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The Rockefeller University

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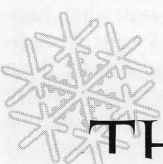
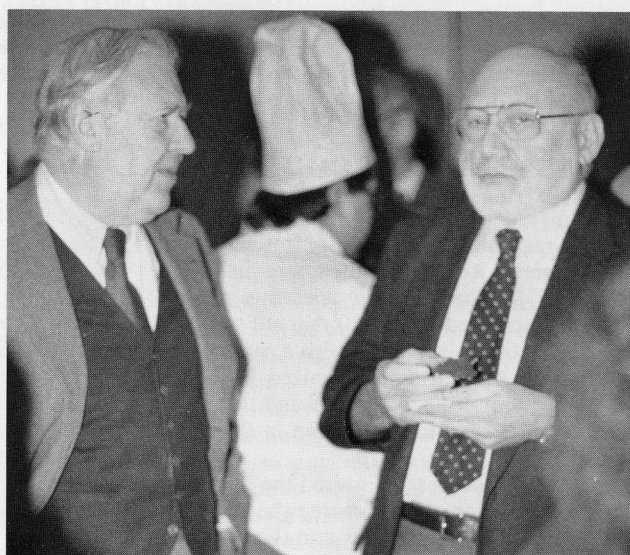
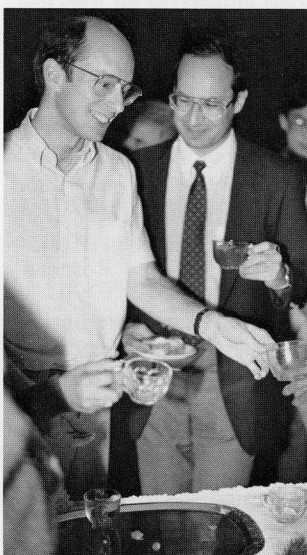
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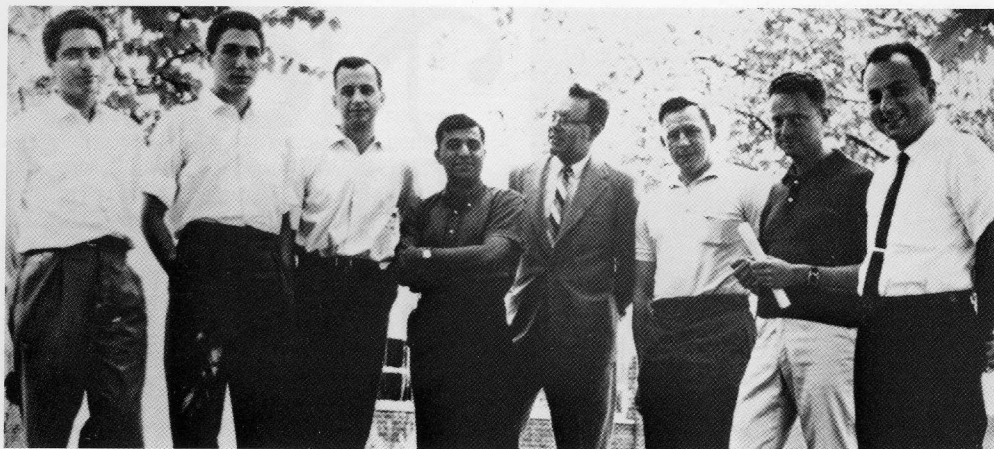
The Rockefeller University

December 1988-January 1989
Volume 20, Number 2

News and Notes



THE ANNUAL FESTIVITY



Professor Konstantin Goulianos, Experimental High Energy Physics, with other members of the team that discovered the muon-neutrinos in 1962, for which the team's leaders, Mel Schwartz, Leon Lederman, and Jack Steinberger, were awarded the 1988 Nobel Prize in Physics. The Neutrino Group, from left: Jack Steinberger, Dr. Goulianos, Jean-Marc Gaillard, Nari Mistry, Gordon Danby, Warner Hayes, Leon Lederman, and Mel Schwartz. All were from Columbia University, except Dr. Danby, who was with Brookhaven National Laboratories.

Employee Recognition Day

The University honored 34 members of the campus community at the third annual Employee Service Recognition Program, held on December 8. The occasion celebrates those who have achieved 10 and 20 years of service as of July 1. It was marked with a ceremony in Caspary Auditorium, organized by Personnel Director John O'Donnell and the program committee, and a reception in the Abbey Aldrich Lounge.

President Lederberg expressed the University's appreciation and presented the 10-year celebrants with Tiffany pens and the 20-year celebrants with Tiffany crystal bowls.

Those marking 10-year anniversaries were Jean Bates, Irma Cardinale, Banvir Chaudhary, Michael Chen, Lois Cousseau, Carmine Denisi, Melvin Ferentz, Richard Heidecker, Vilma Henry, Paula Huntley, Hazeem Khan, Arquelio Negron, Michael Perrino, Elauterio Robles, Pierre Rocourt, Willie Mae

Smith, Cliff Sonnenbrot, Joyce Sydney, Mayra Truelsen-Sonnenbrot, John Waffenschmidt, Kathleen Whelen, and Rosemary Williams.

Those honored for 20 years were Enrique Alvarez, Girleen Bennett, Jean Clement, Anna Danner, Margaret Geringswald, John Gerlach, Elizabeth Kellerhals, Marjorie McCarty, Daisy Rice, Pearl Rivers, Julien Rouse, and Maurice Stevens.



