

3-1989

NEWS AND NOTES 1989, VOL.20, NO.3

The Rockefeller University

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News and Notes

The Rockefeller University

February-March 1989
Volume 20, Number 3

Dial M For McGinnity

As director of Physical Facilities and Plant Operations, Thomas P. McGinnity, who retired in February, was known on campus as a man to count on in a clutch.

When a laboratory cold room compressor failed over Labor Day weekend in 1981, Mr. McGinnity came in from his Setauket, Long Island, home and installed a replacement,



Mr. McGinnity receives a farewell gift from the campus, presented by his secretary of eight years Josefina Poniente.

working until 2:00 a.m. and saving valuable samples of experimental material. During the Big Blackout of 1977, life-saving climatic conditions for the laboratory animals in the LARC building were maintained for 15 hours, a result of a power hook-up to a generator in the Boiler House engineered by Mr. McGinnity. And when a heavy rainstorm flooded the transformer station, Mr. McGinnity went into action, wearing his "good suit," helping to get the sump pump working.

"Tom was always first on the scene," says Vice President for Business and Finance David J. Lyons. "He's one of those managers who does everything and wouldn't ask of anyone what he couldn't do himself."

Mr. McGinnity, an accredited Professional Engineer (PE), acquired much of his technical know-how from working in the construction industry with the Royal Bank of Canada. It was when the University together with six other parties was considering the purchase of Sutton Terrace in 1968 that Mr. McGinnity, then sitting on the other side of the table for the building's owner, Helmsley-Spear Inc., first came to the University's attention.

"Tom's understanding the ins and outs of the construction and engineering industry has

been an enormous asset to our University," comments Executive Vice President Rodney W. Nichols.

First employed as director of engineering in 1972, then as director of physical facilities and plant operations in 1976, Mr. McGinnity supervised all the newly unified departments that maintain and service the campus. Furthermore, he emphasized teamwork.

"Many universities separate the teams that design and construct a building from those that operate it. I tried to bring these two groups together. But my first objective was always to keep the laboratories operating so the scientists could do their work," says Mr. McGinnity.

As the present faculty has benefited from Mr. McGinnity's "scientists first" philosophy, so will the University's future faculty. For example, the recently installed power plant upgrade will ensure that the energy needs of their laboratories will be accommodated through the end of this century and into the 21st.

The same is true for the University's growing need for electricity. A new transformer was recently installed to complement the existing one and will be ready when the new laboratory building is constructed. "This second transformer is a particularly good example of the backup and redundancy principle instituted by Tom," says James Z. Metalios, the superintendent of operations and maintenance. Together with Wayne D. Tucker, construction manager for the new laboratory building, they succeed Mr. McGinnity in the department.

"From an engineering point-of-view, this system of tie-ins and back-up for heating, water, and electricity not only provides for the future needs of the University, but has also unified the campus," continues Mr. Metalios. "For example, if you lose steam in the south end of the campus, we now have the capability to tap the back-up we need."

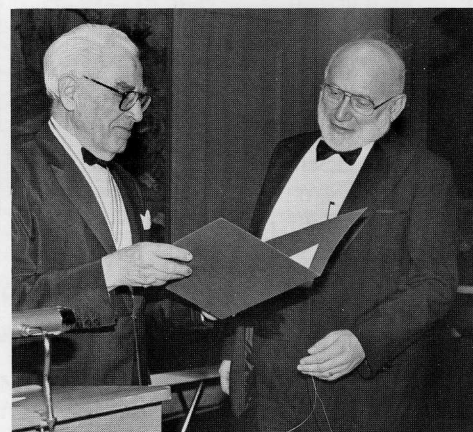
But the McGinnity legacy extends beyond the engineering infrastructure of the campus' physical plant. He had a hand in constructing all the new buildings on campus since 1972, including the completion of the Tower building, and the construction of LARC, Smith Hall Annex, Scholars Residence, and Faculty House. He also initiated the construction of the new research building and the 63rd Street pedestrian walkway. His department was also responsible for the renovation and modernization of many laboratories on campus. Off campus, he orchestrated the construction of
(continued on page 3)



Presidential Search

The Rockefeller University Trustee Presidential Search Committee is chaired by Dr. William O. Baker, with Richard M. Furlaud serving as vice chairman, and Alexander G. Bearn serving as secretariat. The committee will be working closely with Professor Torsten Wiesel, chairman of the Faculty Advisory Committee, to seek a successor to Dr. Joshua Lederberg, who will be retiring as President of the University in 1990.

