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## NEWS AND NOTES 1991, JULY 19

The Rockefeller University

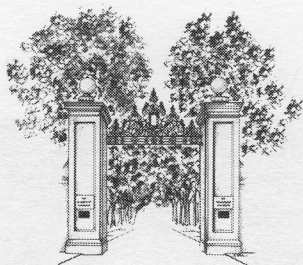
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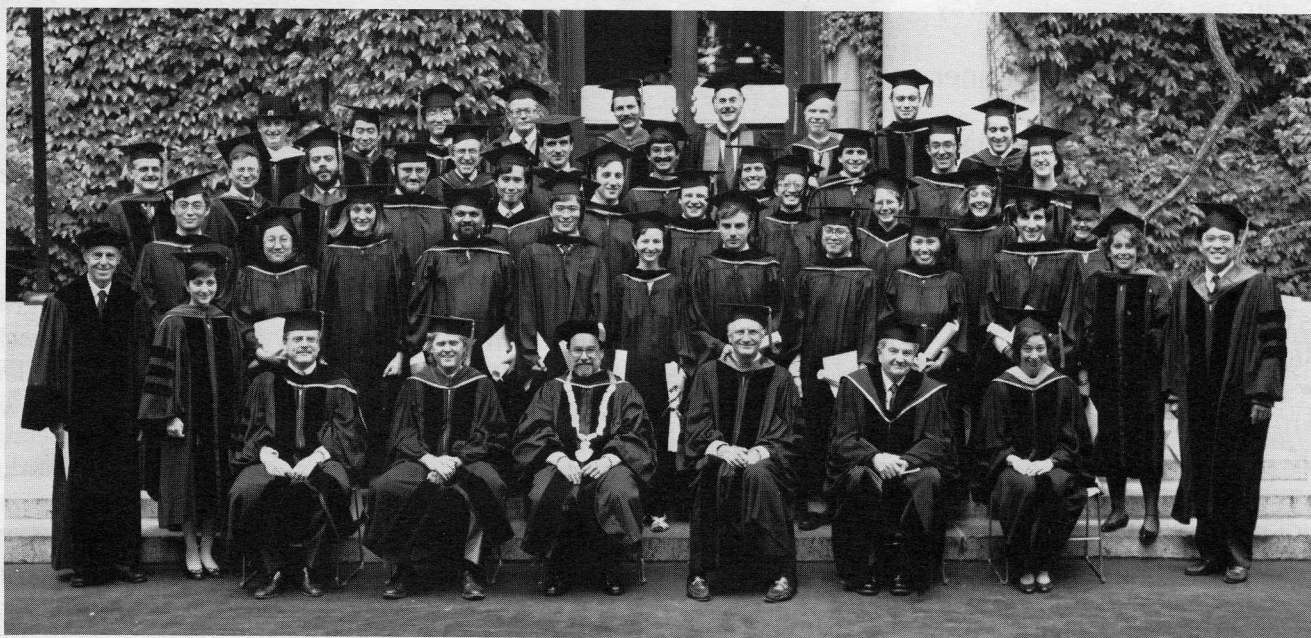
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# News & Notes

## Class of 1991



Media Resource Service Center

*Not only is this year's graduating class one of the largest in Rockefeller's history (twenty-six members), but it is also one of the most international, with fourteen students from such widely diverse countries as Mexico, China, India, Germany, Canada, Italy and Japan.*

*Posing for a formal portrait with their mentors, President David Baltimore, and other members of the graduation program, the class includes four biomedical fellows from the Tri-Institutional M.D./Ph.D. Program, who will return to Cornell Medical College to complete their clinical training. Most of the graduates will become postdoctoral fellows at a variety of institutions, from Princeton to the Pasteur Institute, and one will enter the MBA program at Harvard University.*

## Marilyn Smith appointed Corporate Secretary

Marilyn T. Smith, elected Secretary of the Corporation by the Board of Trustees this spring, plans to keep board members busy learning about university affairs.

"We want board members to look beyond the cold facts and become involved in the life and spirit of the university," the long-

time special assistant to President David Baltimore said. She assumed her new position July 1, replacing Lila Magie, who retired.