Top, twenty-year celebrants. From left, Julien Rouse, Daisy Rice, Margaret Geringswald, Pearl Rivers, John Gerlach. Above, ten-year celebrants. Front row, from left, Paula Huntley, Lois Cousseau, Willie Mae Smith, Irma Cardinale, Joyce Sydney, Kathleen Whelen. Top row, Jean Bates, Pierre Rocourt, Rosemary Williams, Banvir Chaudhary, Elauterio Robles, Melvin Ferentz, John Waffenschmidt, Michael Chen, Hazeem Khan, Carmine Denisi, Vilma Henry.

Christmas Lectures: Steinman on T Cells

Professor Ralph M. Steinman, Cellular Physiology and Immunology, spoke on "T Cell-mediated Immunity" at the 1988 Alfred E. Mirsky Christmas Lectures on Science, a series presented annually at the University for selected high school students.

In four talks divided between the afternoons of December 27 and 28, Dr. Steinman

described how T cells work and what happens when they don't work. T cells, lymphocytes produced in the Thymus gland, help defend against some diseases, participate in transplant rejections, and cause autoimmune diseases. For example, the destruction of normal T cell functions is the hallmark of AIDS. He suggested that recently discovered

Symposium Honors Zinder's 60th

In honor of Professor Norton D. Zinder's 60th birthday, the University held a symposium, "From Phage to Man," on November 14, in Caspary Auditorium.

The speakers were all former laboratory associates or students of Dr. Zinder. From Rockefeller were President Lederberg, who opened the day-long meeting, Professors Kensuke Horiuchi and Michael Young.

The other speakers were: Robert E. Webster, Duke University; Stephen Cooper, University of Michigan; June Scott, Emory University; Harvey Lodish, MIT; Thierry Boon, Ludwig Institute; Gian Paolo Dotto, Yale University; Teh-Sheng Chan, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston; Nina Fedoroff, Carnegie Institute of Washington; Jef Boeke, Johns Hopkins; Jeffrey Ravetch, Sloan-Kettering Institute; Vincenzo Enea, NYU Medical School; Chandler Fulton, Brandeis University; and Neil Hartman, VA Medical Center, L.A.

Dr. Zinder is responsible for many advances in the field of genetics. For example, his discovery of transduction, the process by which bacteriophages act as carriers of genetic material, has been of major importance in the identification of specific bacterial genes and their functions and in the development of recombinant DNA technology.



From left: Professor Peter Model, President Lederberg, Marilyn Zinder, Norton Zinder, Professor Rollin Hotchkiss, at the symposium in Dr. Zinder's honor.

Promotions

Michael W. Young, Genetics, to professor, effective November 1.

Stevan M. Dawis, Biophysics, to assistant professor, effective August 15.

Andrew N. Lin, Investigative Dermatology, to assistant professor, effective September 1.

M. Juliana McElrath, Cellular Physiology and Immunology, to assistant professor, effective July 1.

Jon J. Michniewicz, Biochemical Endocrinology, to assistant professor, effective September 1.

Manuel J. Santos, Biochemical Cytology, to assistant professor, effective October 1.

Margaret L. Harbison, Laboratory Animal Research Center, to senior research associate, effective October 1.

molecules and cell-cell interactions, which help explain how T cells function, could be used to meet these medical challenges.

The Christmas Lectures, begun in 1959, were named in honor of their founder, Professor Alfred E. Mirsky, after his death in 1974.

Conference on Third World Biomedicine Held at Rockefeller

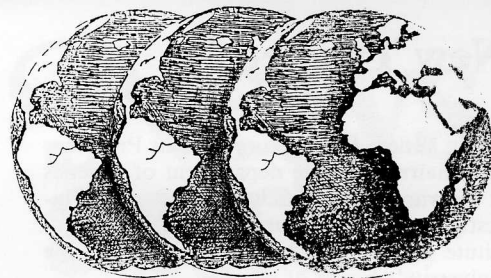
Experts in science, public health, and the humanities met at Rockefeller for a conference, "Under the Volcano: Biomedical Science and the Third World," on October 18-20.

Professor Anthony Cerami, Medical Biochemistry, and Barry Bloom, Ph.D., of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, co-chaired the meeting, which was sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences. Participants discussed how advances in biomedical science could help conquer the major diseases of the Third World. Eighty-six percent of all births and 98 percent of all infant and childhood deaths occur in Third World countries.

President Lederberg opened the first session, entitled "Perspectives on Research and Diseases of the Tropics." Dr. Cerami spoke on "Cachexia, Parasitic Disease, and Septic Shock."

At a special ceremony, Kenneth Warren,

associate vice president, Molecular Biology and Information Sciences, of The Rockefeller Foundation, received the L.W. Frohlich Award for his work on new vaccines and drugs for tropical diseases.



Hungarian-US Exchanges

Executive Vice President Rodney W. Nichols was one of eight representatives of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences to meet with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, October 24-28, to review the inter-Academy exchanges during the past 10 years.

Members of both delegations interviewed Hungarian hosts and exchange scientists in five Hungarian cities regarding their work in agricultural sciences, biomedical sciences, and chemistry.

The delegates concluded that the exchange had been successful in serving the scientific interests of both countries, and that the evaluation process could serve as a model for future assessments of other East-West research activities.



Professors Cohn and M. Juliana McElrath and an Indian colleague examine a patient with leprosy.

