and Osteoporosis Sections in the Geriatrics Program, has been awarded the 1999 North American Menopause Society/Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals Award for her outstanding efforts in the public service sector that have promoted better understanding of menopause.

Career Service to Health Psychology Award

Miriam F. Kelty, Associate Director for Extramural Affairs, received an award for Career Service to Health Psychology from the American Psychological Association, Division of Health Psychology. Dr. Kelty was honored for her contributions to the field of health psychology and behavioral medicine research and for her seminal role in and service to the Division. She is only the second person to receive this award in the 21-year history of the Division.

Sharing of Research Tools

NIH has issued guidelines for university officials who have responsibility for licenses and agreements for sharing research tools. Making research tools developed with NIH funding widely available is advocated.

The guidelines urge that (1) universities make tools available to scientists in academic institutions and in industry provided the tools are not being used for direct commercial purposes; (2) exclusive licenses should be avoided, if possible; (3) patents by universities should generally be avoided. The guidelines advocate making tools developed with public funds widely available. See the guidelines at <http://www.nih.gov/od/ott>.

NIA Joins CIDR

Effective October 1, 1999 the National Institute on Aging (NIA) will become a member of the Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR). CIDR was established in 1996 as a joint effort by eight NIH Institutes. CIDR is a centralized facility administered by NHGRI through a contract with Johns Hopkins University. It was created to provide genotyping, DNA banking, and statistical genetics services for investigators seeking to identify genes that contribute to human disease. NIA is the ninth Institute to join the CIDR consortium. NIA's participation enables investigators with research projects supported by NIA grants or extramural funds to apply for free CIDR services as described below.

CIDR accepts requests for its services from all interested investigators from NIH-funded institutions, other government and non-profit institutions, and for-profit organizations. A chartered CIDR Access Committee reviews applications through a competitive peer review process.

CIDR genotyping charges are based on source of support for eligible projects. Currently, there is no charge for genotyping for research projects supported by grants or intramural funds from any of the participating NIH Institutes. A charge of \$1.00 per DNA sample applies to research projects supported by grants or intramural funds from NIH Institutes not participating in CIDR or from other government or non-profit institutions. There is a charge of \$3.50 per DNA sample for projects supported by for-profit organizations. There is no additional charge for extraction and banking of DNA samples or collaboration with statistical genetics consultants, providing that a

collaborative arrangement can be worked out with CIDR personnel. Detailed information about CIDR services and the application process can be found at <http://www.cidr.jhmi.edu>.

REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS/PROPOSALS AND PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE

Increase in Salary Support on NIA-Supported Career Awards

July 2, 1999

Contact: Dr. Robin Barr (301) 496-9322

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) announces an increase in allowable salary on certain career awards supported by the Institute. This change is effective for awards to be issued in fiscal year (FY) 2001 and subsequent years. Where applicants have already applied for an award under the former guidelines, if they are to be issued an award, they will be contacted by Institute staff and asked whether they wish to submit a revised budget.

NIH INITIATIVES WITH OPEN RECEIPT DATES

Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities PA-99-104

May 14, 1999

Contact: Dr. Robin Barr (301) 496-9322

To attract and encourage underrepresented minorities into biomedical and behavioral research careers in areas within the missions of all the awarding components of the NIH. Funds are available to provide administrative supplements to existing grants for the support and recruitment of underrepresented minority investigators and students throughout the continuum from high school to the faculty level.

Research Supplements for Individuals With Disabilities PA-99-105

May 14, 1999

Contact: Dr. Robin Barr (301) 496-9322

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to pursue biomedical research careers in areas within the missions of all the awarding components of the NIH through supplemental awards to certain ongoing research grants. Supplemental awards are available to support individuals with disabilities throughout the continuum from high school to the faculty level including established investigators who become disabled.

Supplements to Promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers PA-99-106

May 14, 1999

Contact: Dr. Robin Barr (301) 496-9322

To encourage fully trained individuals to reenter research careers within the missions of all the program areas of NIH. This will provide administrative supplements to existing NIH research grants for the purpose of supporting full-time or part-time research by these individuals to bring their existing research skills and knowledge up to date. It is anticipated that at the completion of the supplement, the reentry scientist will be in a position to apply for a career development (K) award or for a research (R or P) award.

