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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

news and notes

Connelly Retires; Choppin, McEwen Join Dean's Office



Norton Zinder congratulating Clarence Connelly at his retirement party on December 17. Center, Purnell Choppin.

Clarence M. Connelly, a distinguished biophysicist and a member of the Rockefeller faculty for 30 years, 18 of which he spent as associate dean of graduate studies and four as dean, retired on December 31.

Professor Purnell W. Choppin, vice president for academic programs, has assumed the deanship. Professor Bruce S. McEwen has been appointed an associate dean, joining Professor Mary R. Rifkin, an associate dean for the past two years.

At a reception in his honor on December 17, Dr. Connelly was hailed by Dr. Choppin for his 22 years as "the indispensable glue and wise conscience" of the graduate program. Randall Furlong, speaking on behalf of his fellow students, expressed "our heartfelt gratitude for your gentle, quietly persuasive guidance." Also in attendance to pay tribute to their longtime colleague were former deans Frank Brink and James G. Hirsch.

A native of Jamestown, New York, Dr. Connelly earned his bachelor's degree in physics at Cornell University and worked on radar development at M.I.T. and in England during World War II. After the war, stimulated by the pioneering experiments of Detlev Bronk and others in nerve cell physiology, he joined Bronk's group

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Symposium to Honor Kunkel

A Symposium on Modern Immunology in Honor of Henry G. Kunkel will be held on May 8 in Caspary Auditorium, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members of the Rockefeller community are invited to attend.

Dr. Kunkel, who was the University's first Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor, died on December 14, 1983 at the age of 67. He spent almost his entire scientific career at Rockefeller, where his work in immunology earned him worldwide recognition as a leader in the field.

President Lederberg will give the symposium's introduction and present the chairman of the morning session, Jacob Natvig of the University of Oslo. G. Nossal of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research will speak on The Regulatory Biology of the B Lymphocyte; J. Donald Capra of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center, on Idiotypes: Windows into the Immune System; and Baruj Benacerraf of Harvard Medical School, on The Influence of B Cell Idiotypes on the T Cell Repertoire.

Speaking at the afternoon session, chaired by Peter J. Lachman of the University of Cambridge, will be Hans J. Müller-Eberhard and Eng M. Tan of the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, Dr. Müller-Eberhard on Protein-Protein Interactions Involved in Complement-Mediated Cell Lysis, and Dr. Tan on Autoantibodies to Nuclear Antigens: Probes in Autoimmunity and Biology; and Robert J. Winchester of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, on Genetic Organization of the Human Ia System and Its Relationship to Susceptibility to Certain Diseases.

Drs. Capra, Lachman, Müller-Eberhard, Natvig, Tan, and Winchester are former members of Dr. Kunkel's laboratory.

Alexander G. Bearn, Senior Vice President for Medical and Scientific Affairs, International, Merck & Co., Inc., a Rockefeller trustee and adjunct, will present the symposium's closing remarks. Dr. Bearn is chairman of the symposium's planning committee. Other members include Professors Nicholas Chiorazzi, Purnell Choppin, Zanvil Cohn, Attallah Kappas, Robert Lahita, and Maclyn McCarty, and adjunct professor Richard Krause. □



Professor Bruce Merrifield, left, receiving the Nobel Prize in Chemistry from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at ceremonies in Stockholm on December 10. Dr. and Mrs. Merrifield also met with President Reagan at the White House on January 17, after being honored at a luncheon held at the National Academy of Sciences. On January 24, Mayor Koch gave a reception at Gracie Mansion for Dr. and Mrs. Merrifield and presented them with a "Big Apple" crystal sculpture from Tiffany's.

Marjorie McCarty congratulates her husband, Professor Maclyn McCarty, who was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany by the Consul General, Dr. Peter Sympher, at a reception in Caspary lounge on November 27. Dr. McCarty was honored for his "longstanding effort in promoting the scientific exchange between Germany and the United States." President Emeritus Frederick Seitz, left, and Vice President Attallah Kappas, center, look on.



