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NEWS AND NOTES 1991, MAY 10

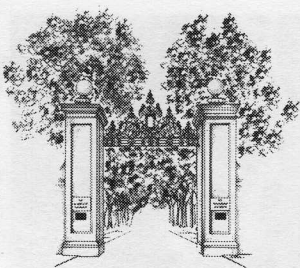
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News & Notes

Help for employees, families in need

Health concerns? Substance abuse? Troubled relationships? Financial problems? The Employee Assistance Program Consortium (EAPC), founded about 10 years ago by the university and four other neighborhood institutions, helps employees and their families deal with these and other types of problems every day.

The EAPC, located at 445 East 68th Street and York Avenue, is a free, confidential counseling and referral service. Social Worker Jodi A. Karp, Acting Director, and her staff strive to make the organization fit the needs of those it is designed to help: the employees and families of Rockefeller, Cornell, Hospital for Special Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering and New York Hospital.

"We know people working in the medical community have needs," Karp said. "Their concerns are varied—from financial planning needs to family or medical problems. Yet, we want them to know they can turn to us for confidential help."

EAPC statistics indicate that the most common problems of people seeking their assistance are "personal" problems (50%), followed by marital/relationship

☛ See **Help** on page 3

Speaking of disease carriers . . .



Alan Fairlamb, of the University of London, delivered a talk on sleeping sickness as the invited speaker at the Ernst A. H. Friedheim Lecture on May 3. Above, he is overshadowed by the Hitchcockian image of a tsetse fly, carrier of the disease. (See story on page 2.)

Baltimore replies to NIH draft report

Rockefeller President David Baltimore last week replied to a draft report of the Office of Scientific Integrity of the National Institutes of Health which has been investigating a contested paper on which he was a co-author in 1986.

The full text of his reply is scheduled to be published in the journals *Science* and *Nature*, dated yesterday and today, and scheduled to reach subscribers next week.

In recent days, Baltimore has met with faculty groups and with some members of the Board of Trustees, discussing the controversy with them and providing them with details of the matter. ➡➡

Brewer's yeast yields cancer study tool

The mechanisms controlling cell growth and division constitute some of biology's most intriguing mysteries. How does a cell know when it's time to make a copy of its genetic material, DNA? What tells a cell the time has come to split in two? And what controls the myriad other checkpoints that coordinate the complexity of the cell cycle?

In the past few years, scientists have gone a long way toward solving these mysteries. Some of the most important clues have come from a surprising source: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, the microscopic fungus found in the yeast brewers use to make beer.

These easily manipulable microorganisms let geneticists locate mutations that disrupt the cell cycle. As a result, researchers were able to identify a protein called CDC2. The protein, present throughout the entire cell cycle, helps regulate all its stages.

How can just one protein control all the stages of the cell cycle? It can't. Scientists have learned that the CDC2 protein does not work alone, but rather links up with a number of other proteins produced by the cell, called *cyclins*. By interacting sequentially with the CDC2 protein, the different cyclins help regulate the different steps in the cell cycle.

Assistant Professor Fred Cross is studying a type of yeast cyclin called CLN, which helps nudge the cell out of its resting phase and into the phase of DNA duplication. The yeast cell makes at least three CLNs, and Cross wants to know why. "At some basic level, they're all doing the same thing. But what makes them different?"

Cross is also exploring what regulates the amount and timing

of CLN production. Ultimately, scientists will have to answer similar questions for all cyclins in order to understand the mechanisms underlying cell cycle control.

Cross will discuss his work on the CLN cyclin at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Houston next week. Cancer results from unrestrained cell growth and division, and "everyone hopes that part of what causes the cancer cell to become unregulated will have to do with cell cycle control mechanisms," Cross says. Because these mechanisms have proved to be similar, from the lowly yeasts to the highest mammals, discoveries made with the tiny fungus may yield important results for humans. In fact, Cross is collaborating with other researchers to study CLN correlates in human cells.

According to Cross, it is still far



Leif Carlsson

Fred Cross

too early to do anything but speculate about the links between cell cycle disruptions and cancer. But, he says, recent discoveries that cell cycle proteins may interact with genes that promote or suppress cancer make him think there's a "real chance of making some progress."