Voyagers to the People's Republic of China in 1977 reunited on November 3. Standing, from left: Executive Vice President Rodney W. Nichols, Professor Zanzil A. Cohn, Fern Cohn, Beate Hirsch, Professor Emeritus Maclyn McCarty, Purnell W. Choppin, M.D., President Emeritus Frederick Seitz, Betty Seitz, Professor Floyd Ratliff, Frederic Wakeman, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus William Trager, Professor Norton D. Zinder, Professor Bruce Merrifield. Seated, from left: Marilyn Zinder, Marjorie McCarty, Joan Choppin, Orma Ratliff, Ida Trager, Elizabeth Merrifield.

Cohn Takes Interleukin-2 Trials to Asia

Although Western medicine thought it had leprosy licked, the rise of antibiotic-resistant leprosy means the war isn't over. "Interest in leprosy waned once antibiotics worked, but we still don't understand the basic mechanisms of the disease," says Professor Zanzil Cohn, Cellular Physiology and Immunology.

He and his team left for the Philippines and Thailand this November to test interleukin-2's effectiveness in treating leprosy. The study is an extension of trials they conducted in Columbia, Brazil, India, and Ethiopia, and of theories they developed in the laboratory here at Rockefeller.

"Leprosy, like AIDS, involves an immunologic defect and a lack of T cell activity. Since interleukin-2 is a product of activated T cells, by giving the absent molecule we hope to reconstitute the immune response."

So far the results are promising. "We have found that local injections of this material in patients with severe leprosy activates cells in the peripheral blood and produces a marked reduction in the number of bacilli in the lesion, changes seen in a normal immune response," he reports. "By studying what IL-2 can do in a local area, we hope to learn how we might administer it to influence the immune system generally."

Dr. Cohn notes that leprosy's spread in the third world is exacerbated by poverty, malnutrition, parasitic diseases, overcrowding, and lack of good medical care in general, problems science may not be able to overcome. For now, he says, "We're hoping to interest more Western researchers in tackling leprosy again."

Fond Farewells



The University said farewell on November 30 to Marjorie McCarty, head of the Hospital's social service unit, who is retiring after 20 years, and Hospital Administrator Kathy Kleinbard, who came to Rockefeller in 1976. William Hamister, formerly systems manager of the Hospital Computer Systems, succeeds Ms. Kleinbard. From left: Oneida Ortiz, Carmen Schmidt, Kathy Kleinbard, Marjorie McCarty, Elizabeth Straight, Bill Hamister, Pat Macklin, Donna Tesi, and Anne Brown.



Professor Alex Mauro, Biophysics, discussed the possibility of heart-muscle regeneration on "Science Journal," a weekly program on PBS, in October. On the set in the Faculty and Students Club, from right, Dr. Mauro, Ann Garrels, the show's moderator, and science writers Larry Thompson and Christine Russell.

LARC Gets Funding for Postdoc Vets

The Laboratory Animal Research Center (LARC) has received five years of funding for a new postdoctoral program to train veterinarians in laboratory research methods and to bring additional expertise, in areas such as surgery and pathology, to existing research projects at the University.

"These postdoctoral students would be encouraged to collaborate with faculty on research at other labs on campus," says LARC Director Dennis Stark.

The grant, for \$700,000, is one of two recently awarded LARC by the Department of

Health and Human Services, Public Health Services.

A second grant, totaling nearly \$400,000 over one year, will fund improvements in the animal laboratory facilities, including new caging, diagnostic equipment, surgical and postsurgical care equipment, and improved ventilation, watering, and cage-cleaning systems at LARC and Millbrook.

"These grants will help make our support services more efficient and enable our faculty to conduct better research involving animals," says Dr. Stark.

Archives Acquires Granick, Kunkel Papers

The Rockefeller University Archives, housed at the Rockefeller Archive Center in Pocantico Hills, New York, has received the papers of Professors Sam Granick, who died in 1978, and Henry G. Kunkel, who died in 1985.

Both collections include correspondence, laboratory notebooks, articles, charts, graphs, reports, photographs, and slides to document their careers.

Dr. Granick, who came to Rockefeller in 1938 with a Ph.D. in plant physiology from the University of Michigan, researched chloroplast structure, heme and chlorophyll biosynthesis, and iron metabolism. His separation of chloroplasts from the plant cell was one of the earliest examples of the isolation of a cell organelle and made possible the quantitative determinations of the composition of chloroplasts. In 1947, he and Dr. Keith R. Porter took the first electron micrographs of the chloroplast.

With a medical degree from Johns Hopkins, Dr. Kunkel joined the University in 1945, concentrating his early work on the study of rheumatic fever and treatments for dropsy and cirrhosis. He went on to develop methods for testing gamma globulin and total lipids in blood serum. During his later years he was recognized for his pioneering work in immunogenetics.

Personals

Born August 26 to Archivists Emily and Harold Oakhill, a daughter, Katharine Elizabeth.



New York City Parks Commissioner Henry J. Stern signing a management agreement with members of the NYC Audubon Society for The Dubos Point Wetland Sanctuary, Jamaica Bay, Queens, on October 6, on the roof of the Central Park Arsenal. Dubos Point, a 32-acre peninsula in the Rockaways, is named for Rockefeller biologist René J. Dubos, who died in 1982.