Honors and Awards



University Council member William T. Golden, left, chairman of the New York Academy of Sciences, presenting the Academy's Presidential Award to President Lederberg.

President Lederberg received the Presidential Award of the New York Academy of Sciences for his "outstanding accomplishments in science and his service in the course of science" at the Academy's 171st annual meeting, January 9, held at the American Museum of Natural History. At the meeting, Professor **Philip Siekevitz**, Cell Biology, was made an Honorary Life Member.

Computerizing a House of Cards

The days of raking fingers through card catalogs in The Rockefeller University library will soon be history. Most of the cards have become electronic, their information now transformed into bits and bytes for a computer screen.

"Computer systems had been developed at other libraries," says University Librarian Sonya Wohl Mirsky, "so the mousetrap already existed. What we did was build a slightly better mousetrap. The library's computer catalog will continue to evolve where entire printed pages can be digitally stored in the computer and then brought to the screen. But that's in the foreseeable, rather than the immediate, future."

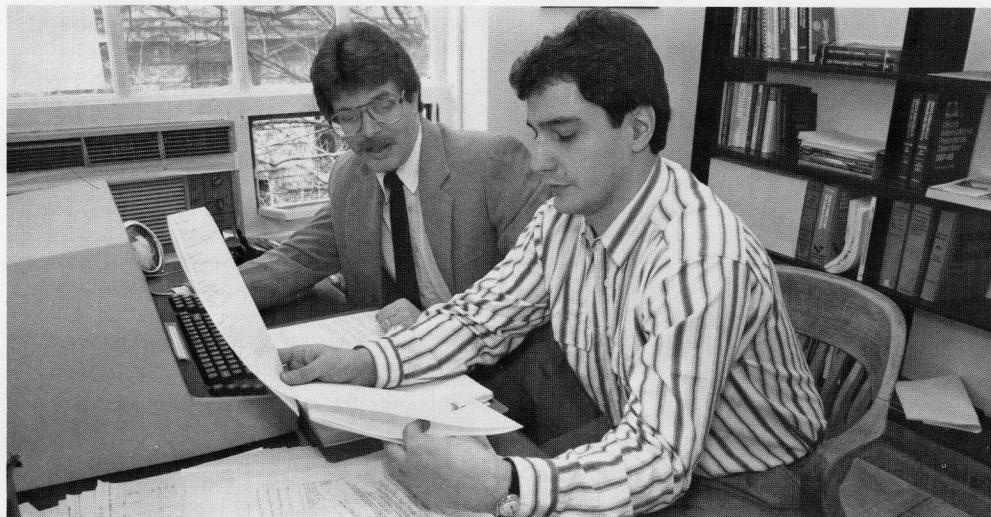
The programs for the catalog system were written by Computing Services under the supervision of Director Melvin Ferentz to the specifications indicated by Mrs. Mirsky. Computing Services maintains and updates the system daily and reindexes the files weekly. Other programs pertaining to circulation, periodical control, and acquisitions were written and are maintained by Systems Analyst Douglas Many.

The project began in the spring of 1979 when President Lederberg encouraged the development of a computerized library catalog. The first step was to interview various library users at the Rockefeller to learn what they were looking for in the way of a computer catalog. On the basis of this information, the catalog programs were designed.

The typing of catalog cards stopped on January 1, 1984, the day the system came on line. As work progressed and the data base grew, the system acquired a new vitality. Today, all of the library's periodicals, and two thirds of the books, have been electronically cataloged.

There are four terminals set up for public use: one on the first floor of Welch Hall, two on the second floor, and one in the Mathematics and Physics Library in the Tower Building. Library users may also opt to re-

main in their offices and bring up the library catalog on their own terminals. They can scan through the menu-driven system to find references for the books, periodicals, or even the works of Rockefeller faculty. One of the



Douglas Many, left, reviewing literature search results with Luis Gonzalez.

options available is the faculty bibliography which contains some 22,000 references.

A few key strokes quickly put the library collection in view of the searchers. Within seconds, they can switch from title search to author search, subjects, keywords, or the tables of contents.

Acquisitions, periodicals, and circulation information are available on line as well. Library users are notified by computer mail as to the availability of any book, periodical, or subscription that they have requested.

Some members of the campus community were initially reluctant to abandon the tactile pleasures they derived from the cards. But with time, more and more users have appreciated the efficiencies of the computer catalog. Moreover, the money saved as a result of

the implementation of the computer was not insignificant. The manual catalog system required the constant attention of a cataloger and six typist clerks. The computerized catalog system is maintained by two people: a cataloger and one person to handle the word processing of the tables of contents. Circula-

tion, periodicals, and acquisition staffs, along with their procedures, have been similarly streamlined. No staff member has been terminated to effect these savings. Personnel changes have resulted through attrition and retraining.