"Our hope is that the board members will become more fully engaged with the mission of the university and its people," Smith added. She hopes that there will be more opportunities to meet

face to face with postdocs and students as well as with faculty members, and to hear about the science going on at the university. "It is important that they be as excited about the work going on here as we are," she said.

Smith's new position adds the responsibility of being the

☛ See **Smith** on page 2

## Rockefeller University Hospital hosts dinners

Fifty friends of the university gathered at The Rockefeller University Hospital June 12 for the first in a series of small informal dinners that will be held throughout the coming year. Guests at these dinners will include university donors and other friends who want to learn more about clinical research underway at the hospital.

Speakers at the first dinner included:

- Attallah Kappas, physician-in-chief from 1974 until he stepped down from that post last month, who provided an overview of the hospital's contributions to advances in science and medicine,

- Jan Breslow, the new physician-in-chief, who discussed future plans for the hospital and the need to train more young clinicians in laboratory research,

- David Baltimore, Rockefeller's president, who briefly outlined new approaches to research on the aging process.

The evening's host was Ralph Ablon, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, who has long taken a special interest in the hospital. Ablon underwrote the cost of the dinner, which featured a three-course "heart healthy" menu planned by Cynthia Seidman, director of dietary services at the hospital.

At the dinner, Ablon announced that a steering committee is being formed to raise funds for the hospital. The enthusiastic response to this announcement prompted him to remark, "It is gratifying to see so many people show an interest in the hospital. I'm not surprised, though, because our hospital is a



*From left, Physician-in-Chief Jan Breslow, dinner hosts Ralph and Sylvia Ablon, and Professor Attallah Kappas pause for a photograph.*

unique, important facility, and the members of our clinical faculty are both stellar investigators and wonderful human beings."

"Ralph has been a good friend to this institution," said

Baltimore, "and I am delighted that he will be providing leadership for a hospital fund-raising initiative, working closely with Drs. Kappas and Breslow." ➔➔

### **Smith** (continued from page 1)

liaison between the university and its board of directors to her present duties of handling issues relating to the Academic Council and assuring close communication among Personnel, the Office of the President, and members of the faculty on all vital and sensitive faculty administrative matters.

As liaison with the board, Smith will be involved with its standing committees, including the Executive Committee, the Committee on Scientific Affairs (which reviews and approves faculty appointments of more than three years), and the Nominating Committee.

In her interactions with the Academic Council—which advises the president in matters relating to faculty concerns—Smith will be involved in planning meeting agendas, organizing ad hoc committees, reporting on Council activities to the president, and providing follow-up for these activities. Smith will also be working closely with Faculty Administrator Claire Mason, who is the individual on Personnel Director Virginia Huffman's staff responsible for the administration of faculty appointments.

Smith, whose previous experience includes having been special assistant to Dr. Baltimore when he was director of the Whitehead Institute, and an administrator at the Center for Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is a graduate of Denison University, where she majored in political science. ➔➔



## Saying farewell after 41 years

Lila Magie contemplated asking that the university close an hour early on June 28 to celebrate her retirement. She planned to stand at the 66th Street gate to say farewell to the hundreds of people she hired, and helped, and who remain her legacy to Rockefeller's "spirit of place."

Instead, over 300 friends came to her on June 18 for a farewell salute. President David Baltimore praised Lila Magie as "a veritable repository of history, who was always at the nerve center of the university." Richard Furlaud, chairman of the board, paid tribute to Lila's contributions in making Rockefeller "greater than the sum of its parts."

Magie came to Rockefeller in 1950 with a B.S. from Purdue's School of General Engineering, a degree encompassing science, engineering and business. Although Magie was hired as a secretary in the assistant business manager's office, she quickly learned this meant helping with any task in the institute—from sorting mail or putting a budget in shape to handling press relations. The job even involved science. She once monitored the well-being of a school of pike awaiting a nerve impulse experiment on Director Herbert Gasser's return from vacation.