Alumni Briefs

Martha B. Furie (1980), assistant professor in the department of pathology in the school of medicine at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, has been named the 1988 Sinsheimer scholar by the selection committee of the Alexandrine and Alexander Sinsheimer Fund, sponsored by Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company.

Neal Rosen Dies

Neal L. Rosen, 39, died on November 30 after a car hit him on his bicycle near his home in Monsey, New York. A research associate in Professor Paul Greengard's laboratory, he is survived by his wife, Zissel, and seven children.

Born in Brookline, Massachusetts, on May 6, 1949, Dr. Rosen graduated summa cum laude from Harvard University in 1972 and received his M.D.-Ph.D. from Yale University in 1980. He completed his residency in pediatrics at Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn in 1982 and a fellowship in pediatric neurology at SUNY Downstate before coming to Rockefeller on September 1, 1985.

Dr. Rosen also was an adjunct assistant professor in pediatric neurology at Cornell University Medical College and a diplomat of the American Board of Pediatrics.

The funeral was held the same day as his death.

In Case of a Medical Emergency

News and Notes has been asked to remind all members of the campus community that, in case of a medical emergency, any time of the day or night, weekdays, weekends, or holidays, they should follow these procedures:

Dial 1111, state that there is a medical emergency, and ask for the operator. Give the operator the location and a brief explanation of the nature of the emergency. Request an ambulance if you think it is needed.

An emergency team, comprised of physicians and nurses from the Hospital, will reach the scene of the accident within minutes.

Station a person at the points of entry to direct the emergency team to the scene and to direct traffic.

Keep an elevator free for the emergency team.

If a member of the team requests an ambulance, dial 1111. (The Hospital has a direct procedure for securing an ambulance in an emergency.)

In Print

Cell Physiology of Blood, the 450-page proceedings of the Society of General Physiologists 1987 Woods Hole Symposium, was published by The Rockefeller University Press in October. Edited by Robert Gunn, Emory University and John L. Parker, University of North Carolina, it is the 43rd volume in a continuing series.

Cardiac Arrhythmias: The Role of Triggered Activity and Other Mechanisms, by Professor Paul F. Cranefield, Cardiac Physiology, and Ronald S. Aronson, M.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine, has been published by Futura Publishing Company. The book, which is 706 pages long, has a forward by Visiting Professor Brian F. Hoffman.

Telecommunications: No Tone Unturned

Portia Goodman came to Rockefeller as a switchboard operator in 1982 when a switchboard was the state of the art. Six years later she's director of a sophisticated telecommunications department, largely the result of her initiative and, as she says, asking the right questions.

Asking New York Telephone to explain mileage charges on phone bills dating back to 1981 led to refunds to the University totaling more than a quarter of a million dollars.

With that money, and Vice President David Lyons' blessing, Ms. Goodman was able to hire staff and purchase equipment to revolutionize Rockefeller's communications capabilities.

"Portia has produced a system that provides far greater services while saving us money," says Mr. Lyons.

Ms. Goodman and her assistant, Zana Billue, comb through phone bills regularly to

spot errors and track unnecessarily high costs. "There's always something," says Ms. Billeu. "It's a challenge to find it." Calls to local information, for example, cost the University \$26,000 in one year.

To help reduce such expenses and to inform the campus of its ever-expanding services, telecommunications puts out a quarterly newsletter. "Providing good service requires having good communications between our department and our customers—knowing what their needs are and letting them know what we can do for them," says Ms. Goodman, who notes that she has 2,000 customers.

Recognizing that many members of the University were using FAX services off-campus, telecommunications installed its own system in July 1987. "The equipment has already more than paid for itself," says Craig Winton, who oversees the service, lo-



David Stroman, Zana Billue, and Ricki Bar-Zeev examine a chart of accounts.

cated in the Hospital reception area. A three-page local FAX, for example, may cost \$21 outside; on campus, one can send up to 50 pages for \$5. Plans to add more FAX machines to the system are in the works.

Mr. Winton also controls the Customer Administrative Panel, or CAP, which permits him to adjust phone systems from the central office in the Hospital, rather than calling and paying for a telephone company technician.

Still, the focus of telecommunications is the switchboard operator, "the first point of contact in any business," says Ms. Goodman, who brought nearly 20 years of switchboard experience to Rockefeller. "Operators must have as much information as possible at their fingertips so that they can give a timely response to callers."

Telecommunications worked with computing services to build a comprehensive personnel data base. As a result, the University directory can be updated daily and emergency information for everyone on campus is available at the touch of a computer key. Through the directory database, telecommunications also can produce campus mailing labels.

What's next? Ms. Goodman and her technology-savvy team are investigating voice mail, a computerized telephone answering system that's simpler and less expensive than having answering machines for each phone line.



Portia Goodman on the phone, Craig Winton at the Fax machine, and Jackie Mulero at the switchboard's computer terminal, in telecommunications' main office, on the first floor of the Hospital.

Dole Awarded Lasker

Professor Vincent P. Dole, Biology of Addictive Diseases, has won a 1988 Albert Lasker Medical Research Award, announced by the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation on November 16. Dr. Dole was cited for the development of methadone maintenance for the management of heroin addiction.

A member of the Rockefeller faculty since 1941, Dr. Dole began researching ways to treat heroin addicts in the 1960s. In collaboration with his late wife, psychiatrist Marie Nyswander, he established a program at The Rockefeller University Hospital. After trials with a number of different pharmaceutical substances, they learned that methadone, which had been developed as a painkiller, could quell addicts' cravings without sedating them, and that a single dose would stabilize them for 24 hours.