Another computer service which responds to the needs of our faculty and students is access to bibliographic data base services that primarily index periodical literature. Luis Gonzalez, bibliographic data base searcher, accesses any one of some two dozen services in performing the needed searches. These searches are delivered to the library user via electronic mail or as a printed file, as requested. As more data base services become available they are evaluated as possible additions to the services already in place. Mr. Gonzalez holds training sessions for those who wish to conduct their own searches, known as interactive searches.

RU Helps Train Science Writers

Each year, science writing students in the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism come to interview Rockefeller scientists as part of their training.

"These students are the nation's future science reporters, so getting to know the leading scientists and their work is essential," says Professor Ken Goldstein, head of Columbia's science writing program. "We're grateful to Rockefeller for giving them the chance."

On January 31, a group of five students divided themselves among Professor Emeritus Vincent P. Dole, Biology of Addictive Diseases, Professors Konstantin Goulianos, Experimental High-Energy Physics, and John Ding-E Young, Cell Physiology and Immunology. On February 14, two more reporters-in-training interviewed Professors Alexander Mauro, Biophysics, and Steven A. Kay, Plant Molecular Biology. After their interviews, the students are required to write news stories for class, sometimes for publication.



Columbia University journalism student enthusiastically takes notes as Alexander Mauro explains aspects of possible research on the regeneration of damaged heart muscle.

Appointments

Gregory R. Reinhard as assistant director, Laboratory Animal Research Center, effective January 23.

Promotions

Timothy D. Marinetti, Biophysics, to associate professor, effective February 1.

Nina Bhardwaj, Cellular Physiology and Immunology, **Masami Horikoshi**, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and **Steven A. Kay**, Plant Molecular Biology, to assistant professor, effective February 1.

In Print

Aging and the Skin, co-edited by Assistant Professor **Arthur K. Balin**, Investigative Dermatology, and **Albert M. Kligman**, emeritus professor of dermatology, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, has been published by Raven Press, New York. The book is written for those who treat people with aged skin.

McGinnity (continued from page 1)

the Rockefeller Archive Center in Pocantico Hills, New York.

Says President Lederberg, "Tom brought his expertise and personal concern to the requirements of each and every project he undertook."

"It's been said that we shape our buildings and then our buildings shape us," says Mr. Lyons. "Well then, as we walk through this campus we're shaped by Tom McGinnity."

While he plans to keep active consulting for private industry and universities, including Rockefeller, Mr. McGinnity intends to spend more time with his family, especially his grandchildren. However, eighteen years of "beeper-ready" involvement with his department is not something you can switch off like a light. Says Mr. McGinnity, "If there is ever a problem the University needs help with, all they have to do is dial M for McGinnity, and I'll be there."



Thomas P. McGinnity on the scene helping to direct the installation of the University's new transformer as it is lowered into position behind the 66th Street guardhouse in February. The transformer is part of the University's plan to meet its energy demands into the 21st century.

Changes at the Archive Office

As of mid-February the campus archive office is open only on Mondays and Fridays when Archivist Lee R. Hiltzik handles requests for archival materials. The rest of the week he can be reached at the Rockefeller Archive Center in Pocantico Hills. Barbara J. Gilson, campus archivist since 1987, is now university archivist at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She also is in charge of the Area Research Center, a branch of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.



Moving Day: Among the first to move into the newly-completed Scholars Residence are Tadayo Miyasaka, left, a postdoctoral associate in the laboratory of Professor Alan Saltiel. With him are his wife, right, Junko, and his two children, Akira and Mitsura. Dr. Miyasaka comes to the University from Kyoto University and is investigating the mechanism of insulin action.

Learning French over Lunch

Born in France to Czechoslovakian parents, Bôzenka Glatt brought a love of languages to Rockefeller when she came in June 1987. Although her position as secretary to Professor Mitchell Feigenbaum, head of the University's laboratory of mathematical physics, keeps her very busy, last fall she decided to make use of her language skills by organizing a French conversation group in her spare time.

"Teaching French keeps me in touch with my language and gives me something valuable to share with others," says Ms. Glatt, whose group meets on Tuesdays for lunch in the cafeteria and on Thursdays at noon on the thirteenth floor of the Tower building.

