

4-1972

## NEWS AND NOTES 1972, VOL.3, NO.7

The Rockefeller University

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news\\_and\\_notes\\_1972](http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news_and_notes_1972)

---

### Recommended Citation

The Rockefeller University, "NEWS AND NOTES 1972, VOL.3, NO.7" (1972). *News and Notes 1972*. Book 5.  
[http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news\\_and\\_notes\\_1972/5](http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news_and_notes_1972/5)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Rockefeller University News and Notes at Digital Commons @ RU. It has been accepted for inclusion in News and Notes 1972 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ RU. For more information, please contact [mcsweej@mail.rockefeller.edu](mailto:mcsweej@mail.rockefeller.edu).

## Frank Brink, Jr. Resigns as Dean; James G. Hirsch Named to Succeed Him

Professor Frank Brink, Jr., who has been dean of graduate studies since the post was created in 1957, is resigning in order to devote more time to research. James G. Hirsch, professor and senior physician, has been appointed to succeed him as dean, effective July 1.

Dr. Clarence M. Connelly and Dr. Martin A. Rizack will continue as associate deans.

Dr. Brink, who has been closely associated with the graduate studies program since its inception in 1954, has played a major role in admissions and the organization of lectures, seminars, and laboratory instruction. One of his principal responsibilities has been counseling with graduate students and their faculty advisors.

His research interests are centered in the biophysics and biochemistry of specialized cells, including nerve and muscle, and motile protozoa. Together with President Emeritus Detlev W. Bronk, with whom he has been associ-

ated since 1935, Dr. Brink has studied the relations between oxidative processes of metabolism and electrochemical properties of nerve cells.

Dr. Hirsch's association with Rockefeller dates back to 1950 when he joined the staff as a visiting investigator and National Research Council Fellow. He worked with Professor René J. Dubos on tuberculosis studies. Dr.

Hirsch has been a full professor and senior physician since 1960 and is co-head with Dr. Zanvil A. Cohn of the laboratory of cellular physiology and immunology, which has emphasized studies of the function of mammalian cells as related to immunology and experimental pathology. Dr. Hirsch and his colleagues have investigated the structure and chemical composition of various types of white cells and have discovered some of the reactions within these cells that enable them to perform their role in host resistance to infection.

### Spring Planting

Each spring there's something new to enjoy in the floral displays on campus. This year Head Gardener Andries van Zadel announces pink "garden party" tulips and blue grape hyacinths in the round beds in front of the Nurses' Residence and Flexner Hall. Grape hyacinths have also been planted around the Hospital and along the Esplanade. Blue irises (*Reticulata*)

have been added to the familiar yellow ones. New, too, are pink, white, and blue *Anemone blanda* in front of Caspary, and "stink lilies" (*Fritillaria imperialis*) behind the dome. The latter are large, yellow blooms, very lovely but evil smelling, hence the name and the location.

Preparation for flowering annuals begins in late fall when the gardeners dig out the summer's geraniums and begonias, turn over the earth, and put in the new bulbs and tubers which were ordered earlier, mainly from Mr. van Zadel's native Holland. The beds are then leveled, raked, sprayed to prevent blight, and, about a month later, fertilized. Early in spring, when the shoots begin pushing up, the beds are sprayed again. First arrivals are winter aconite, crocuses, and irises. Right behind them come the anemones, then later the tulips and grape hyacinths. In mid-May dahlia bulbs go in and, soon after, the spring bulbs, their season ended, come out to make room for geraniums and begonias. Then the cycle begins again. Another treat this year will be the first blooming of the crab apple trees at the four corners of the Tower Building, seen before only on the architects' drawings. Other plantings around the Tower area include ilex, cotoneaster, and andromeda bushes.

*Arboreal aerialists prune away the dead wood and "let the sunshine in."*





Learning about learning: Angel Vela (left) in Mexico and Michael Cole (right) in Africa.

## From Liberia to Chinatown to the Yucatan

Michael Cole, professor of ethnopsychology in the mathematical and experimental psychology laboratory of Professor William K. Estes, directs a research network with stations in Western Africa, Mexico, and the public schools of New York. He and his co-workers are studying the learning process in children from profoundly different cultural backgrounds. They are probing some of the most basic questions concerning the role of culture in the development of cognitive thinking—how culture affects learning and thinking and, by extension, whether or not learning abilities are essentially different in various racial or cultural groups.