Methadone maintenance has since become a widespread means of helping heroin addicts to lead normal lives.

Dr. Dole and his laboratory group are now concentrating on alcohol addiction, hoping to learn why people become addicted and how to best treat alcoholics.

Honors and Awards

A Fidia Research Foundation Symposium in honor of Professor **Paul Greengard**, Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, was held in Toronto, November 11-12, entitled "Protein Phosphorylation and Neuronal Function."

Professor **Donald R. Griffin**, Animal Behavior, received an honorary doctorate from the biology faculty of the Eberhard-Karls University in Tübingen, Germany, for his "pioneering contributions to the fields of echolocation in bats and of navigation in birds."

Dr. **Lewis Thomas**, who retired from the University's Board of Trustees in October, received a 1987 Public Service Award from the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, at a ceremony on October 26, at Cornell University Medical College. Dr. Thomas was honored for "bringing the excitement of biology and medicine to public attention through his writing and for contributing to the future of biomedical research by inspiring young people to undertake careers in the field."

Children's School Registering

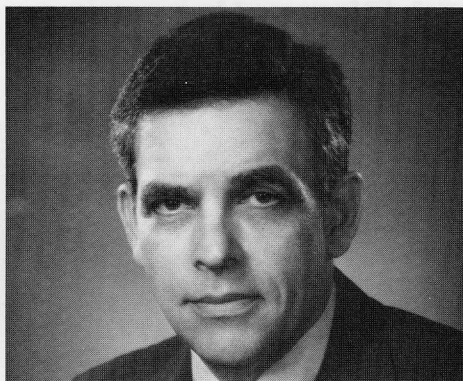
Applications are being accepted for admission to The Rockefeller University Children's School for the 1989-1990 school year for children who will be at least two years, nine months by September 30, 1989. Applications must be received by January 31, 1989. Application forms may be obtained at the School, which is located on the ground floor of Sophie Fricke Hall. Additional information may be obtained from Barbara Adams, Educational Director, RU Box 50 or extension 8580.

New Trustee

Philip Leder, John Emory Andrus Professor and chairman of the department of genetics at Harvard Medical School and a senior investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Harvard, has been elected to the University's board of trustees.

Dr. Leder has been a major contributor to the application of molecular genetics and DNA technology to the understanding of disease. He received a 1987 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award for his "elegant studies of the genetic basis of antibody diversity and the role of genetic rearrangement in carcinogenesis." In what the award citation called "a stunning series of experiments," he demonstrated in transgenic mice that deregulation of otherwise normal genes can lead to the development of cancer.

A native of Washington, DC, Dr. Leder earned a bachelor's degree at Harvard College in 1956 and an M.D. at Harvard Medical School in 1960. He worked for 18 years at the National Institutes of Health, serving as chief



Philip Leder

of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, from 1972 to 1980, before joining the Harvard medical faculty.

Dr. Leder was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1979 and the Institute of Medicine in 1982. He was awarded honorary doctor of science degrees by Yale University and the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, among others.

Briefs

Professor **Arthur K. Balin**, Investigative Dermatology, gave two invited talks at the annual meeting of the American Physiological Society and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, in Montreal, October 9-13, entitled, "The Free Radical Theory of Aging" and "The Effect of Oxygen on the Growth Metabolism and Lifespan of Human Fibroblasts." Dr. Balin, who recently became board certified in geriatric medicine, also delivered an invited lecture, "Mechanisms of Biologic Aging," to the general membership of the Gerontological Society of America, in San Francisco, November 21.

Anne Brown, director of the Hospital's dietary department, addressed around 4,000 nutritionists and physicians at the American Dietetic Association's 71st annual meeting, October 3-7, 1988, in San Francisco, California. The title of her talk was "The Effects of Fat Saturation on Postprandial Lipoproteins."

Adjunct **Martin Burschka**, Biophysics, is on a one-year visiting professorship in the physics department of Clarkson University, Potsdam, New York.

Professor **David J.E. Callaway**, Theoretical Physics, gave an invited lecture at the conference on Frontiers of Nonperturbative Field Theory, Eger Hungary, August 18-23, 1988. The title was "Triviality Pursuit: Can Elementary Scalar Particles Exist?"

Professor **Vincent P. Dole**, Biology of Addictive Diseases, moderated the closing plenary session, "A Look to the Future," of the fifth annual Northeast Regional Methadone Conference, in New York, November 27-30. Afterwards, he presented Nyswander-Dole Awards, first given to Dr. Dole and his wife in 1982, to 10 researchers.

Trustee **David Hamburg** has been elected to

Stanford University's board of trustees.

Professor **Jules Hirsch**, Human Behavior and Metabolism, was elected chair-elect, Section N, Medical Sciences, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Professor and Physician-in-Chief **Attallah Kappas**, Metabolism-Pharmacology, delivered the first Rolf Blomstrand Lecture in Clinical Chemistry at The Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, on October 14, and the first National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Lecture in Perinatal Medicine at the annual meeting of The Perinatal Society, San Diego, on September 26. The topics of these presentations related to the new findings made in his laboratory related to the biological properties of synthetic heme analogues and their uses, experimentally and chemically, to control the rates of heme catabolism to bile pigment.

President Lederberg was co-chairman, with Abbott Laboratories CEO Robert Schoelhorn, of the 1988 American Nobel Convocation, held in Washington, DC, December 9.