Her pupils are an international mix of faculty, staff, and students, at varying levels of French proficiency. "I was afraid I might feel intimidated," recalls Kate Cameron, the University's interior decorator and a French group regular. "But Bôzenka makes everyone feel comfortable immediately."

Daniele Piomelli, an Italian postdoctoral fellow in neurobiology, says he finds Ms. Glatt's enthusiasm contagious. "When we didn't meet over the holidays, I really missed it." To make up the lost time, he invited the group over for dinner.

As proof that Ms. Glatt's efforts get results, Alessandro Monge, an Italian graduate fellow in physics, notes: "Sometimes I forget that I am speaking in French because we get so involved in our discussions."

Often the discussion turns to science, a language Ms. Glatt also understands, having spent time at the University of California in Berkeley, the 3M Company, and the New York office of an agency that funded French scientific research, before coming to Rockefeller. But, she explains, "It's the milieu not the science, that I thrive on."

Ms. Glatt's group is not the first nor the only organized language class on campus. The Dean's office sponsors language lessons with teachers from the United Nations School, and occasionally, students have organized groups themselves, though they usually dismantle when the students graduate. Ms. Glatt's dedication and the popularity of her group seem likely to continue. "It's the exchange that means the most to me," she says. "Whatever I give, I get so much more in return."

Phoebe Stein Dies

Phoebe Stein, widow of Rockefeller biochemist and Nobel Laureate William H. Stein, died of lung cancer on January 1 at Montefiore Hospital. She was 75 years old.

Dr. Stein was associated with the Rockefeller for more than four decades, where he contributed greatly to the understanding of protein chemistry. In 1972, he and his laboratory co-head, the late Stanford Moore, with Christian B. Anfinsen of the National Institutes of Health, were awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their work in deciphering the chemical structure of the enzyme pancreatic ribonuclease.

An active participant in campus functions both before and after her husband's death in 1980, Mrs. Stein was instrumental in founding the University's annual William H. Stein Memorial Lecture Series, at which a distinguished scientist is invited to present a talk in Caspary Auditorium to the campus community.

Professor James Manning, who began his career at Rockefeller with Drs. Stein and Moore, observed that "Phoebe Stein was an extraordinary person, who dedicated her time and talents to many causes. She was the catalyst for William Stein's continued productivity during the last decade of his life after he had become paralyzed."

Mrs. Stein, a long-time advocate of health-care causes, was a trustee of several institutions, including two New York City advocacy organizations, New Alternatives for Children, and Concern for Dying. Until recently she was a member of the city's Hospitals Visiting Committee.

She is survived by three sons, William Jr., of Greenwich, Connecticut; David, of Manhattan; and Robert, of Brookline, Massachusetts; and seven grandchildren.

Anniversary and Retirement Dinner

On May 15, the University will hold its annual dinner for those who have worked at Rockefeller for 25 or more years, and those who retired during the academic year with 10 or more years of service.

Deaths

Marian E. Lucius, 77, University registrar from 1960 to 1972, on January 5.

Irene Slizys, 66, laboratory technician from 1950 to 1989, most recently in the molecular and cellular neuroscience laboratory of Professor Paul Greengard, on February 10.

Personals

Born to Professor **Michael W. Young**, Genetics, and his wife, Laurel Eckhardt, an associate professor of biology at Columbia University, a daughter, Arissa, on January 7.

Adieu to an Era

Before departing New York City for a freelance career in California on January 1, Director of Public Information Judith N. Schwartz earned the reputation as the eyes, ears, and voice of The Rockefeller University. For eighteen years, Ms. Schwartz wrote many of the University's publications, brokered information to the media regarding University research and personnel, and chronicled daily campus life in countless editions of *News and Notes*.

Initially, there was no formal organization for the University's public relations. Ms. Schwartz was hired part-time in 1970 by editor Fulvio Bardossi to write *News and*



Director of Public Information Marc Kaplan and Public Information Assistant Catherine Rogers presenting outgoing Director Judith N. Schwartz, left, with mementos of her eighteen years of service to the University at her farewell party in December.

Notes. Her first issue appeared in November with a lead article featuring the nurses in the Hospital.

Mr. Bardossi and Ms. Schwartz wrote

other University publications as well, and handled public relations assignments. Both worked closely with Eugene H. Kone, public relations consultant, who was responsible for press releases, orchestrating media interviews and science writers conferences, and maintaining files on faculty. However, as the public relations needs of the University grew, it became clear that there was a need for a separate department. With Mr. Bardossi as public information officer, and Mr. Kone as public information associate, the Public Information Office was officially created in 1975, and Ms. Schwartz came on as a full-time staff member.