From these opportunities she came to know every employee and job, and to understand the talents and resources needed to make this institution work well. Magie soon became a fund of information and good advice. "Ask Lila" was frequently the last suggestion for solving a thorny question. If she didn't know the answer, she found someone who did.

For almost four decades, Magie was responsible for non-faculty staffing and benefits for a full-service scientific community. Her tenure spanned five administrations and the evolution from institute to university. The business manager's office evolved into numerous separate departments. Magie was associated with the personnel office from its inception in 1954 until 1987 when she became faculty administrator and secretary to the board of trustees.

Magie's special contribution to science at Rockefeller was fostering the biology and chemistry of human relationships. Mabel Bright, former secretary to both President Detlev Bronk and the board, remembers, "Lila always hired the right people for Rockefeller." When asked what makes the right kind of person, Magie responds, "We're like a family or village where everyone knows everyone else, for better or worse. Everyone's attitude must be a helping, caring one—what can I do for Rockefeller and not what can it do for me."



Lila Magie

Magie looks forward to retirement in Maine. She envisions new projects—selling her exquisite needlework, growing "cool" flowers she could never raise in New York, and writing on her friendly computer (soon to be connected by modem to campus friends). She has dispelled two rumors, "I'm not writing murder mysteries and I'm not taking up lobstering."

Lila Magie is now ensconced on the same rocky shore where Edna St. Vincent Millay lived, wrote, and waited to "see the sun come up over Penobscot Bay."

—by Carol L. Moberg

## 'What do you have there? Coffee?'



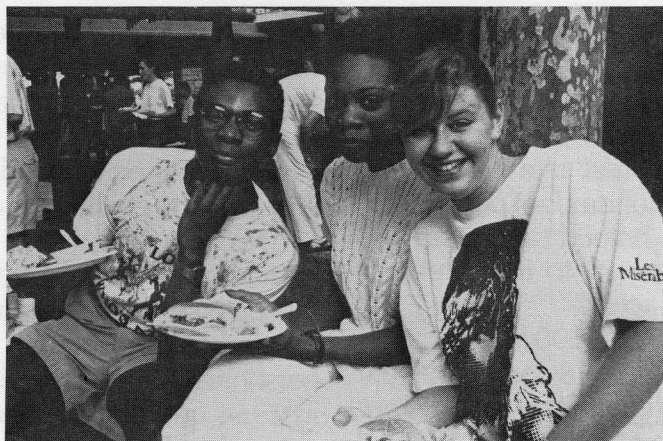
The Tower 17th Floor dining room is closed for summer, but the downstairs cafeteria is doing a booming business. Alva Halloway began working on the 17th Floor in 1972. Since then she has spent most of her time as cashier in the main cafeteria. The 17th Floor dining room will reopen September 9.

## Private agency application deadlines

Below is a list of private agencies that have research grant and/or fellowship application deadlines for August 1991. For more program information, contact Tish Koyen in Sponsored Programs, x8175.

- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Assoc., Inc. - August 15
- American Cancer Society, Inc. : Clinical Oncology Career Development Award - August 1
- AmFar - American Foundation for AIDS Research - August 20
- American Diabetes Assoc. National Service Center - August 1
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation: Harry Schwachman Clinical Investigator Award - August 1
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation-July 1
- Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Cancer Research Fund Fellowships - August 15
- Dermatology Foundation - August 1
- Epilepsy Foundation of America - August 30
- Eppley Foundation for Research - August 1
- Terri Gotthelf Lupus Research Institute - August 15
- Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation - August 1
- Huntington's Disease Society of America, Inc. - August 1
- International Life Sciences Institute Research Foundation Future Leader Awards - August 30
- Irvington Institute for Medical Research - August 15
- National Foundation for Ileitis & Colitis - August 1
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society - August 1
- The New-Land Foundation, Inc. - August 1
- Retirement Research Foundation - August 1
- The Thrasher Research Fund - No deadline
- Helen Hay Whitney Foundation - August 15

## RU barbecue ushers in summer



Leif Carlsson

*Approximately 350 guests attended the university's sixth annual barbecue on May 31. From left, Brian Hardy, Kikelomo Olosunde and Ginny Hansen, all from the Personnel Office, were among the festive crowd.*

## Apple System 7 now available

The long-awaited System 7 for the Macintosh has arrived in Computing Services. With System 7, Apple has made substantial changes in their operating system, including such things as a new organization of the system folder, sharing of files without a file server, True Type fonts, more help, sophisticated file-searching capabilities and many improvements to the Finder.