NIA INITIATIVES WITH TARGETED RECEIPT DATES

Diagnostic Imaging and Guided Therapy in Prostate Cancer (Phased Innovation Award) CA-99-015 (Announced with NCI)

August 20, 1999

Contact: Dr. Rosemary Yancik (301) 496-5278

Invites applications on the development, risk assessment, and application of improved imaging methods for the localization, biopsy and image guided biopsy or therapy of prostate cancer. Relevant investigations could include technology development, in vitro laboratory work, pre-clinical animal studies, or early feasibility testing in humans depending on the maturity of the methods proposed, or evaluation of the effects of age-associated changes and co-morbid conditions as they affect imaging diagnosis and treatment techniques.

Application Receipt Date: November 17, 1999

Diagnostic Imaging and Guided Therapy in Prostate Cancer: SBIR/STTR Initiative PAR-99-149 (Announced with NCI)

August 20, 1999

Contact: Dr. Rosemary Yancik (301) 496-5278

Invites Small Business applications on the development, risk assessment, and application of improved imaging methods for the localization, biopsy and image guided biopsy or therapy of prostate cancer. Relevant investigations could include technology development, in vitro laboratory work, pre-clinical animal studies, or early feasibility testing in humans depending on the maturity of the methods proposed, or evaluation of the effects of age-associated changes and co-morbid conditions as they affect imaging diagnosis and treatment techniques.

Application Receipt Date: November 17, 1999

Nathan Shock Centers of Excellence in Basic Biology of Aging AG-99-008

June 17, 1999

Contact: Dr. Huber Warner (301) 496-6402

Invites applications for support of centers, known as Nathan Shock Centers of Excellence in Basic Biology of Aging. These Centers will provide support for: (1) an administrative core to support Center activities; (2) two or more research resource cores such as specialized animal colonies, biometric services, gene expression microarray technology, molecular/cell biology services, or shared equipment; and (3) a research development core. This Center grant will provide funding for both core facilities and associated staff to: enhance the quality of research in the basic biology of aging; facilitate the planning and coordination of research on aging activities; establish potential regional or national technological and/or intellectual resources in gerontology; and provide a suitable environment for junior faculty and other investigators new to aging research to acquire research skills and experience at institutions that have demonstrated commitment to, and expertise in, research on basic biology of aging.

Application Receipt Date: September 22, 1999

Curriculum Development Award in Neuroinformatics Research and Analysis PAR-99-135 (Announced with NIMH, FIC, NHLBI, NIAAA, NIDA, NIDCD, NLM & NSF)

August 6, 1999

Contact: Dr. Bradley Wise (301) 496-9350

The purpose of this program announcement is to encourage and support applications from individuals, with the requisite scientific expertise and leadership, for the development of courses and curricula designed to train interdisciplinary Neuroinformatics scientists at U.S. educational institutions. The field of Neuroinformatics combines neuroscience research with informatics research developed from the computer sciences, mathematics, physics, engineering, or closely related sciences..

Application Receipt Dates: October 20, 1999; July 11, and January 11 in 2000 and beyond

**Neuroinformatics Institutional Mentored Research Scientist Development Award
PAR-99-136**

(Announced with NIMH, FIC, NHLBI, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NLM & NSF)

August 6, 1999

Contact: Dr. Bradley Wise (301) 496-9350

The purpose of this program announcement is to encourage and support the development of applications from U.S. educational institutions for Institutional Mentored Research Scientist Development Awards (K12). These awards are intended to foster the career development of individuals with interdisciplinary expertise bridging the fields of neuroscience and behavioral science research with that in informatics. This announcement seeks to further technological and methodological advancement and the development of novel scientific strategies in neuroinformatics research critical towards elucidating the major principles of basic and clinical neuroscience that underlie normal health, development, and the etiopathophysiology of mental and neurological disease.

Application Receipt Dates: October 20, 1999; July 11, and January 11 in 2000 and beyond

Short Courses in Neuroinformatics PAR-99-137

(Announced with NIMH, FIC, NHLBI, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NLM, NSF & DOE)

August 6, 1999

Contact: Dr. Bradley Wise (301) 496-9350

The purpose of this Program Announcement is to encourage and support short-term Education Grants in Neuroinformatics Research. Support is provided for the development of short courses, seminars, and workshops on interdisciplinary Neuroinformatics education ("Short Courses"). This short-term training will be provided to scientists seeking to combine knowledge about the various subdisciplines of neuroscience and behavioral science research with expertise in informatics research.

