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## NEWS AND NOTES 1979, VOL.10, N0.7

The Rockefeller University

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# THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY *news and notes*

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

In this issue of *news and notes* you will read about a study now underway that will determine the value and practicality of a tri-institutional library and resource center.

The idea for such a consortial center came out of a consideration of needs for renovations of our own library, which are matched across 68th Street and York Avenue. It was strongly suggested in conversations with Dr. Theodore Cooper, dean of Cornell University Medical College, and Dr. Lewis Thomas, president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The obvious thought in all our minds was that we could get more for our money collectively than we could individually: more space, more books, more services. It seems to me that, no less valuable, a common facility could not help but enhance the lively cross-fertilization that goes on continuously, both formally and informally, among the members of the York Avenue institutions.

The occupants of the three corners have traditionally had various degrees of association through joint educational, research, and clinical projects. We encounter each other in labs, classrooms, on rounds, in cafeterias, on professional boards, and in street-corner conversations. I believe that this interaction works so well because our goals are closely convergent although our points of departure are unique. Dr. Thomas reminded us, when he spoke at

## Study Plan for Tri-Institutional Library

Representatives of Rockefeller, Cornell University Medical College, and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center have undertaken an 18-month study, begun March 1, to determine the feasibility and desirability of constructing a consortial library and resource center to serve the research needs of the neighborhood.

The idea for such a center grew out of the need in all three institutions for

a function on our campus last fall, that Memorial Hospital was placed where it is because John D. Rockefeller, Jr. specifically felt that it would benefit from the proximity to Rockefeller and Cornell.

I believe that it is because we pursue our respective missions from different perspectives that we have been such successful collaborators. It is my hope, happily shared by Dr. Cooper and Dr. Thomas, to encourage more new "symbiotic" arrangements.

I welcome your ideas for other means of enhancing and enlarging constructive affiliations with our neighbors, for which we have had material encouragement by the terms of our recent award from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

*Joshua Lederberg*

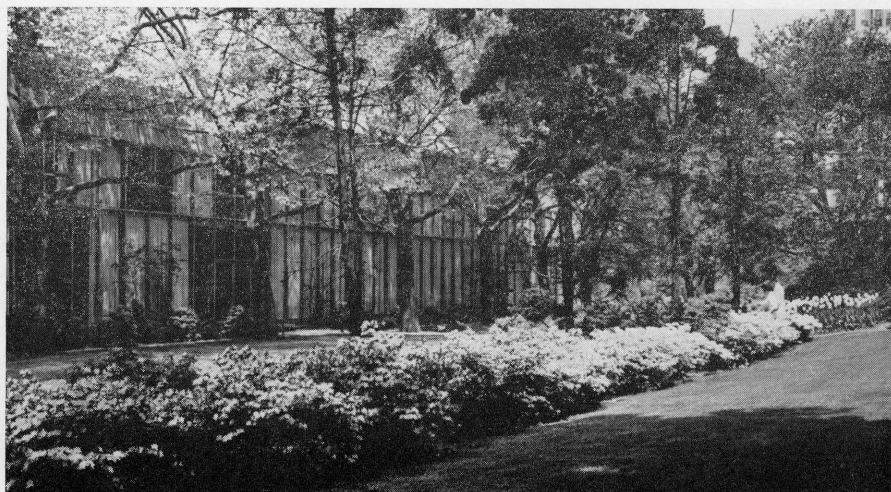
more library space. The committee members will be considering whether or not a centralized facility would solve the problem better than expansion of the individual existing libraries. The committee will also look into the potential usefulness of including in the new center such other resources as computer services, biostatistical analysis, an auditorium, and guest facilities. Possible sites for the building are over the Rockefeller 68th Street parking lot and the "air rights" space over the FDR Drive.

Serving on the study committee from Rockefeller are Associate Dean Clarence M. Connelly, Professor Samuel Silverstein, and Librarian Sonya Mirsky; from Cornell, Deputy Dean Thomas H. Meikle, Daniel P. Alonso, associate professor of pathology and chairman of the college's Library Committee, and Librarian Erich Meyerhoff; and from Memorial Sloan-Kettering, W. P. Laird Myers, vice president for Educational Affairs and chairman of the Library Committee, Morton K. Schwartz, chairman of the department of biochemistry and vice president for Laboratory Affairs, and the Center's librarian, a post that is currently unfilled.