Senior Fellow **William Lowrance**, director, Life Sciences and Public Policy Program, gave an address, "Comparative Appraisal of Chemical Risks," to the symposium on Scientific Trends and Policy Formation in Human Toxic Risk Assessment, sponsored by Stanford University and the Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology, at Stanford, September 21. On October 12 Dr. Lowrance made a presentation on "Regulation of Chemical Carcinogenic Risks: A Sea-Change?" to a Mobil Research and Development Corporation seminar, Princeton, New Jersey.

Assistant Professor **Alan R. Saltiel**, Biochemical Endocrinology, spoke on "Molecular Mechanisms of Signal Transduction in Insulin Action" at the 36th annual symposium

Ceccarelli Dies

Bruno Ceccarelli, 49, a frequent collaborator in Rockefeller research, died on July 8, in Milan, where he was a professor in the department of medical pharmacology at the University of Milan and director of the Bruno Ceccarelli Center for the Study of Peripheral Neuropathies and Neuromuscular Diseases.

In the 1970s, Dr. Ceccarelli did postdoctoral studies at Rockefeller with Professor Alexander Mauro on the action of black widow spider venom on the neuromuscular junction. He returned each year thereafter for several weeks to work with Dr. William P. Hurlbut, a member of Dr. Mauro's laboratory, and more recently, with Professor Paul Greengard, in studies of the role of phosphoproteins in neurotransmission.



Head Gardener Jim Sullivan and his staff planting the Emil T. Kaiser Memorial tree, an *Acer rubrum* or "October Glory" red maple, outside the Abbey Aldrich dining room on November 29.

of the American Diabetes Association, New York Downstate Affiliate, held at NYU, October 22.

Professor **Norton D. Zinder**, Genetics, has been appointed chairman, Program Advisory Committee on the Human Genome, NIH, and is a member of the Council of Founders of HUGO (Human Genome Organization), a private organization of scientists, established to promote international collaboration on mapping and sequencing the human genome.

Continuing its long-standing policy to actively support equality of opportunity for all persons, The Rockefeller University forbids discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or handicap. The Administration has an Affirmative Action Program to increase the employment of women and members of minority groups in all areas of the University's activities.

News and Notes is published five times a year from October through July. This is Volume 20, Number 2. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to *News and Notes*, Box 68, phone extension 8967. Photographs, page 1, 4 center, 5 center, Deborah S. Edelman; page 2 top, James Cleary; page 2 bottom, 3 bottom, 5 top, 6 right, John Sholtis; page 3 center, Gilla Kaplan; page 4 top, Shari Diamond; page 6 top, Bachrach. © 1988 The Rockefeller University, New York 10021-6399. Printed in the United States of America.

A View from the Dean's Office

December 1988-January 1989

New Ph.D. Students

In this issue, we will begin to introduce the 22 new Ph.D. students.

Born in Accra, Ghana, Thomas Akompong received his bachelor of science degree in Chemistry with honors from the University of Ghana in 1985. For two years, he attended Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was a graduate student in biochemistry. An interest in neurobiology brought him to Rockefeller, and he elected to work in Dr. Bruce McEwen's lab. Thomas is particularly interested in studying signal transduction in cells. An enthusiastic fan of football and basketball, he is also a skilled chess player. In 1985, Thomas won the Easter Open Chess Championship in Ghana.

Nathan Bahary expects to complete his M.D. degree at the Cornell University Medical School this May. Born in Chicago, Illinois, Nathan graduated summa cum laude from Cornell University in 1984 with a B.A. in organic chemistry. A member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical school honors society, he was also the recipient of an American Heart Association Fellowship and, in 1987, was appointed as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellow. Earlier this year, Nathan studied microdissection and microcloning techniques with Dr. Steven Brown at St. Mary's Hospital in London. Nathan is working at RU with Dr. Jules Hirsch and Dr. Jeffrey Freidman on the isolation and cloning of the mouse obesity (*ob*) and diabetes (*db*) genes. At the completion of his studies, Nathan intends to finish his internship and residency training. Photography and playing guitar are his spare-time pursuits.

A biology major at Stern College of Yeshiva University in New York City, Miriam Berger received her B.A. degree, summa cum laude, in 1988. Miriam was a recipient of a Roth Institute Scholarship and the Lashkin Award for Creativity in the Biological Sciences at Stern College. During the summer of 1987, she did research work at the Molecular Pharmacology department of Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Her undergraduate research work involved investigation into the effects of opioids on dopamine synthesis in the striatum and the mechanisms by which these effects are induced. She will continue her neurochemical research at RU in the lab of Dr. Bruce McEwen. In 1988, she won an Office of Naval Research Fellowship for graduate studies. A New York City native, Miriam has a strong interest in social issues and for two summers worked in Israel, helping recent Ethiopian immigrants adjust to their new country.

Chih-Hao Chou, who was born in Taipei, Taiwan, is a 1986 graduate of Taipei Medical College. His residency training was done in internal medicine at the National Taiwan
(continued on page 2)

University-wide Journal Club

On October 19, 1988 a university-wide Journal Club was formed. Scheduled to meet on alternate Wednesdays in the Nurses Residence 110B from 5 to 6 P.M., the club features two 25-minute presentations given by junior faculty and students. The talks, based on recently published articles, cover a wide variety of topics. The club's purpose is to broaden knowledge of research outside individual fields and to encourage interaction among different RU labs. Thorough introductions to each topic are given and presentations are geared to a diverse audience.