Application Receipt Date: October 20, 1999; July 11, and January 11 in 2000 and beyond

The Human Brain Project (Neuroinformatics): Phase I & Phase II PAR-99-138

(Announced with NIMH, FIC, NCI, NHLBI, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NINDS, NLM, NSF, DOE & NASA)

August 6, 1999

Contact: Dr. Bradley Wise (301) 496-9350

This PA replaces PA-96-002, Human Brain Project: Phase I Feasibility Studies, which was published in the NIH Guide, Vol. 24, No. 25, October 6, 1995. The purpose of this initiative is

to encourage and support investigator-initiated, Neuroinformatics research that will lead to new digital and electronic tools for all domains of neuroscience research reflecting normal and diseased states across the life span. The approaches and technologies solicited under this announcement should be generalizable, scalable, extensible, interoperable with use of sophisticated powerful computational resources, and integrated with significant neuroscience research at and across all levels of analysis of brain function.

Application Receipt Dates: October 20, 1999; July 11, and January 11 in 2000 and beyond

NIA INITIATIVES WITH OPEN RECEIPT DATES

Occupational Safety and Health Research PA-99-143

(Announced with NIOSH, NCI, NHLBI, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NIDCD & NIEHS)

August 20, 1999

Contact: Dr. Sidney Stahl (301) 402-4156

Encourages applications to develop knowledge that can be used in preventing occupational diseases and injuries and to better understand their underlying pathophysiology. The NIA supports research on basic mechanisms involved in aging processes and the onset of age-related disease; social and behavioral research on aging processes and the place of older people in society; the structure and function of the aging nervous system and the behavioral manifestations of the aging brain; and topics related to the causes, prevention, and treatment of older people's health problems.

Planning Grants for Biomedical Epidemiologic and Intervention Studies

PA-99-145 (Announced with NIEHS)

August 20, 1999

Contact: Dr. Evan Hadley (301) 402-1784

This Program Announcement (reissuance of PAR-97-011) will provide grant support for planning and protocol development of biomedical epidemiologic and intervention studies in research areas supported by the Geriatrics Program of the National Institute on Aging. The planning grant mechanism is intended to facilitate careful and detailed protocol development and peer review of proposed complex intervention and epidemiologic studies through a two-stage process (rationale and basic design first, detailed protocol and organization second), in order to minimize unnecessary effort by applicants and reviewers, and allow careful scrutiny of the methods proposed for projects whose basic rationale and design have been judged to be of high quality.

Co-Activators and Co-Repressors in Gene Expression PA-99-111

(Announced with NIAMS, NIDDK, NIEHS, NICHD & NIMH)

June 14, 1999

Contact: Dr. Frank Bellino (301) 496-6402

This initiative is designed to stimulate research that addresses the fundamental underlying mechanisms by which nuclear accessory proteins mediate signaling through hormone receptors at the level of the regulation of gene expression.

The Aging Senses: Relationships Among Multiple Sensory Systems PA-99-123

(Announced with NICHD, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NEI & NINDS)

July 2, 1999

Contact: Dr. Judith Finkelstein (301) 496-9350

The purpose of this program announcement is to stimulate research investigating: (1) the prevalence and extent of concurrent declines in multiple sensory systems in the elderly, (2) the effects such declines might have on the functional capacities of the individual, and (3) the underlying mechanisms responsible for commonalities in age-related sensory changes at central nervous system, cellular, molecular, or genetic levels.

Stages of Breast Development: Normal to Metastatic Disease PA-99-162

(Announced with NCI, NICHD, NIDDK & NIEHS)

September 3, 1999

Contact: Dr. Frank Bellino (301) 496-6402

Invites investigator-initiated research grant applications to study the molecular, cellular, endocrine, and other physiological influences on the development and maturation of the normal mammary gland and alterations involved in early malignant and metastatic breast cancer. Multi-disciplinary collaborations, for example between cell biologists, molecular endocrinologists, bioengineers, geneticists, and mammary pathologists, are encouraged.

Secondary Analysis in Demography and Economics of Aging PA-99-160

September 3, 1999

Contact: Ms. Georgeanne Patmios (301) 496-3138

Invites small grant (R03) applications to: (1) stimulate and facilitate secondary analyses of data related to the demography and economics of aging; (2) provide support for preliminary projects using secondary analysis that could lead to subsequent applications for other research project grant award mechanisms; (3) provide support for rapid analyses of new databases and experimental modules for purposes such as informing the design and content of future study waves; and (4) provide support for the development, enhancement, and assembly of new databases from existing data.