The study is being supported by a grant from the Commonwealth Fund.

## Let's Keep It Beautiful

Few New Yorkers are as fortunate as we at the University who work in a setting of splendid lawns and gardens. Our gardeners work long and hard to keep the campus beautiful. They ask of the rest of us only that we not tromp over the lawns or drive over the flower beds, depredations that occur from time to time. It seems a reasonable request. Let's *all* try to keep it beautiful.





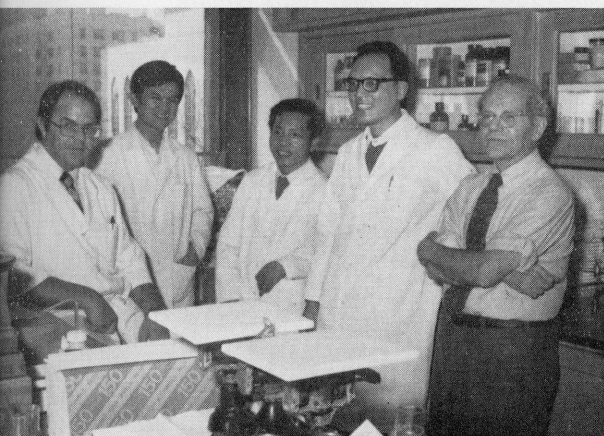
## BRIEFS

Animal Attendant **Jose F. Gonzalez**, Laboratory Animal Research Center, has successfully completed the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science examination for certification as an assistant laboratory animal technician.

Professor **Jules Hirsch** spoke on the Psychobiology of Obesity at a memorial symposium on Progress in Psychosomatic Medicine in honor of the late I. Arthur Mirsky. It was held in December at the University of California at Los Angeles where Mirsky was professor of medicine and psychiatry. From 1966 until his death in 1974 he was also a visiting professor in Dr. Hirsch's laboratory of human behavior and metabolism in the Rockefeller Hospital.

Professor **Mark Kac**, Mathematics, has been named co-chairman with Max Gottesman, National Institutes of Health, of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, an independent organization of 4,000 American scientists concerned with the protection of scientific and human rights for colleagues all over the world.

Professors **William Trager** and **Kwang-Poo Chang**, Parasitology, presented papers at a workshop on *In Vitro* Cultivation of Major Tropical Disease Pathogens, sponsored by the World Health Organization and the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases at the latter institution in Nairobi, Kenya, February 4-9.



Doctors Gao Min-Hsin and Kuo Sheng-Chi (third and fourth from left) from the Institute of Biological Products of the People's Republic of China who spent two weeks in March in the parasitology laboratory of Professor William Trager (far right) observing and learning malaria culture methods. Also working with them were Professors James B. Jensen and Kwang-Poo Chang (first and second from left), members of Dr. Trager's lab.

## Young Scientists

Since September, Sarah Henry, an honors science and math student at Hunter College High School with a strong interest in psychology and language, has been collaborating on a psycholinguistic study with Professor William Hirst, a member of the experimental psychology laboratory of Professor George A. Miller. Sarah is at Rockefeller as part of Hunter's Intercollegiate Year through which seniors apprentice in areas of interest to them in that professional world outside the high school walls.

Renata Gallagher came to Rockefeller  
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## PERSONALS

Clinic nurse **Aglaia Hodza** retired on February 16. She came to the Rockefeller Hospital in 1955 as a staff nurse, was appointed assistant head nurse in 1960, head nurse in 1965, and clinic nurse in 1976.

Laboratory Helper **Mary Johanson** retired on January 1. She came to the University in 1953 as a waitress, became a helper in Professor René J. Dubos' lab in 1954 and in Professor James Hirsch's lab in 1965.

**Alexander Kulynych**, Assistant Supervisor, Custodial Service, retired on April 1. He began as a porter in 1951, became assistant janitor in 1958, and assistant supervisor in 1963.

