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NEWS AND NOTES 1991, JANUARY 11

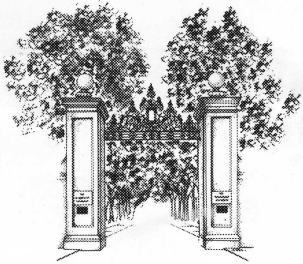
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News & Notes

McEwen appointed dean of graduate studies

Professor Bruce McEwen, a 1964 graduate of The Rockefeller University, has been named Dean of Graduate and Postgraduate Studies, effective January 1. McEwen, who has served as an associate dean since 1985, succeeds Professor Anthony Cerami, who was dean for five years.

Two of the immediate challenges facing the graduate school—broadening and reevaluating the curriculum and increasing recruitment efforts—are already being addressed:

- Professor Peter Model has been appointed to the new post of Associate Dean for Curriculum;
- Assistant Professor Marjorie Russel has been appointed Associate Dean for Admissions and Recruitment (see page 2);
- Another post, Associate Dean for Student Life, will be filled later this year.

Associate Dean Mary R. ("Miki") Rifkin will continue in that position through spring; Assistant Deans Gloria Coruzzi and Ellen Pure have been asked to continue until then as well.

In accepting the appointment, McEwen recalled his own education here during the Bronk era. "There has always been a great emphasis on providing the very best education to pre- and postdoctoral fellows," he said.



David Baltimore and Bruce McEwen

"Rockefeller has done a great job educating future leaders. This graduate program was Detlev Bronk's dream, and there are tremendous opportunities ahead for all of us to find new meaning in that dream."

As associate dean, McEwen was involved with curriculum, admissions, recruitment and counseling. He holds the work of Cerami and Rifkin in high esteem. "I really appreciate the fact they worked hard to enhance the lives of postdocs and junior faculty. This is something substantial we can build on."

President David Baltimore agreed. "Tony encouraged those involved with the program to communicate with each other and recognize their common interests on scientific issues," he said. "Miki Rifkin has made tremendous contributions to the graduate program, and I'm de-

lighted that she will continue to work with that program through the spring."

"I am confident that Bruce will successfully define a vision of the future of graduate education here at Rockefeller appropriate to the 1990s," Baltimore said. He joined with McEwen in praising the graduate program, noting that "the hallmark of the Rockefeller education system is flexibility—designing teaching

programs to fit the needs of particular students. We don't want to lose that."

See **McEwen** on page 2

Hospital ranks in nation's top 5%

The Rockefeller University Hospital has been twice checked and found to be among the finest in the land.

Medical Director Richard Galbraith cracked a wide smile while reporting that the 80-year-old hospital was inspected in October by a team from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, a national group. After meticulously assessing the hospital's compliance with 4,000 separate

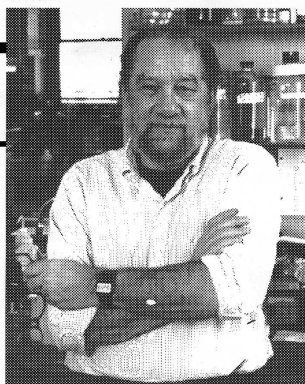
See **Hospital** on page 3

McEwen (continued from page 1)

At the same time, Baltimore and McEwen feel the program, which was started in the mid-1950s, needs to reflect the enormous body of information that has developed since then. "A biologist today needs vast amounts of information at his or her fingertips," Baltimore said. "How do we ensure students will gain a sufficiently wide range of knowledge and experience here? How do we produce students who have the greatest possible flexibility to participate in the ever-changing field of biology?"

One of McEwen's first goals is to work with Model and others to develop a richer curriculum that involves a wider range of junior and senior faculty. "A successful graduate program requires a high level of faculty participation, as well as student involvement in guiding their own education," he said. "There are promising signs that both faculty and students want to take a more active role in this process, and I feel that with everyone's help we can make the Rockefeller graduate program more vital and consistent over the coming years."