"Little by little, Judy did more and more," remembers Mr. Bardossi. "She had the right skills and the right instincts, and involved herself with everything going on in the office."

"Judy is also a very wise woman," continues Mr. Bardossi. "She understood people and the priorities of the University, and could evaluate a situation dispassionately. Over the years, I came to rely on her judgement. As a bonus to me personally, we became very good friends."

In 1982, Mr. Bardossi and Ms. Schwartz launched a new publication, *Research Profiles*, a quarterly highlighting individual faculty members to give audiences outside the University an in-depth understanding of its research programs. The first issue premiered that spring with Professor Vincent G. Allfrey on the cover.

In the ensuing years, Ms. Schwartz wrote 32 editions of *Research Profiles* which gave the scientists the chance to know Judy in profile as well. Professor Bruce S. McEwen remarks that one of Judy's talents as a writer is

her sense of humor. "I found that her humor helped place the research in perspective," he says. "She was wonderful to have around the lab when she was researching my profile and interviewing me."

When Mr. Bardossi retired in 1985, Ms. Schwartz was promoted to director of Public Information. Her knowledge of the campus and sensitivity to its concerns won her the admiration of faculty and staff alike. Professor Nicola N. Khuri points to the sense of trust she engendered in the faculty over the years. "Objectivity and honesty are the qualities that best serve this University," he says. "Judy had the intelligence and confidence to tell our scientists the straight story."

Succeeding Ms. Schwartz as director of public information is Marc S. Kaplan, formerly associate director.

The poster of Albert Einstein is gone from the wall of her Nurses' Residence office and now hangs in the office of her Carlsbad, California, home. The cordless phone (a farewell gift from her department) keeps her in touch with friends in New York City and prospective California clients. And the tennis court outside her apartment complex has replaced the one on 65th Street where she was as much an RU institution on Fridays as the University Lecture Series. With her departure, an era of science journalism and public information at the University comes to an end.



Gregory R. Reinhard, right, assistant director of the University's Laboratory Animal Research Center (LARC), discussing his presentation on laboratory animal care with LARC Director Dennis Stark at a recent lecture for animal care personnel held on campus. Dr. Reinhard's lecture was part of a monthly series intended for animal facility staff members from the University, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, Cornell University Medical College, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. Lecture topics include animal health care, sanitation and husbandry, and nutrition and diets. This ongoing training program serves to update and review basic knowledge needed to enhance the care of animals in laboratory animal research facilities.

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 3. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to *News and Notes*, Box 68, phone extension 8967. Photographs, Media Resource Service Center. © 1989 The Rockefeller University, New York 10021-6399. Printed in the United States of America.

Briefs

Professor **David J.E. Callaway**, Theoretical Physics, gave an invited lecture "Triviality Pursuit: Can Elementary Scalar Particles Exist?" at the Aspen Physics Conference, Aspen, Colorado, January 8-14, 1989.

Professor **D. Martin Carter**, Investigative Dermatology, spoke on "Wound Healing and Keratinocyte Grafting in Epidermolysis Bullosa" and "Organization of Epidermolysis Bullosa Registry," at the International Epidermolysis Bullosa Symposium, sponsored by the British branch of the Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association (DEBRA), in London, January 19-20.

Professor **E.G.D. Cohen**, Theoretical Physics, was an invited speaker at the eighteenth meeting on Statistical Mechanics, held in Oaxtepec, Mexico, January 5-7, as well as at a workshop on the Statistical Mechanics of Fluids at the Laboratorium of Solar Energy, in Temixco, Mexico, January 9-11. The subject of his lecture was "Deterministic Lattice Gas Models."

Professors **Hidesaburo Hanafusa**, Viral Oncology; **Peter Marler**, Animal Behavior; **Donald Pfaff**, Neurobiology and Behavior; and **Robert Roeder**, Biochemistry and Mol-

ecular Biology, presented lectures during the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in San Francisco, January 14-19.

Adjunct Professor **Richard M. Krause**, dean of the Emory University School of Medicine, has rejoined the National Institutes of Health as Senior Scientific Adviser to the Fogarty International Center. Dr. Krause was director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases from 1975 to 1984.

Executive Vice President **Rodney W. Nichols** has accepted Health and Human Services Secretary Bowen's invitation to serve a four-year term on the Advisory Committee to the Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Professor **Philip Siekevitz**, Cell Biology, co-chaired a New York Academy of Sciences conference "Ethical Issues in Military Research: What Are The Issues? How Can They Be Handled?" at the Marriott Crystal Gateway, Arlington, Virginia, January 26-28. The conference was co-sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences and the Philosophy and Technology Study Center of Polytechnic University. The co-chairman was Professor Carl Mitcham of Polytechnic.