Production Editor **Lori Raymon**, *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*, was married on March 4 to Barry Siskind, a resident in radiology at Metropolitan Hospital.

## DEATHS

**Gertrude Smith**, 74, on February 21. Miss Smith was associated with The Rockefeller from 1928 until her retirement in 1971. She served as a publications office clerk, proofreader, production assistant in the Journals Office, and as senior production assistant and finally production editor with Journals. One of Miss Smith's many friends on campus reported to *news and notes* that among her activities, she read journals three evenings a week without pay for Dr. Wayne Woolley after he lost his eyesight, and did volunteer work with patients at Memorial Hospital.

**Juda Kimelheim**, 76, an electrician in the Machine Shop from 1954 until his retirement in 1967, on February 10.



Alfred E. Cohn in 1937

## Cohn Centennial

April 16th is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Alfred Einstein Cohn, a Rockefeller scientist for 46 years, a pioneer in cardiovascular research, a gifted teacher, and a humanitarian.

Educated at Columbia University, where he earned his M.D., and in Europe, where he learned the use of the string galvanometer in electrocardiography, he introduced the electrocardiograph to the United States.

Dr. Cohn joined the newly opened Rockefeller Institute Hospital in 1911. One of the early physicians in this country to devote himself exclusively to clinical research, he influenced many gifted young physicians in that pursuit.

A prolific contributor to the scholarly literature of cardiovascular disease, he was also a keen commentator on science and society. During the 1930s and 1940s, he worked vigorously to help refugee scientists, artists, and scholars driven from Europe by Nazism. He was a passionate bibliophile who, in addition to his scientific legacy, left to this institution his superb 6,000-volume personal library, now housed in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall. He died on July 20, 1957.

An exhibition commemorating Dr. Cohn opens this month in the Library. The material was drawn from the University's Archives to which he bequeathed his papers.

### BLOOD DATES—MAY 8, 9

May 8 and 9 have been reserved for Rockefeller donors at the Blood Center, 310 East 67th Street. Sign up in the Personnel Office, Founder's 103. In an emergency, you and your family are automatically eligible blood recipients.



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## HONORS & AWARDS

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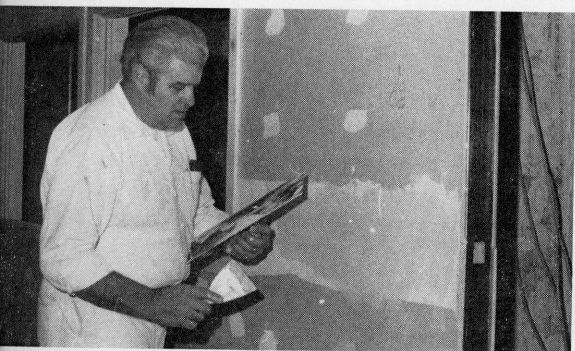
Professor **René J. Dubos**, Environmental Biomedicine, received the Wilder Penfield Award of The Vanier Institute of the Family, presented February 9 in Ottawa by the Governor General of Canada. Dr. Dubos was cited for "wisdom and leadership in the evolution of human society."

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## New Quarters

The workshops and offices of the University's plant operations services, previously called buildings and grounds, are being consolidated in one area on the first floor of the Boiler House between the Plaza Building and Gasser Hall. The new quarters, which should be almost ready by the time this issue of *news and notes* appears, provide a more efficient and convenient use of space and centralized services.

Plant Operations Secretary Erika Mueller will be located directly inside the entrance to Room 105 (previously the entrance to the maintenance shop). Ranged along the east wall are the



*Getting it ready: Paint Shop Foreman Herman Richter*

offices of Guenther Ebert, supervisor of the maintenance and electrical shop, and Chief Engineer James Mortko, Associate Superintendent Kenneth C. Schmitt, Superintendent Albert W. Schall, Supervisor Ronald Sauers, and Thomas P. McGinnity, director of physical facilities. Secretary Katherine Savalas will be stationed in front of Mr. McGinnity's office to the west, and the central area is occupied by Designers Thomas J. Ralin and Sam P. Soogrim and Draftsmen Manuel Vargas and Wilfred Perez. A door at the north end of the room leads directly to the boiler plant in the basement.