System 7 will run on all Macs with a hard disk from the Plus up. The system is quite large (1200K), and requires at least two megabytes of memory. Two megabytes allow users to open only one application; four megabytes allow several applications to be run at once.

Mel Ferentz, Director of Computing Services, said, "Version 1 of System 7 seems to be a well-engineered first release and we have no qualms about using it on newly placed machines in a controlled environment. However, unless they have compelling needs for System 7 features, people with

ongoing work using earlier versions would be well advised to not try to be pioneers, but rather wait until there is much more experience with this release or until the first 'bug-fix' release is available."

Before upgrading to System 7, Apple suggests using their "compatibility check," a hypercard stack that determines whether programs already on a Mac are compatible with the new system. A copy of this stack has been placed on the public mac in the Users Area, TSH B7. It can be copied and the checker run on any hard disk with HyperCard 1.2.2 or later.

Computing Services has installed System 7 on a Macintosh in the Users Area for those interested in trying the new features. An appointment can be made by contacting the consultant, x8940.

System 7 is free from Computing Services. This does not include documentation, which must be purchased separately. Materials describing the new system are currently available. ➡➡



## Baltimore Lab moves to Tower Building

For the lab members, it was a logistical operation conducted with the precision of Operation Desert Storm. As dawn was coming up in Cambridge, Mass., the contents of freezers were packed in dry ice and hurried onto the moving van to join hundreds of boxes packed earlier for speedy, same-day delivery to the Rockefeller campus—before the frozen stuff melted. By nightfall, the lab was full of boxes and the weary lab crew was wondering if this was really the stuff of science.

That's the way it was for the laboratory of University President David Baltimore, which began operations in quarters on the eighth floor of the Tower Building July 1. The Baltimore lab will remain there until permanent laboratory space on the second floor of the new research tower is completed, estimated to be in summer 1992. Dr. Nam-Hai Chua is scheduled to occupy the eighth-floor Tower space once the Baltimore lab's move is completed.

In addition to Baltimore, the group includes seven lab members who from the Whitehead Institute, and two scientists—postdoc Bruce Mayer and graduate fellow Piera Cicchetti—who had previously come to the university and had been working in lab space in Founders Hall.

The seven who relocated from Boston include research associate Raul Andino and postdocs Takashi Fujita, Hsiou-chi Liou, Garry Nolan, Kalle Saksela, Martin Scott, and Eugenia Spanopoulou. Other members of the lab are senior research assistant Pamela Svec, who came from New York University; laboratory helper Elaine Downer, who had previously worked in the laboratories of Fernando Nottebohm and Michael W. Young; and Seiko Ishida, a medical student from Japan who has joined the Baltimore lab for the summer. The Baltimore laboratory focuses its research on cellular differentiation and its derangement in cancer cells, as exemplified in the immune system. ➡➡



Bob Reichert

*The unpacking continues for Takashi Fujita in the Baltimore Lab.*

## Death

Michael Heidelberger, an organic chemist at Rockefeller from 1912 to 1927, died June 25 at New York University Medical Center. He was 103 years old.

Born in New York City in 1888, Heidelberger received his bachelor's and doctorate degrees in chemistry from Columbia University. He was introduced to Rockefeller by his boyhood physician Samuel Meltzer, one of the early members and head of physiology at Rockefeller. In 1912, Institute Director Simon Flexner, an ardent believer in chemotherapy, invited Heidelberger to join Rockefeller and work with W.A. Jacobs. Together, they synthesized drugs for poliomyelitis, syphilis and African sleeping sickness. Heidelberger also worked with Oswald Avery to show that capsules surrounding the pneumococcus are polysaccharide in nature, thus revolutionizing immunology by proving that molecules other than proteins could elicit antibody responses. He received an honorary degree from Rockefeller in 1977.