McEwen and Baltimore were students together at Rockefeller, both graduating with Ph.D. degrees in 1964. Prior to that, in 1959, McEwen earned his A.B. in chemistry from Oberlin College. McEwen's research focuses on the biochemical processes underlying the function of nerve cells, particularly the role of hormones in regulating nerve-cell plasticity and their ability to adapt to environmental changes. →→



Ingbet Grütner

Model will focus on curriculum

Professor Peter Model has been involved with the Rockefeller graduate program for several years. His new capacity as Associate Dean for Curriculum will involve him with the program more closely than ever before.

"In spite of the primacy of research at Rockefeller, the faculty has put together an extensive series of graduate courses," he said. "Some of them are at least as good, if not better, than courses offered to graduate students at first-rate institutions with stronger teaching missions. What we need to do is make sure that certain of the core courses are continued, with strong participation of the faculty, and that as many other courses and tutorials as possible are offered on a regular and predictable basis."

"The mission of the university is, first and foremost, research. Thus, the primary vehicle for graduate training will continue to be the laboratory experience. We can, however, encourage those colleagues who enjoy sharing their knowledge to do so and recognize them for their efforts in preparing our students for their research careers."



Bob Reichert

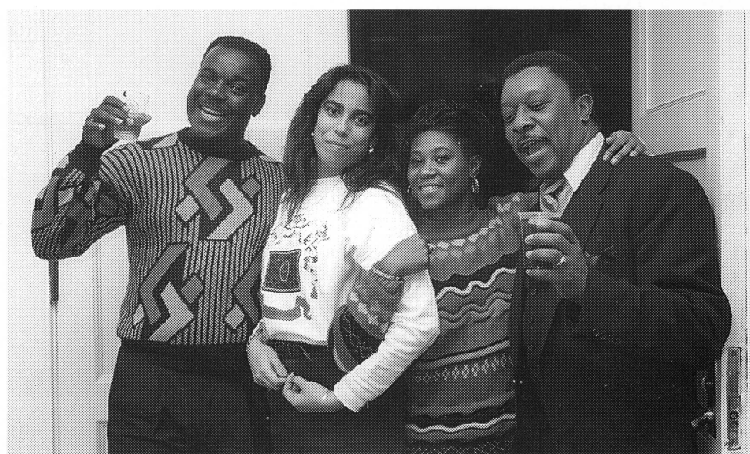
Russel will head recruitment

Assistant Professor Marjorie Russel, the new Associate Dean for Admissions and Recruitment, came to Rockefeller in 1977.

"The quality of the graduate program is amply demonstrated by its students, past and present," she said. "I look forward to being closely involved in identifying and attracting equally intelligent, motivated and thoughtful students in the future."

"Rockefeller is a terrific place to work—for students, postdocs and faculty. One of my challenges will be to articulate the reasons this is so, and then to find ways to communicate them effectively to potential applicants. Having enjoyed the benefits of doing science here, the high density of interesting science, of creative and knowledgeable colleagues, and of entertaining distractions around the city, I welcome the opportunity to try to make some contribution to the university."

Festive events mark holiday season at Rockefeller



'Twas the season to eat, drink and be merry as the Rockefeller community celebrated the holidays. The photos on this page are scenes from several parties held on campus at the end of 1990.

Clockwise from top left, President David Baltimore and his wife, Alice Huang, hosted the Holiday Festivity; Marta Martinez, Elina Suzuki and Maryanne Holt inspect the goody table at the Hospital party; Anthony Drummond, Jackie Mulero, Kim Holmes and Audley White raise their glasses at Security's holiday party; Titia de Lange and Jan Geliebter celebrate at a party sponsored by several labs in the Bronx Building. (All photos taken by Shari Diamond.)

—by Patricia Sadiq

Toward a better mousetrap?

An owl sitting in a barn can pinpoint a mouse just by the rustles the rodent makes.

How the owl gets so smart is the topic of the next Harvey Society Lecture, to be held Thursday, January 17 at 8:00 p.m. in Caspary Auditorium. Masakazu Konishi, Professor of Behavioral Biology at the California Institute of Technology, will speak on "Brain Mechanisms of Sound Localization in the Owl." The event is open to all. ➡

Hospital (continued from page 1)

standards, the commission ranked the Rockefeller Hospital among the nation's top 5% and awarded its maximum accreditation of three years.