The maintenance and electrical shops have been moved across the corridor. The paint shop is on the east side, south of the main office. The cabinet shop remains at the south end.

## Kac Volume Published

*Mark Kac: Probability, Number Theory, and Statistical Physics*, has been published by the MIT Press as part of its *Mathematicians of Our Time* series. The 529-page volume contains 52 papers selected by Dr. Kac, written between 1934 and 1975, as well as a complete bibliography of his papers.

Editors K. Baclawski and M. D. Donsker, in the book's introduction, cite Dr. Kac's pioneering work in the development of probability theory and in relating it to other areas of mathematics and physics. "The mathematicians and physicists directly influenced by Kac are legion, not only because of his published work but also because of Kac as a lecturer and as a person."

In an Autobiographical Note, Dr. Kac credits his association with Professor George E. Uhlenbeck at the Radiation Laboratory of MIT during World War II as having a "profound effect on my scientific work . . . it brought me face to face with physics as it is *done* by physicists and not merely *imagined* by mathematicians." Dr. Kac also credits Dr. Uhlenbeck with influencing his decision to leave Cornell University, where he had been for over 20 years, and come with him to Rockefeller University where they have both been members of the faculty since 1961.

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## Hospital Volunteers

Something new has been added at the Hospital—a small, devoted group of volunteers whose daily presence is helping to enhance the spirit of personal caring.

Patients referred to The Rockefeller Hospital commonly suffer from a variety of chronic disorders for which there may be only ameliorative therapy. They get the best treatment currently available while their conditions are studied by the clinical research staff. The Hospital's atmosphere is almost familial, engendered by small size and attractive environment and the sense of shared enterprise. Nonetheless, for people confined by ill health, time can hang heavy. At least half of the patients are admitted for long-term hospitalization. Some do not have regular visitors.

Mrs. Nell Singer, wife of Herbert M. Singer, a member of the Rockefeller University Council and chairman of the Council's Hospital Committee, was consulted as to the best means of implementing a volunteer program, an area in which she has considerable experience. She suggested the most appropriate approach for Rockefeller would be

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## Environments

The design for the new plant operations headquarters (see story left) was primarily the work of Thomas J. Ralin, a member of the University's staff for 21 years. His plan artfully conceals unsightly pipes and protruberances and makes ingenious use of existing architectural features of the site, and of light and space.

In private life, Tom Ralin is involved in another kind of environment—the one in which the children of his neighborhood, including his own three, are growing up. A former P.T.A. president, he has recently been elected to a second



*Designer Thomas Ralin*

year as president of the Greek Orthodox Community of Whitestone, Queens. Centered in the community's church, the organization runs an after school program for 60 children, from first to sixth grade, in Greek language, history, and culture, a Sunday School, and a Saturday afternoon crafts program that includes traditional Greek cooking and dances.

"We cherish our customs," says Mr. Ralin, "and through them we hope we are creating a better environment for our kids than the streets."

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## ELSIE CONKLIN DIES

Elsie Conklin, a member of the University community for 36 years, died on March 3 at the age of 64. She joined the bursar's office in 1943 as a clerk and became cashier in 1951. In 1967, she went to order services as a clerk-typist.

In anticipation of her retirement, which would have been effective on April 1, and because of the gravity of her illness, Mrs. Conklin's many University friends presented her with a scrapbook of letters of reminiscence of her Rockefeller years which delighted her. It reached her four days before her death.





Pamela Harriman

## New Trustees

Dr. David A. Hamburg, president of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, and Pamela Harriman (Mrs. W. Averell Harriman) have been elected to the University's board of trustees.

Dr. Hamburg is a major contributor to psychiatric research and education with a special interest in the areas of stress and coping, aggression, and conflict resolution. He has served as consultant to the World Health Organization, UNESCO, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the President's Scientific Advisory Committee. He was chairman of the department of psychiatry of the Stanford University School of Medicine from 1961 to 1972 and Reed-Hodgson Professor of Human Biology from 1972 to 1976. He was Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar at the California Institute of Technology from 1974 to 1975.