A View from the Dean's Office

February-March 1989

New Ph.D. Students

Julia George graduated summa cum laude from Texas A&M University in 1987 with a degree in biochemistry. A National Merit Scholarship winner, she also received a Texas A&M Endowed Fellowship and was elected to the Phi Lambda Upsilon Chemical Honor Society. At RU, she is working with Dr. David Clayton of Dr. Fernando Nottebohm's lab researching the development of song pathways in canaries. Born in Waco, Texas, and raised in Texas City, Julie has found her hobbies of golf and fishing difficult to pursue in New York City.

A 1987 graduate of the University of Geneva with a degree in biology, Pierre Gönczy was born in Winterthur, Switzerland, and raised in Geneva. At the University of Geneva, he worked with Dr. Bernard Mach, an RU alumnus, investigating the molecular mechanisms controlling the expression of human class II antigens. Pierre, who taught high school part-time in Switzerland before entering RU, also worked as a photographer and journalist. With three other photographers, he collaborated on a book about refugees in Switzerland. Recently, he also created two audiovisual pieces on the subject, one of which Swiss television aired in February.

Alexander Hoffmann, who was born in Mönchengladbach, West Germany, graduated from the University of Cambridge, England in 1988 with an honors degree in natural sciences. In 1985, a six-month hiatus between secondary school and college permitted Alexander to live in Japan. He worked there, successively, in an import/export company, for a men's fashion designer, and at an auto filter factory. In the summer of 1987, Alexander worked in the United States with Dr. W. C. Earnshaw at the Johns Hopkins Medical School. With Dr. Earnshaw, he discovered an auto-antibody to topoisomerase II and cloned the enzyme. At RU, he is working in Dr. Robert Roeder's lab on the purification of transcription factor TFIIA. Alexander, who likes to cycle around New York City (he toured Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and Hong Kong by bicycle in 1985), also enjoys the contemporary art scene and playing the flute.

While at the High School of Performing Arts in New York City, Erich Jarvis seemed destined for a career in the Arts. Erich, a native New Yorker, studied with the Joffrey Ballet and at the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre. While in high school, he sang with the Bronx Opera Company and the Music and Art Chamber Choir and danced professionally with the Ballet Theatre of Westchester. However, science exerted a stronger lure and he chose to attend Hunter College in New York City, where he majored in both biology and

First-Year Journal Club

Continuing a 17-year-old Rockefeller University tradition, the 28 first-year M.D.-Ph.D. and Ph.D. students gathered for a First-Year Journal Club dinner meeting on January 18.

The club, which meets on Wednesday nights from September through April, features presentations from each of the first-year students. At each meeting, two first-year students present journal articles for review. Each presenter provides background information on an article, highlights its main points, and critiques the author's arguments. A junior faculty member, invited by the presenter, provides expertise on the chosen subject.

Three upper-level students act as club coordinators: Marina Picciotto of Dr. Paul Greengard's lab, Anthony Molloy of Dr. Gilla Kaplan's lab, and Daniel Kessler, of Dr. James Darnell's lab.

The purpose of the club according to Marina Picciotto is threefold: to allow first-year

students to become better acquainted, to introduce students to junior faculty, and to provide a "not-too-threatening" forum for students to present a talk.

Marina, who has been a coordinator for two years, believes that the format allows the presentations to be very creative. At the January 18 meeting, Marga Theelen presented an article from *Science* on the recent reclassification of chimpanzees to the endangered species list. Her talk concluded with a discussion on the effects this would have upon scientific research. Michael Overduin reviewed an article entitled "Morality and the Meaning of Life: Some First Thoughts" from the *Canadian Philosophical Review*.

Student presentations are preceded by a cocktail period and a formal dinner served in the Tower dining room. The First-Year Journal Club dinner meetings hark back to the time when formal, candlelit dinners were a nightly feature of RU student life.



First-year students Pratik Mukherjee, Richard Bernstein, Julia George, Miriam Berger, Mark Forman, and Chih-Hao Chou listen to a speaker at a meeting of the First-Year Journal Club.

Volunteering

Since last fall, members of the RU community have volunteered to tutor homeless children. Going weekly to the Prince George Hotel, a Manhattan welfare hotel, they tutor resident children in a variety of subjects. The volunteers are part of the After School Learning Center, a program sponsored by the Children's Aid Society.