CONNELLY (continued from page 1)

at the University of Pennsylvania's Johnson Research Foundation, earning his Ph.D. in 1949. He later worked with Dr. Bronk at Johns Hopkins and was among the colleagues, including Dr. Brink and H. Keffer Hartline, who accepted invitations to join the Rockefeller faculty when Dr. Bronk became president.

In his research, done mostly in collaboration with Dr. Brink, Dr. Connelly concentrated on the electrochemical properties of nerve cells and studies of the sodium pump, a physiological mechanism important for the functioning of nerve cells, skeletal muscle, cardiac muscle, and kidneys. In 1959 he published a paper which, says Dr. Brink, "resolved a 10-year discussion in this field."

As dean, "Clancy" Connelly, in President Lederberg's words, "dealt with our students with the respect and interest they deserve." He also became famous for the index cards he always carried with him on which he recorded vital data concerning the students. Dr. Choppin elicited appreciative laughter at the party when, bidding Dr. Connelly farewell, he said: "We hate to see you go, but remember, the cards stay." □

Stein Lecture

The annual William H. Stein Memorial Lecture was presented on February 1 by Daniel E. Koshland, Jr., professor of biochemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the newly appointed editor of *Science*, published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and is a former Rockefeller faculty member. He spoke on Information Processing in a Simple Behavioral System.

The William H. Stein Memorial Lecture series is named for the late Rockefeller protein chemist and Nobel laureate, who died in 1980. □

Instrument maker John Braun, right, at a party celebrating his retirement on December 13 after 22 years with the University, with his wife, Martha, and Instrument Design Engineer Carl Tiden. Mrs. Braun, a helper in the laboratory of Professor Fritz Lipmann for 12 years, also retired in December.



Lab Report: A Possible Marker for Cellular Aging

Scientists have yet to explain the underlying mechanisms governing the process of aging. In studying the activities of cells over time, Professor Eugenia Wang has discovered a protein that appears to be unique to old cells in vitro, as she reports in the February issue of *The Journal of Cell Biology*.

Cells in culture are defined as old when they stop dividing, which was the point at which Dr. Wang found that the protein, called statin, began appearing. It was absent from young, rapidly proliferating cells.

Using monoclonal antibodies as probes, Dr. Wang made her initial finding in fibroblasts, cells of connective tissue. But there is growing evidence, she says, that statin appears in other cell types. Its presence may therefore serve as a general marker for cell aging, although it is still not known whether the protein is the cause or the result of cessation of cellular proliferation.

Statin may have use as a tool in tumor studies. As Dr. Wang writes in her report: "The ready applicability of such markers in neoplasm (tumor formation) is obvious when their absence, associated with transformation-related cell growth, occurs in tissues destined physiologically to be non-proliferative." □

Doris Lewis Dies

Doris J. Lewis, 80, a member of the Hospital nursing staff from 1953 to 1979, died on December 29.

"Dee," as she was known to all, was also known, in the words of her colleague, Elizabeth Straight, director of nursing, "for her energy and keen sense of humor." She received her training at the London Hospital, and served in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service during World War II, in surgical units in Africa, Italy, and Austria.

At Rockefeller, Miss Lewis was the head nurse in the Hospital's tuberculosis unit, and worked in the outpatient clinic for several years before joining Dr. Charles M. Peterson as a service nurse. □

Harbison Appointed

Dr. Margaret Harbison, formerly with the Harvard School of Public Health and the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, has joined the University's Laboratory Animal Research Center as a veterinary pathologist. As such she is responsible for the center's diagnostic laboratory, a service available to all University researchers. Dr. Harbison, whose own research focuses mainly on alveolar macrophages, received her V.M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. □



Tax forms are available outside of the Library on the second floor of Welch Hall.