— by Susan Blum

Arsenic and parrot's eggs: a look at sleeping sickness

Alan Fairlamb, Professor of Molecular Parasitology at the University of London, delivered the Ernst A.H. Friedheim Lecture on May 3 in Caspary Auditorium. His talk, "Arsenical Drugs and Sleeping Sickness: Granny's Umbrella and Parrot's Eggs," gave a retrospective and current prognosis of treating this tropical disease, which is transmitted by the tsetse fly and infects thousands of people annually in Africa.

The lecture's subtitle is based on a question and answer from an English grammar that Friedheim used as a motto in his laboratory: "Have you seen the umbrella of my grandmother? Yes, but this parrot does not eat hard boiled eggs." Fairlamb explained that in the search for drugs against protozoa a hypothesis may point to the umbrella, but it is necessary not to overlook any useful eggs hidden along the way. Friedheim's discovery of the drug melarsoprol, and Fairlamb's discovery of trypanothione, a protective antioxidant having a central metabolic role in trypanosomes, are two lucky "eggs" in the therapy of sleeping sickness.

Friedheim worked at Rockefeller in 1930-31 and again from 1977 until his death in 1989.

— by Carol L. Moberg

Private agency application deadlines

Below is a list of private agencies that have research grant and/or fellowship application deadlines for June and July. For a comprehensive list or specific program information, contact Tish Koyen in Sponsored Programs, x8175.

- AARP Andrus Foundation-June 1.
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association-July 1.
- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association-July 14.
- American Cancer Society-July 1.
- American Heart Association: Clinician Scientist-June 1, Established Investigator-June 1, Minority Scientist Development Award-June 1, Int'l Research Fellowship-June 1, Grant in Aid-July 1.
- American Institute for Cancer Research-July 1.
- American Paralysis Assoc.-July 15.
- Cystic Fibrosis Association-June 19.
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation-July 1.
- Charles A. Dana-July 1.
- Deafness Research Foundation-July 15.
- Diabetes Treatment Centers of America Foundation-July 31.
- Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research-July 31.
- Anna Fuller Fund-Fellowship Program-July 1.
- Infectious Diseases Society of America-June 1.
- International Life Sciences Institute-Nutrition Foundation-June 3.
- Irvington Institute for Medical Research-June 14.
- Muscular Dystrophy Association: Fellowship Program-June 15, Grant Program-July 10.
- National Assistance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression-June 14.
- Society of Toxicology-Fellowship Program-June 1.
- Spinal Cord Research Foundation-June 1.
- Tourette Syndrome Association-Fellowship Program-July 15.
- United Parkinson Foundation: Fellowship Program-June 15, Grant Program-June 15.
- Weight Watchers Foundation-July 1.
- Whitehall Foundation-June 1.

Help (continued from page 1)

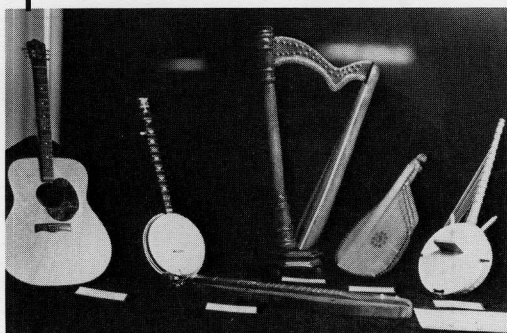
problems (18%), substance abuse (10%), and substance abuse by a family member (9%). Although the total population of the five institutions is 59% female, women compose 72% of EAPC clients.

"The EAPC is a dynamic and dedicated organization that is truly interested in the needs of Rockefeller employees," says Virginia Huffman, Rockefeller's Director of Personnel. "The Personnel Office can provide information on the service, but, in fact, the EAPC is highly confidential. We are never told who is going there for assistance, though we do know that approximately 30 to 40 people from the university visit in the course of a year."

This number is low compared to the numbers of employees and their families using the service from the other institutions. "We'd like to encourage more Rockefeller employees to use our services," Karp says. "As we expand the programs we offer in the future, I expect we will see more people from all the institutions."

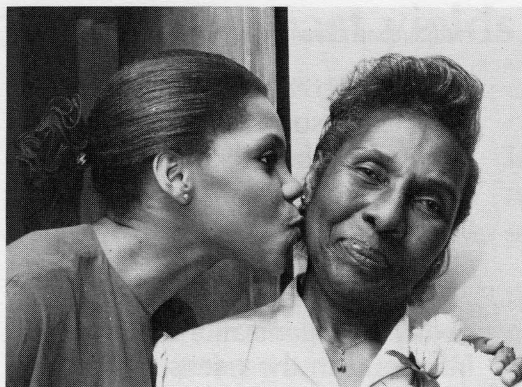
One new program, to begin later this month, is the formation of an Employee Support Group to meet once a week at lunchtime for a six-week period. These meetings are intended to help people having trouble dealing with the stresses and pace of life in New York. "Rockefeller gets a lot of people from outside New York City," says Karp. "We hope this group in particular will attend the meetings, meet other New Yorkers and get introduced to resources available to help them with various problems."