Involved in the program are Ph.D. students Scott Dougan, Pierre Gönczy, Christopher Marshall, and Marina Picciotto. Marianna Gönczy and Lucia de Mello, the wives of first-year students, are also volunteers. The tutors each coach a child for three hours per week. However, they provide much more than homework help; they offer the children a sense of stability. According to Scott

Dougan, they give the children "someone to trust."

Helping the children to explore New York City is also part of the program. Fieldtrips have included the circus, the Central Park Zoo, and a children's art show at the Guggenheim Museum.

The Learning Center was started at the Prince George three years ago to cope with the educational and emotional needs of the 1,200 resident children. Currently, there are 400 children registered with the After School Learning Center and some 70 business people, artists, and students who act as tutors. The Children's Aid Society, which operates the program city-wide, unofficially estimates the number of homeless New York City children at 11,000.

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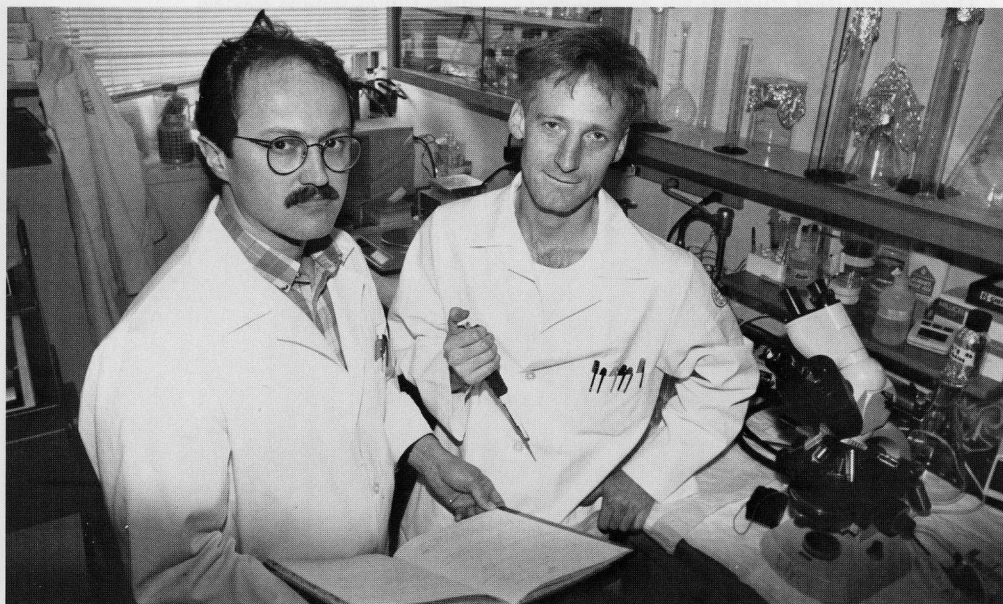
Anthony Molloy

Rockefeller University Abroad

Graduate student Anthony Molloy and postdoctoral associate Gerald Hancock, both of Dr. Zanvil Cohn's laboratory, journeyed to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, last November to participate in a cell-mediated immunity project using interleukin-2.

The twelve-month-old project is run by the Armauer Hansen Research Institute, which is affiliated with the University of Bergen in Norway. Professor Zanvil Cohn, head of the RU cellular physiology and immunology lab, and Assistant Professor Gilla Kaplan have had ties with the Institute for several years. Professor Cohn has been involved in interleukin-2 projects in Brazil, Columbia, India, and the Philippines.

Anthony and Gerald participated in the project that is investigating the effects of interleukin-2 on the cytotoxicity of cells in leprosy patients. Leprosy is a disease characterized by a profound, antigen-specific immunosuppression. *Mycobacterium leprae*, the causative agent of leprosy, appears to block T lymphocyte activation. Inter-



Dr. Gerald Hancock confers with second-year Ph.D. student Anthony Molloy. Both participated in a cell-mediated immunity project in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

leukin-2, a T cell growth factor used in cancer research, has shown potential for inhibiting the initial immunosuppressive action of *Mycobacterium leprae*.

Work was foremost on the schedule for the RU team. A day climb of Mount Ntoto in central Ethiopia and trips to the Mercato, Africa's largest open air market, provided the pair with their main diversions during their month-long stay.

A few days before leaving, Anthony and Gerald distributed RU tee shirts to patients and staff at the Research Institute.

On the day of their departure, Anthony and Gerald stopped at an airport restaurant. They were served by a bartender wearing a blue RU tee shirt. This proves, according to Anthony, an old Addis Ababa adage: "that you can buy anything at the Mercato."