Dr. Cole came to Rockefeller in 1969, but his association with Dr. Estes dates back more than a decade to his days as a doctoral candidate studying under Dr. Estes at Indiana University. His first work in Africa, in 1965, explored the difficulties encountered by children of the Kpelle people of Liberia in learning Western-style mathematics. From this experience came the book, *The New Mathematics and an Old Culture* (1967), coauthored with John Gay, chairman of the Social Science Division of Cuttington College in Monrovia, Liberia. Five more years and as many more journeys to Africa for extended studies of the Kpelle resulted in a second volume, *The Cultural Context of Learning and Thinking* (1971), produced in collaboration with Dr. Gay, Joseph A. Glick, associate professor of psychology at The City University of New York, and psychologist Donald W. Sharp.

A recent Carnegie Corporation grant of \$250,000, earmarked for the work of the Estes lab, assures the continuance of Dr. Cole's investigations for the coming three years. The African studies are presently being conducted by Research Associate Sylvia Scribner, with the help of Dr. Gay and Akki Kulah, an African doctoral can-

didate at the University of California at Irvine, where Dr. Cole taught before coming to Rockefeller. For more than a year, Dr. Cole has also been directing comparable research with Maya Indian and mestizo school children in the Yucatan. This past December and January, the dry season when travel is easier, he was in Mexico setting up new study bases with Dr. Sharp. Helping them are three trained Mayan researchers.

Concurrently, Dr. Cole and his staff have been busy in public schools in Manhattan—schools with populations representative of the city's cultural mix, white and black, Puerto Rican and Oriental, middle class and poor. Research Associates Katherine W. Estes and Thomas Ciborowski, Postdoctoral Fellow Edward D. Fahrmeier, Assistant for Research Janet Sherman, and others assist classroom teachers, help devise and administer experimental tests, talk, listen, and watch. They want to find out how children perceive, classify, form rules, and remember. They want to evaluate the effects of age, language development, education, incentives, and life experience. They want to know why black children in Harlem, proudly competitive in the linguistic complexities of street banter, have difficulty remembering the alphabet (and why Kpelle villagers score higher than Yale sophomores in certain measurement tests). Why do some "rules" appear to work for some children and not for others? What kinds of techniques can be developed to teach children skills that their experience has not equipped them with?

Are cultural differences the end result of different reasoning capacities or abilities to conceptualize on a "higher" or "lower" level; or do people think differently because their cultures create different needs and expectations? Chapter 1 of *The Cultural Context of Learning and Thinking* begins with a quote from Prokofiev's musical fable,

## BRIEFS

Professors **Frederick A. Dodge, Jr.**, **James A. Lake**, **David J. L. Luck**, **David C. Mauzerall**, and **Philip Siekevitz** participated in the 16th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society, held February 24-27 in Toronto, Canada.

Professors **Mark Kac**, Mathematics, and **Vincent P. Dole**, senior physician, are participating this month in the Sigma Xi-RESA (Scientific Research Society of America) spring lecture program. Dr. Kac is speaking to Sigma Xi chapters in upstate New York on the subject of Chance and Regularity. Dr. Dole is presenting the subject of The Biology of Addiction to chapters in Tennessee, Georgia, and Mississippi.

Professors **Purnell W. Choppin**, Virology and Medicine, and **Alexander Tomasz**, Biochemistry and Genetics, spoke at the 1972 California Membrane Conference, held March 12-19 in Squaw Valley, California. Dr. Choppin spoke on Structure and Assembly of Viral Membranes and Dr. Tomasz on the Interactions between DNA Molecules and Cell Surface Structures during Genetic Transformation of Bacteria.

Professor **Gertrude E. Perlmann**, Biochemistry and Biophysics, was an invited speaker at a Symposium on the Chemistry and Physics of Liquid Crystals, held in Santa Barbara, California in January. She was also invited to participate in the Ciba Foundation Symposium on Polymerization Reaction in Biological Systems, held March 14-16 in London.

Professor **Bruce Merrifield**, Biochemistry, received the 1972 American Chemical Society Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry, presented at the society's annual meeting in Boston on April 11. The award is sponsored by the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association.

President Emeritus **Detlev W. Bronk** has been appointed chairman and a director of the New York State Science and Technology Foundation. The appointment runs for a term of five years.

*Peter and the Wolf*: "What kind of a bird are you if you can't fly?" chirped the bird. "What kind of a bird are you if you can't swim?" replied the duck.





Marcia Cammann (seated) and Mary Cianci (far left) assist at Caspary meeting.

## 70 Sign Up as Students, 20 as Instructors in New Employee Education Program

On March 1, at a lunch-hour meeting in Caspary Auditorium, the University officially launched the Employee Education Program (see *news and notes*, February 1972). Following explanatory remarks by John J. O'Donnell, director of personnel, and questions from the floor, 40 members of the University community signed up for instruction and 12 as volunteer teachers. During the following weeks, an additional 30 students and 9 teachers joined the program.