The EAPC is available during working hours. To make an appointment, call 746-5890. →→



Craft Show highlights RU talent

More than 30 members of the university community submitted artistic creations to the Rockefeller University Craft Show, which ends today in Founder's Hall lobby. Above, miniature stringed musical instruments by Anthony Popowicz (Computing Services) and a pottery vase by Lois Manning (Manning Lab) are among the items on display. (Photos by Leif Carlsson.)

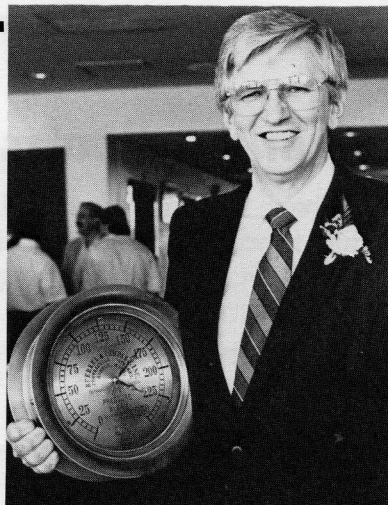


Media Resource Service Center

Bennett and Mortko retire

A kiss from her niece, Maggel Buckly, was but one of the presents Girleen Bennett (left) received at her retirement party May 1. A chambermaid in the Housing Office, she retired from the university after 23 years of service. At the ceremony, Bennett's supervisor, Director of Housing Zachary Contes, praised her for her dedication to the university through the years. She was given a number of presents from friends and co-workers.

Jim Mortko (right), Chief Engineer in the Boiler Plant, poses with a gauge he received from the Boiler House crew at his retirement party May 2 in the Tower Building. Mortko joined the university in 1955 as a Plumber's Helper, and worked his way up through the ranks to become Chief Engineer and Head of the Power Plant in 1974. At the festivity, Vice President David Lyons lauded Mortko for his "36 years of dedicated and outstanding service."



Leif Carlsson

Archives lecture on Wednesday

Rockefeller Archives Director Darwin H. Stapleton and Archivists Lee R. Hiltzik and Renee D. Mastrocco will discuss the role of the university Archives Office, its work with faculty and staff, and the worldwide use of RU records by historical researchers in a lunchtime talk entitled "Keepers of RU History: A Partnership" Wednesday in Caspary Auditorium.

The Rockefeller University Women's Association, which is sponsoring the lecture, will have sign-up sheets available at the event for those interested in visiting the Archive Center in Tarrytown on May 22 or 23. Others interested in joining the tour can contact Ann Ho, x8767. In conjunction with the lecture, a photograph display, entitled "The Changing Face of the Rockefeller, 1901-1931," will be exhibited in Caspary lobby during the week of May 13. ➔➔

Nominations invited for Revson/Winston Fellowships

Vice President James Darnell has asked for nominations of postdoctoral fellows for the Revson/Winston Fellowships. The Rockefeller University, Memorial Sloan-Kettering and Cornell Medical School receive funds from the Charles Revson Foundation and the Norman and Rosita Winston Foundation to support postdoctoral fellows. Nine fellowships are available at the university beginning July 1. Interested candidates should send a curriculum vitae and title of research project to Marilyn Smith, Box 257, by May 20. ➔➔

St. Lawrence String Quartet performs today

Today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital will feature the St. Lawrence String Quartet in concert at Sloan House, 1233 York Avenue. Originally from Canada, the quartet—Geoff Nuttall, Barry Schiffman, Lesley Robertson and Marina Hoover—currently resides at the Hartt School of Music. Today's free concert will feature works of Beethoven, Puccini and Bartok. ➔➔

Packed house expected at MSK cafeteria Monday

Memorial Sloan-Kettering has requested that members of the RU community not use their cafeteria at lunchtime Monday. MSK is hosting a symposium that day, and its cafeteria will be filled to capacity. RU staff are invited to attend the symposium, "Frontiers of Cancer Treatment," and can register by contacting 639-3573. ➔➔



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