In December, the hospital also underwent an inspection by four surveyors from the New York State Department of Health, who assessed compliance with Federal Title Medicare Standards. The team made only one recommendation which, to quote an inspector, is "a record for New York State."

"This was brought about by continual hard work over the last year," Galbraith said. "I extend my congratulations and thanks to all hospital and university staff whose efforts were reflected in these superb assessments of our hospital." ➡

Thai postdoctoral fellowship available

Funding is available for an investigator who is a Thai national to work as a postdoctoral fellow in an RU laboratory for up to three years.

Any laboratory head interested in nominating a particular Thai investigator for this fellowship should send a brief letter and a copy of the candidate's curriculum vitae to Maren E. Imhoff, Director of Development, Box 285, no later than Friday, January 25. Selection will be made by the Faculty Review Committee on Postdoctoral and Junior Faculty Awards.

The fellowship provides a stipend, fringe benefits, supplies, moving expenses and a travel allowance. →→

Cohen-Cory, Burgoon present theses

Two theses will be presented next week: Graduate Fellow Susana Cohen-Cory will present her thesis at 3:45 on Monday, January 14 in Caspary Auditorium. The title is "Regulation of Cerebellar Development: Trophic-Transmitter Interactions."

Graduate Fellow Mark Burgoon will present his thesis at 3:45 Tuesday in Caspary Auditorium. It is entitled "Structure of the Chicken Neuron-glia Cell Adhesion Molecule (Ng-CAM): Origin of the Polypeptides and Relation to the Ig Superfamily."

A tea will precede each presentation at 3:15. →→

An offer he couldn't refuse

The letter from Dennis Stark came as a surprise to many who received it this week. It began, "As you may have heard, I have accepted a position at Bristol-Myers Squibb in New Jersey. . . ."

Stark, associate professor and director of the university's Laboratory Animal Research Center for 15 years, will begin his new job as the company's Executive Director of Veterinary Sciences June 1. "I'll miss Rockefeller," Stark said, "but this is the kind of chance I just couldn't pass up. It's hard to imagine getting a professional opportunity like this again."

In his new position, Stark, working out of Princeton, New Jersey, will directly manage the corporation's laboratory animal use at five major research sites in the U.S. and oversee various other sites in Europe and Japan. Over the next year, he will become directly responsible for a staff of approximately 200 people involved in a diverse program of biomedical and pharmaceutical research.

Reacting to the resignation, Executive Vice President Fred Bohen said, "David Baltimore and I did our best to keep Dennis Stark here at Rockefeller. Under his leadership and direction the Laboratory Animal Research Center became an institution that met steadily rising health, safety and control expectations of external authorities, while simultaneously gaining the broad respect of the university research community for service and efficiency. His decision to move on to new challenges leaves us with a very important position to fill. We regret his departure, and we will miss him."

Bohen is working with the President and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Jim Darnell, to organize a search process to identify Stark's successor. Stark will actively assist that process.

During Stark's years at LARC, he has been instrumental in setting up that facility's research programs, diagnostic lab, postdoctoral training programs and a center for alternatives research. "I'm proud of the fact that we've been able to turn LARC into a first-rate service unit for the campus," he said, "and we've made scientists more aware of the possibilities and responsibilities of animal research."

Stark holds a D.V.M. from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. from Cornell University. Prior to coming to Rockefeller, he was an associate professor of pathology and director of the General Laboratory Animal Facility at New York University Medical Center/Bellevue Hospital, and he taught at Long Island University. →→



Dennis Stark

Bob Reichert



NewsNotes is published on Fridays throughout the academic year by the Public Affairs Office of Rockefeller University. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to Box 68, or call 570-8967. Articles may also be submitted via electronic mail to *newsnotes*. The deadline for each Friday's issue is the preceding Monday at 5:00 p.m. The Rockefeller University is an equal opportunity employer and has an affirmative action program to increase the employment of women and members of protected groups at all job levels. Editor: Robert Brown. Designer: Patricia Sadiq.