A native of Evansville, Indiana, he received his A.B. and M.D. degrees from Indiana University. Among his many honors are the Bicentennial Medal of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Menninger Award of the American College of Physicians, and honorary degrees from Indiana University and Rush University.



Professor René Dubos interviewed in his Bronx Lab office for an ABC Television special report on teenage suicide. The program is tentatively scheduled for showing on May 12 at 7:30 P.M.

Mrs. Harriman is active in community affairs in Washington, D.C. and in New York City. She is a member of the board of directors of Braniff International Corporation, the World Rehabilitation Fund, Inc., the Mary W. Harriman Foundation, and the New York Horticultural Society. She is also a member of the Community Advisory Committee of the Junior League of Washington. A graduate of Downham College, England, Mrs. Harriman did postgraduate work at the Sorbonne University in Paris.

## YOUNG SCIENTISTS

*continued from page 2*

ler in February through the Hunter program, and is studying neurotransmitter release with Research Associate Patricia Wade in Professor Philip Siekevitz's cell biology lab. During the first half of the school year, Renata participated in another city program, run by the Board of Education, called the Executive High School Internship Program, which also provides work learning experiences for about 1,000 seniors each year from the public high schools. She worked as a researcher for Earl Ubell, science editor of WCBS-TV.

The Executive High School Internship is also the means through which Ira Bashkow, a senior at Stuyvesant, is pursuing his science interest. He is helping Professor Giorgio Vidali and Postdoctoral Fellow Massimo Romani, members of Professor Vincent G. Allfrey's cell biology lab, in a project to develop an assay for nuclear proteins.

Sarah, Renata, and Ira are exceptional and highly self-motivated young people. In her junior year, Sarah finished in the top 100 of over 300,000 students who took the Mathematical Association of America examination and she also won the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute medal in her school for science and math. Renata, a member of the Hunter math team, was president of the Junior Academy of the New York Academy of Sciences last year. Ira, in addition to excelling in biology, is outstanding in creative writing. For all three, the chance to do real science in a real lab is an exhilarating experience.

The administrators of these programs have expressed the hope that other laboratories in the University will be interested in taking on students of comparable caliber in future years. Also, the Junior Academy of the New York Academy of Sciences makes available to its members a list of summer work opportunities. Labs interested in being listed should be in touch with the Academy by May.

## HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS

*continued from page 3*

to concentrate primarily on individual visits rather than on group activities.

Through Mrs. Singer's efforts, Mrs. Miriam Abelow organized a volunteer corps last September which included herself and Mrs. Muriel Camitta, Mrs. Beatrice Benetar, and Mrs. Aileen Yaspar. They were joined in January by Mrs. Evelyn Miller and Mrs. Arlene Hardy. Among their activities, the volunteers have been working to refurbish the patient library and have established a system for adding to its collection. Mrs. Camitta lends her considerable crafts skills to the regular recreational therapy program. Mrs. Benetar is helping in the Medical Records Office. The volunteer group meets periodically to confer on patients' needs. At the January meeting, Dr. Marilyn Karmason of the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic, spoke with them on the role of hospital volunteers. Most important, patients are visited every day.

According to Hospital Administrator Kathy Kleinbard, who coordinates the program, "What has been so helpful is the way in which the volunteers were able to come here, see what was needed, and initiate a program without benefit of a pre-existing, formal volunteer group such as those available in large, general hospitals."



The University's man with the camera, Chief Photographer Henrik Boudakian, who last month marked his 20th year with Rockefeller where he has been responsible for everything from the most exacting scientific photographs to identification pictures as well as many of the pictures that have appeared in news and notes since it started nearly 10 years ago.

news and notes is published from October through July. This is Volume 10 Number 7. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to *news and notes*, Box 194, phone extensions 1420 or 1051. Photographs: page 2, 3, and 4, bottom, George Byron; page 4, top, Diana H. Walker. © 1979 The Rockefeller University Press, New York 10021. Printed in the United States of America.