The idea was conceived by Assistant Professors Dr. Claude Desplan, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, and Dr. Kathryn Crossin, of the Edelman/Cunningham lab. Characterizing the atmosphere as "informal and friendly," Claude Desplan cites the club as a success due to the capacity audiences of 50 to 60 at each meeting.



From left, Journal Club speakers, Dr. Shigeru Sassa and Dr. Lee Wetzler confer with club organizers Dr. Kathryn Crossin and Dr. Claude Desplan.

Graduate Student Residence Renovation

No, it is not the sound of students hitting their books that breaks the early morning quiet. It is the sound of sledge hammers knocking down walls in the first renovation phase of the Graduate Students' Residence. On October 26, phase one of a proposed multi-stage renovation of the 23-year-old dorm began.

Phase one entails the creation of four one-bedroom suites from seven existing single rooms and part of the second floor lobby. The suites will have private baths, kitchenettes, and, in some instances, walk-in closets. The new bedroom suites will be allotted by the present housing lottery system. Two-bedroom suites, to be created during proposed later renovation phases, will be assigned in a separate lottery.

To be sacrificed in the future will be the

Dr. Claude Desplan, Journal Club Organizer

Assistant Professor Claude Desplan, a molecular geneticist and co-organizer with Dr. Kathryn Crossin of the university-wide Journal Club, came to Rockefeller in January of last year as part of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Well-travelled, he has lived in Algeria, France, and the United States. Claude was born in Algiers, Algeria and lived until the age of eight in Bougie, a small town on the North East coast of the Mediterranean about 100 miles from Algiers. Following Algeria's independence in 1962, Claude moved with his family to the south of France. Science was not a strong interest until after high school when, according to the French educational system, students must choose between engineering or science and the liberal arts. Preferring science, Claude attended the École Normale Supérieure in Saint Cloud, France.

In France, Agrégation exams determine teaching certification. Claude passed the Agrégation exams in physiology and biochemistry in 1975. At the age of 22, Claude attained a tenured teaching position in biophysics at the School of Medicine at Hospital Saint Antoine at the University of Paris VI. Later, he transferred to the École Normale Supérieure in Fontenay aux Roses, where he taught graduate students.

Claude entered graduate school at the University of Paris VII and received a doctorate there in 1978. His work under the direction of Dr. Baty Moukhtar and Dr. Gerard Milhaud concerned the structure and function of parathyroid hormone. His research was done at the Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, (INSERM). The French
(continued on page 2)

GSR kitchen. Originally built without kitchen facilities, GSR was remodeled in 1977 to include a community kitchen. Until the late 1970s, RU students took meals in Welch Hall and dined formally each evening by candlelight in Abby Aldrich. Current students who may lament the passing of such graciousness should note that dress codes, which stipulated jackets and ties for men and dresses or blouses and skirts for women, were strictly enforced.

As in the past, renovations will be done by the architectural firm of Abramovitz, Kingsland, and Schiff. The original architects of GSR and Caspary Hall, the firm also designed the new faculty residence. Among the firm's other designs are Rockefeller Center, Lincoln Center, and the United Nations complex.

Hurray For The Home Team

The RU soccer team has proven to be strong competition for the six-team United Nations League which it joined in October. The 11-member RU team, comprised of students and postdocs, ranks first in the league in games won.

After a five-game round robin, the RU team's record stands at four wins and one loss. Games were played on Sundays in Flushing Meadow Park in Queens. A championship playoff game was played between RU and the next ranking team on November 27. RU lost, 0-3, to a team which they had previously beaten, 1-0. At a ceremony held at the UN on December 2, the RU team was awarded the second place championship trophy.

Taking the field for RU in their blue soccer uniforms are, Michael Clinton, Thomas Decker, Ioannis Giannakis, Fumiaki Katagiri, Thomas Meier, Alessandro Monge, David Montgomery, Jose-Maria Prats, Andrew Slater, David White, and Clay Xanthopoulos. So that the RU "blues" do not take the field unheralded, an unofficial, but highly enthusiastic, cheerleading squad has been formed. Membership on the soccer team is open to all in the university community.



Shari Diamond

Soccer team members, from left, Alessandro Monge, Michael Clinton, Ioannis Giannakis, Thomas Meier, Fumiaki Katagiri, Thomas Decker, and Clay Xanthopoulos surround Andrew Slater, who holds the UN League Trophy.

Desplan (continued from page 1)

equivalent of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, INSERM conducts research in fundamental and applied biology. Under the direction of Dr. Moukhtar and Dr. Monique Thomasset, Claude wrote his D.Sc. thesis entitled, "Vitamin D-induced Calcium Binding Proteins: Analysis of Their Structure and Their Genetic Expression." While at the University of Paris VII, he received awards from the Foundation Simone et Cino Del Duca, and the Foundation pour la Recherche sur le Cancer.

Taking up a postdoctoral position in 1984, Claude joined the research faculty at the University of California at San Francisco. According to Claude, UCSF was "very young and very dynamic." Claude originally intended to work on potassium channels in *Drosophila*. However, after an animated conversation with Dr. Patrick O'Farrell of the UCSF department of biochemistry, he elected to study development in *Drosophila* and the functions of the homeobox in the molecular mechanisms of development. The "elegance of the integrating system" of developmental genes strongly appealed to Claude and his focus changed to investigations into transcriptional control. At UCSF, he met Dr. Steven DiNardo, now an assistant professor and University fellow at Rockefeller, who also was researching developmental aspects in *Drosophila*.