Marcia Cammann, Children's School director, who is working on the project with Mr. O'Donnell, expressed her delight at the enthusiastic response which "exceeded expectations." Of those who enrolled, 43 are now pursuing individually structured study programs to improve their English language or mathematics skills (12 are taking both) and 27 are working to prepare themselves to take the state high school equivalency examinations.

Mrs. Cammann has taken responsibility for advising and orienting the volunteer instructors, some of whom have taught previously. The University is providing instructional materials and meeting space at no cost to the participants. English and math are currently being taught on a one-to-one basis, and the high school preparatory work in small groups. Times and places depend on what is best for those concerned. (Don't be surprised to hear

verbs being conjugated over sandwiches in the cafeteria.)

Serving as instructors are: Pilar Canicio de Bokisch, wife of Professor Viktor A. Bokisch, Diana Bosse, production editor, Mabel H. Bright, assistant to Detlev W. Bronk, Mary C. Cianci, personnel secretary, Florence F. Foster, laboratory secretary, John Galdos, personnel clerk, Ann Ho, guest investigator, Lewis W. Koster, manager of graphic services, Lila J. Magie, assistant director of personnel, David J. Lyons, controller, Naomi Replansky, computer programmer, Nieves Ruiz-Carillo, wife of Postdoctoral Fellow Adolfo Ruiz-Carillo, Candace Sanford, a teacher at the Children's School, Ellen Scholze, secretary, Christina Shepherd, production editor, Gertrude C. Smith, retired copy editor, Jody T. Smith, administrative secretary in the President's office, Virginia V. Sides, executive director of the Center for Prevention of Premature Arteriosclerosis, Meredith Tennent, Journals production trainee, and Donna Wilcox, personnel assistant.

Gertrude Smith has taught English as a second language for many years to visiting foreign scientists and their families. Miss Cianci, who is fluent in Italian, is helping four Italian-speaking employees with their English. Dr. Ho, who is associated with the laboratory of Dr. Vincent P. Dole, is offering science instruction.

## Palade to Yale in '73

Professor George E. Palade is resigning from the Rockefeller faculty to accept a post as head of the Laboratory of Cell Biology at the Yale University School of Medicine, effective July 1, 1973.

Dr. Palade has been associated with Rockefeller University since 1946. A pioneer in the use of the electron microscope in cell research, he has been instrumental in the development of cell biology as a link between classical cytology and biochemistry. Using techniques developed by himself and his colleagues, Dr. Palade has been able to isolate and analyze subcellular components and correlate their structure with their biochemical composition and their function within the general economy of the cell. He was one of the founders and for many years an editor of *The Journal of Cell Biology*. Among the many honors Dr. Palade has received for his contributions to cell biology are the Albert Lasker Basic Research Award, the Gairdner Award, the Passano Award, and the Louisa Horwitz Prize.

## PERSONAL MENTION

Born, January 13, to Research Associate **Rikimaru Hayashi** and his wife, Nobuko, their second son, Takaharu.

Born, January 22, to **Augustus Matamoros**, senior painter, and his wife, Alba, a daughter, Melissa Susan.

Born, January 31, to **H. Osborn Bagg**, supervisor of the animal facility, and his wife, Dorcas, their first child, a daughter, Dorothy Nicole.

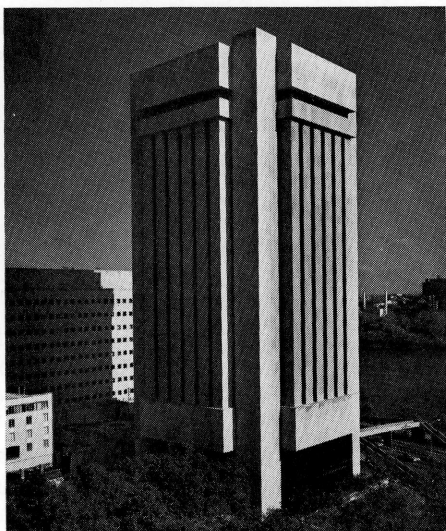
Born, February 14, to Professor **William E. Bowers**, Biochemical Cytology, and his wife, Barbara, a son, Kevin Michael, their first child.

## DEATHS

January 28, **Katerina Sedlacek**, 76, a night cleaner at the University from 1930 to 1955.

## WORLD HEALTH LEADERS

Three members of the Rockefeller faculty, Professors René J. Dubos, Fritz Lipmann, and George E. Palade, were included in a list of "100 Most Important Leaders in the World of Health," in an article published in the March issue of *Family Health* magazine.