Microcomputer Users' Group

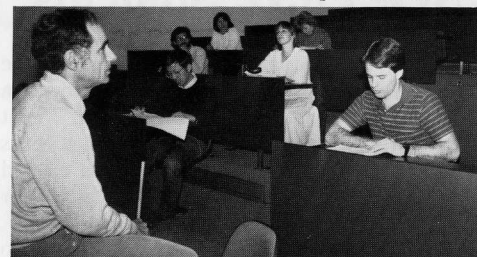
Bewildered by the array of graphic, database, DNA analysis, and spectroscopy packages flooding the software market? Take heart. The Rockefeller Microcomputer Users' Group is ready to step into the breach.

The group, with its steering committee of 12 faculty members, postdoctoral associates, and students, was organized last November by Dr. Sanford Simon, a postdoctoral associate in Dr. Günter Blobel's lab. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at noon in Tower 301. Notices are posted around campus and appear in the RU Calendar of Events. According to Sandy Simon, meetings are suitable for both technophobes and computer hackers alike.

Each meeting focuses on either a type of software program or a piece of computer hardware. In general, five or six speakers at each meeting review their experience with a given program. Software programs are compared with regard to features, storage capabilities, price, and user friendliness. Sandy believes that "only by using a computer and

its programs, or by speaking to another user, can a wise purchasing decision be made." Also, meeting participants can make use of bulk order rates available for most software packages. Since the group's inception, the University has saved several thousand dollars through the use of bulk order rates.

At the February 1 meeting, Dr. Ehud Kaplan, an associate professor in Dr. Bruce Knight's lab, was the sole speaker. He re-



Dr. Ehud Kaplan addresses the February 1 meeting of the Microcomputer Users' Group.

viewed two-dimensional and three-dimensional scientific graphics packages. As Ehud Kaplan stated, "most scientific graphics programs are warmed-over business packages, designed for needs which are rarely encountered in the scientific community." Therefore, he compiled a list of requirements which a good graphics program for scientific use should meet. His presentation previewed an article he wrote for the March 14, 1989 issue of PC Magazine. The issue was devoted to statistical packages.

Upcoming meeting topics will include word processing packages and drawing/presentation graphics packages. A directory of computers and programs used at RU is being compiled from the results of a university-wide questionnaire sent out by the group. Dr. Paul Rosen, senior research associate and steering committee member, estimates from preliminary survey results that there are 500 IBM PCs and compatibles, and 100 Macintosh computers currently in use at Rockefeller. He would place at "about 100" the number of different software packages used in RU laboratories and offices.

sponse of endothelial cells during an immune response. Lynne's work at RU will focus on the expression of class I genes and their mutations. She is in Dr. Jan Geliebter's Howard Hughes Medical Institute lab. A devotee of old movies, impressionist art, and science fiction literature, Lynne also enjoys gourmet cooking.

Christopher Marshall received his Vordiplom in biology from the University of Munich in 1986. Born in Montclair, New Jersey, Christopher lived in Pennsylvania until the age of 10, when his family moved to Munich, West Germany. Although he arrived in Germany not speaking the language, he achieved considerable fluency within a year and did his schooling in the German gymnasium. While at the University of Munich, he worked as a lab assistant at the Institute for Physical Biochemistry. In 1987, he worked with Dr. Wolfgang Nellen in the cell biology department of the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry. At RU, he is in Dr. Hidesaburo Hanafusa's viral oncology laboratory. He is attempting to characterize the viral *crk* oncogene. Christopher, who has traveled extensively throughout Europe, also plays the piano.

New Students (continued from page 1) mathematics. He was appointed to a Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) program, and later won Minority Access to Research Careers fellowships for undergraduate and graduate research. As an undergraduate researcher, Erich completed the chromosomal organization of ribosomal RNA operons in the bacterium *Bacillus subtilis*. He won two awards for excellence in biomedical research: the national MBRS award in 1986 and the Theodora Salmon Award, a City University of New York award, in 1988. At RU, Erich is pursuing his interest in molecular neurobiology. And yes, Erich still dances.

Lynne A. Lapierre, who was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, received her B.S. degree in 1981 from Southeastern Massachusetts University with a double major in biology and chemistry. Lynne worked towards a master's degree in biology at Boston College, where she taught medical microbiology and general biology to undergraduates. In 1983, she began working with Dr. Jordan S. Pober at Brigham and Women's Hospital as a technical associate. Their work involved the re-

John Sholtis