Seven Springs Retreat

Last fall RU postdocs, Ph.D. and M.D.-Ph.D. students made their annual treks to Seven Springs, the RU-owned scientific and educational center located in a rural section of Mount Kisco, New York.

On September 16th, 19 RU M.D.-Ph.D. and 10 CUMC M.D.-Ph.D. students gathered for a weekend retreat to listen to talks on a variety of subjects. Faculty member and M.D.-Ph.D. program co-director, Dr. Ralph Steinman spoke on the history of medical transplantation. Students gave 10-minute talks on an area of their research, which were followed by brief discussion periods. The intent, according to M.D.-Ph.D. student, Zenta Walther, was to explore the "ideas and concepts" behind the research, and not just present data. In the process, first year students had the opportunity to meet older students and M.D.-Ph.Ds. in different years were able to share their research. According to Zenta, students after the retreat felt that they could enter "anyone else's lab to get help and advice."

Fifteen postdocs and Ph.D. students also convened at Seven Springs on October 1. As in the past, the retreat's purpose was twofold: to increase interaction among students and postdocs of different labs and to publicize current research work. The meeting's format was similar to the M.D.-Ph.D.

In 1984 through 1985, Claude was appointed as a postdoctoral fellow of the Fogarty International Center. He was named a postdoctoral fellow at the European Molecular Biology Organization in 1987.

According to Claude, there are three American cities for the European scientist: Boston, New York, and San Francisco. Lured by the prospect of establishing a Howard Hughes Medical Institute lab at Rockefeller and named as an Andre and Bella Meyer Fellow, he joined Jan Geliebter and Nathaniel Heintz here as an HHMI investigator. His work at RU continues to focus on the molecular genetics of *Drosophila* early development and the function of homeobox genes in transcription. His lab has acquired substantial experience with the in vitro analysis of proteins belonging to several groups of developmental genes, which contain homeodomains of several classes and other DNA binding domains. Lab members plan to look at both the general transcriptional functions and the particular properties of each gene product.

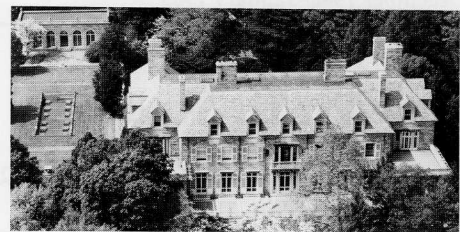
During the past year, Claude and his wife Danièle, an abstract artist, have functioned as tour guides for numerous visitors to New York City. Their apartment appears to be well-marked on travellers' maps for the San Francisco-New York-Paris route. When not entertaining, reading, music, and travel occupy the Desplans' time.

New Students (continued from page 1)

University Hospital. Frustration over the current lack of knowledge of disease mechanisms prompted him to pursue further education in scientific research. At RU, Chih-Hao is at work with Dr. Westley Reeves in Dr. Gunter Blobel's cell biology lab. Autoimmune diseases will be his focus, and he is studying antigen function and production.

presentations.

The two hundred acre Seven Springs Center was donated to RU in 1984 by the Meyer Foundation. The center features a wooded preserve, two tennis courts, and an indoor swimming pool. The surrounding undeveloped area is used by RU for field research in animal behavior.



The Seven Springs Scientific and Educational Center

Seven Springs Concert

The Tower Trio, an RU student ensemble, was invited to play on December 2 for the Friends of Seven Springs, an organization associated with the educational center. M.D.-Ph.D. students in their other lives, violinist Zenta Walther, pianist Barbara Kazmierczak, and cellist Clay Reid played selections from Schubert, Haydn, and Shostakovich. The trio was invited to play by Mr. Herbert Kutz, administrative director of Seven Springs, who heard them play during the September M.D.-Ph.D. retreat.

At the completion of his studies, he plans to return to Taipei, where he will divide his time between patient care and research work. Chih-Hao enjoys visiting museums, attending concerts, and playing bridge.

Scott Dougan graduated in 1986 from Brown University with a B.A. in biochemistry. Appointed a Western University Research Scholar in 1985, Scott worked as a research assistant at the pharmacology department of the University of Utah School of Medicine. Before he decided to do graduate work in molecular biology, he worked with Dr. Michael Greenberg, an RU alumnus, at the Harvard Medical School. He investigated the mechanisms by which *c-fos* proto-oncogene was induced by growth factors, neurotransmitters, and membrane depolarizing agents. At RU, he is in Dr. Claude Desplan's Howard Hughes Medical Institute lab. Scott, who was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota, was also a member of the Brown University Band where he played the trombone.

Though born in Minot, North Dakota, Mark Forman grew up in Great Neck, New York. In 1985, he graduated cum laude from Yale University with a degree in molecular biophysics and biochemistry. Mark attended Duke University School of Medicine for three years, where he expects to return to complete his M.D. degree. At Duke, he worked in the tumor immunology/neurochemistry laboratory of Dr. Darell Bigner. Currently, he is working with Dr. Ellen Pure in Dr. Zamil Cohn's cellular physiology and immunology lab. Mark hopes to combine medicine and basic science and apply them to clinical problems. A varsity wrestler for three years at Yale, Mark also has travelled extensively in the United Kingdom.