Founders Ball to Celebrate "Enlightened Beneficence"

The newest development from the University's development office is The Founders Ball, a benefit dinner-dance to be held on May 23. Plans for the evening include a cocktail reception in Founder's Hall, dinner and dancing under a tent on the esplanade, and architectural and lighting effects to carry out the theme of "A Celebration of Enlightened Beneficence."

A benefit committee is currently being formed. Serving on it, from the board of trustees, are David Rockefeller and Brooke Astor as honorary chairmen and Anne E. Reed as chairman. Volunteers Anne Bass and Ann Getty are co-chairmen. The 350 available seats for the festivities will be sold for \$1,000 each, and corporate underwriting of expenses and special gifts are also expected.

"We hope that The Founders Ball will become an annual event to raise funds for the University's programs and to expand our public profile and circle of friends," stated President Lederberg. □

The "Best" and the "Brightest"

The cover story of December's *Science Digest*, "America's 100 Brightest Scientists Under 40," names Professor Nam-Hai Chua, head of the University's laboratory of plant molecular biology, for his work on gene regulation, and Professor Joel E. Cohen, Populations, for his development of new mathematical tools to understand how groups of organisms interact. George Barany, a 1977 Rockefeller graduate and now assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Minnesota, was recognized for studies through which he has improved methods for producing synthetic hormones.

In an article in December's *Esquire*, "The Best of the New Generation—Men and Women Under Forty Who Are Changing America," Professor Michael Brownlee of the laboratory of medical biochemistry was cited for his research on diabetes, which includes testing a self-regulating implanted insulin-delivering device designed to replace daily injections. Nadia Nogueira, a Rockefeller graduate and former faculty member, now with the Department of Molecular and Medical Parasitology at New York University School of Medicine, was also cited. □

RU Scientists Honored in Bogotá, Hall Named for Kunkel



From left, Maclyn McCarty, John Zabriskie, Frank Dixon, Hans Müller-Eberhard, Bruce Merrifield, and President Belisario Betancur of Colombia, at the award ceremony in the presidential palace in Bogotá.

Professors Maclyn McCarty, Bruce Merrifield, and John Zabriskie were inducted into the Order of San Carlos, the highest civilian honor of the country of Colombia, by Belisario Betancur, president of Colombia, at an international symposium on Health Perspectives for the Year 2000, held November 5-8 in Bogotá.

Also knighted were Frank Dixon and Hans Müller-Eberhard of the Scripps Clinic and Manuel E. Patarroyo, a Rockefeller adjunct professor and head of the Department of Immunology of the San Juan de Dios Hospital in Bogotá. The hospital's new immunology building was dedicated during the symposium and its main auditorium was named in honor of the late Rockefeller immunologist Henry G. Kunkel.

Among the Rockefeller participants at the conference, which was organized by Dr. Patarroyo and Dr. Zabriskie, were Professors Zuvil A. Cohn, George Cross, and Vincent A. Fischetti, and also Rockefeller alumni David Baltimore, director of the Whitehead Institute, and Nadia Nogueira, a Rockefeller graduate and former faculty member now at New York University Medical Center.

The main theme of the symposium was how to utilize modern biotechnology to control and counter infectious diseases, an effort Rockefeller researchers have been involved in for many years. As Dr. Zabriskie states: "In underdeveloped areas like Latin America, malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, Chagas' disease, rheumatic fever, and hepatitis, among many other conditions, affect hundreds of millions of people. They are largely neglected in terms of research, and even when treatments or vaccines exist, they often fail to reach the individuals at risk. We need to develop and deliver the fruits of contemporary science if we are to eradicate these ancient scourges." □

Bernard Malamud to Give Spring Lecture

As part of the Rockefeller University-New York University Joint Program in Science and the Humanities, renowned author Bernard Malamud will present the spring evening lecture in Caspary Auditorium on March 14 at 8 P.M.