*The 1972 College and University Conference and Exposition, sponsored by the publication, American School and University, cited the University's Tower Building for architectural excellence and invited the architects, Campbell, Aldrich and Nulty, to include photographs in its annual exhibition held last month in Chicago. One of the photographs is reproduced here.*

## Lecture Series Named

In the fall of 1970 a lecture series was initiated to continue the tradition of the Orientation Program, a lecture-seminar conceived by Dr. Detlev W. Bronk and presented to the entering students in prior years. The new series is intended as an instrument of general education, for the benefit of the Rockefeller University scientific community generally, and for students and other young people particularly. Its purpose is the review of fundamental ideas in science. The series is supervised by a committee consisting of Professors H. Keffer Hartline, Rollin D. Hotchkiss, Peter R. Marler, David C. Mauzerall, and Morris Schreiber. The committee has chosen for the series the title THE DARWIN LECTURES FOR STUDENTS in commemoration of the work of Charles Darwin, whose ideas stand to this day as the principal framework for biology.

The third program of lectures in this series, The Principles of Thermodynamics, will be presented this spring by Professor George E. Uhlenbeck. It will consist of four lectures, on April 24 and 27, and May 1 and 4, at 4 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium. Previous programs were Man in the Light of Evolutionary Biology, presented in the fall of 1970 by Professor Theodosius Dobzhansky, and The Molecular Biology of the Immune Response by Professor Gerald M. Edelman, given in the fall of 1971.

## University Joins IIE

Rockefeller University is now an educational associate of the Institute of International Education. The IIE provides a variety of services designed to assist American colleges and universities in their international activities. Its services and published materials are widely used by admissions officers, deans of graduate schools, student advisors, American and foreign students, and faculty members.

## Thanks from Dr. Lynch

To my friends and former associates:

I want to tell you what a great pleasure it has been to receive the greetings and best wishes from all of you whose names appear on the handsome scroll recently sent me. Each signature brings back something of the past, and the long list of names vividly recalls the scientific and personal associations at The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research and, later, at The Rockefeller University. The unique scroll with its clever sketch of a mouse will remain a greatly appreciated memento.

With many thanks,  
Clara J. Lynch  
4800 Fillmore Avenue  
Alexandria, Virginia 22311

## Seitz in Brazil

President Seitz spent the week of February 27 in Rio de Janeiro attending the annual conference of the Council on Higher Education in the American Republics (CHEAR) and visiting with Brazilian scientists.

CHEAR is an organization of educational leaders devoted to fostering communication and working out recommendations for dealing with problems facing institutions of higher learning in the Americas. Among the topics on this year's conference agenda were the application of new developments in communications technology, new models in higher education, and the future role and responsibilities of university presidents.

*news and notes* is published monthly from October to June. This is Volume 3, Number 7. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to *news and notes*, Box 194 or phone ext. 1166. Photographs: pages 1 and 3 by Stuart Miller; page 2 (left) by Michael Cole, (right) by John Gay; page 4 by David Hirsch. © 1972 The Rockefeller University Press, New York 10021. Printed in the United States of America.

## Students Chosen for Joint Program

Five candidates have been selected to initiate the Rockefeller University-Cornell University Medical College joint study program in the biomedical sciences. The students will be working toward an M.D. degree from Cornell and a Ph.D. from Rockefeller in six years. Beginning in July, they will devote the first two years to preclinical work at Cornell while familiarizing themselves with the research possibilities at Rockefeller and taking advanced tutorials here. They will spend the following three years mainly on this campus, while still attending conferences and clinical rounds at Cornell. During the final year they will complete their clinical clerkships at Cornell. Professor Zanvil A. Cohn, senior physician, is coordinating the program for this University. The students are Jonathan A. Cohn, Harvard, Ronald Koenig, Yale, Steven R. Meshnick, Columbia, Samuel Silver, Brandeis, and Steve S. Sommer, University of Pennsylvania.

## Shops Vote No on Union

On February 29, members of the University's Power House, Machine Shop, Paint Shop, and Cabinetmaker's Shop voted on whether or not they wished to be represented by Local 30 of the Operating Engineer's Union, AFL-CIO. The vote was 39 against and 25 for union representation. Of the 65 employees eligible, only one, who was ill, did not vote. The election was conducted by secret ballot under the supervision of a representative of the National Labor Relations Board, following a petition by Local 30 to the NLRB to serve as the bargaining agent for the University's shops.

## R.U. Aware?

On February 14, the Employees' Representative Committee distributed the first issue of a newsletter, prepared by the ERC for all employees. A prize of a \$25 United States Savings Bond was offered for a name for the new "baby." Katharine Bixler, a production editor in the Journals Office, came up with the winner—"R. U. Aware." The second issue, the first bearing the new name, came out in mid-March. The ERC, organized three years ago, is a 13-member group elected by the employees to serve as their liaison with the administration. This year's elections will be held on April 13 and 14.