Awarded a Pulitzer Prize and a National Book Award in 1967 for *The Fixer*, Mr. Malamud is the author of numerous works, most recently *Dubin's Lives* and *God's Grace*. He is a member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Further information regarding the lecture can be obtained by calling the Humanities Office of New York University at 598-3687. □

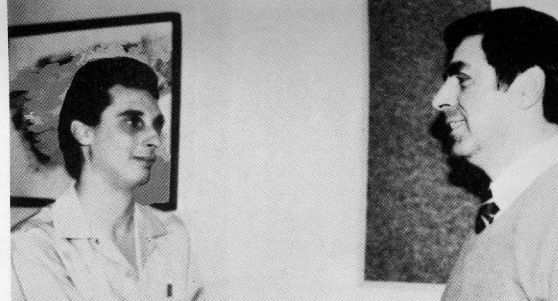
BRIEFS

Professor **M. A. B. Bég**, Theoretical Physics, was an invited lecturer at the Escuela Mexicana de Partículas y Campos, held under the auspices of the Sociedad Mexicana de Física, at Oaxtepec, December 3-14. He delivered five talks on The Scalar Sector of Modern Gauge Theories. Other speakers on new concepts in particle physics were Professor **Burt Ovrut** (currently on leave of absence at the University of Pennsylvania), Adjunct **William Marciano**, Senior Physicist, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and Professors Hidezumi Terazawa, of the University of Tokyo, and Daniel Wyler, of the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zürich, both formerly at Rockefeller.

Adjunct Professor **Bernice Grafstein**, Neuroendocrinology, has been named the first Vincent and Brooke Astor Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience at Cornell University Medical College.

Professor **Attallah Kappas**, Metabolism-Pharmacology, delivered the first of The Glaxo Lectures on the Pathophysiology of Digestive Diseases, an annual series presented by the division of digestive diseases of the Department of Medicine of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, on December 12. His topic was The Metabolism of Bilirubin.

Professor **Miklos Müller**, Biochemical Cytology, gave an invited talk at the Argentinian Congress of Protozoology and Chagas' Disease Conference, in Huerta Grande, October 29-November 2. He spoke on the mode of action of antianerobic nitromidazoles. He was also acting as a representative of the Society of Protozoologists at the meeting. At the Congress of the Pan-American Association of Biochemical Societies, held in Buenos Aires, November 4-9, he participated in a symposium on the Biochemistry of Parasitic Organisms, speaking on the metabolism of anaerobic parasitic protozoa.



Thomas Mineo congratulates Carmine DeNisi, Custodian of the Year.

Custodian of the Year

For the past two years, members of the University's custodial staff have been cited for superior service.

Carmine DeNisi, who joined the University in 1978, has been named Custodian of the Year for 1984. He was recognized for his work performance, "the spirit of cooperation and efficiency that he brings to his job," and a year's perfect attendance record. Runners-up were night cleaners Rita McClarence and Dalphine Messiah and porter Arquelio Negron.

Prizes awarded were a leather jacket for Mr. DeNisi, a coffee percolator for Mrs. McClarence, a food blender for Mrs. Messiah, and a jacket for Mr. Negron.

According to Supervisor Thomas Mineo, the winners are "typical. All the people on the staff do a great job, performing services around the clock to keep the University functioning. The recognition program emphasizes our appreciation for a job well done."

Mr. Mineo and Assistant Supervisors Luis Matos, Amilcar Negron, and Lillie Mae Curry also select one or more staff members to honor each month. □

Children's School Offers Parent-Child Classes

The Rockefeller University Children's School has begun a series of classes designed for parent-child participation, which is open to members of the University and neighborhood institutions and local residents.

An infant program for ages six months to one year features exercise, songs, and play. The toddler program, for ages one to two-and-one-half years, consists of sensory, dramatic, and manipulative play, music and movement, cooking, and arts and crafts. Both programs include parent discussion periods.

Classes are limited to 10 family pairs and are offered on a per term basis of eight weekly classes, with a \$64 fee for the toddler program and \$56 for the infant program. Those interested should call Barbara Adams, director of the Children's School, at extension 8580. □

Teacher Ellen Ziman, left, with the toddler class.