Heidelberger survived both of his wives and his only son, but is survived by three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

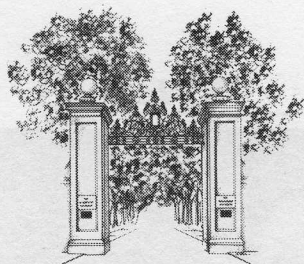
## Health care team for Epidermolysis Bullosa honored

Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) is an inherited and lifelong blistering disorder of the skin which causes much suffering to its victims. The disease is made more tolerable for some 200 EB patients and their families in the tri-state area by specialists—physicians, surgeons, nutritionists, therapists and coun-

selors—who offer support, often free of charge. Because EB is a multi-organ system disease, patient care must be individually tailored and managed by a network of specialists.

To honor this multi-disciplinary team of consultants, Dr. Martin D. Carter and his laboratory at The

Rockefeller University Hospital joined with DEBRA (Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association)—a patient-advocacy organization for promoting research and education about EB—in hosting a luncheon for them, Friday June 21. ➡➡



August 16, 1991  
The Rockefeller University

# News & Notes

**Why is Mary Griffin so happy? (See page 4)**



Leif Carlsson

## Braunstein to manage the tastes of Rockefeller

Heath Braunstein has taken his first step toward becoming a legend at the university. He replaced Jeremiah J. Barry as director of Food Services. Barry, who retired July 31 after eleven years at Rockefeller and fifty-one years in the food service industry, had achieved legendary standing, touching the lives of many who ate in the university's dining facilities, attended special receptions and events, or just stopped to chat on campus.

As cafeteria manager, Braunstein has been Barry's understudy during the past three years. "Jerry was a true mentor," says Braunstein. "He taught me not only about the great diversity of tastes in our community, but also about his philosophy that people eat with their eyes."

☛ See **Braunstein** on page 3

## Cerami starts new institute on Long Island

Long-time Rockefeller University Professor Anthony Cerami has announced that he has joined with philanthropist Jeffry M. Picower to form a new medical research institute on Long Island.

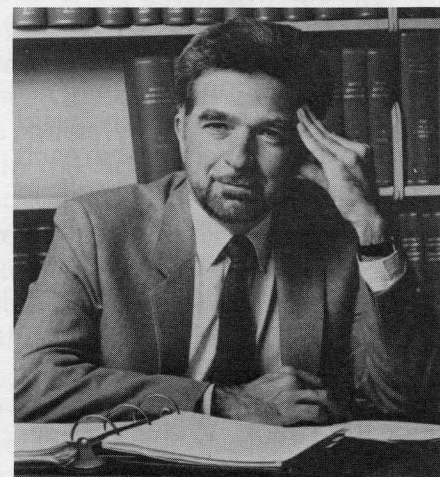
Cerami's laboratory will move some time this fall to 30,000 square feet of laboratory and office space in the Boas-Marks Biomedical Science Research Building at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset that was formerly occupied by a biotechnology company. Joining him will be thirteen scientists from his laboratory, Cerami said.

"Rather than stressing pure research by and for itself, we will use the insights gained by our biomedical research to develop viable new treatments that will improve the quality and length of human life," Cerami said in a prepared statement distributed at a press conference in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel July 31.

"The unique emphasis of The Picower Institute for Medical Research, to directly address the need for new medical cures, will set it apart from other institutions which focus only on basic research," said Picower. "Our independent financial support is particularly important today, when research funds from traditional sources are increasingly difficult to secure."

Picower said he is providing initial funding of \$10 million for the new Institute. According to the press kit, Picower "anticipates that the endowment will exceed \$100 million over the next five years, including substantial additional support from the Picower family." Picower is an investor who lives in Palm Beach, Florida. He is also the owner and chairman of the board of Monroe Systems for Business, Inc., the office equipment company.

Rockefeller President David Baltimore commented: "Our com-



Anthony Cerami

Ingbet Grüttner



☛ See **Cerami** on page 7  
Jeffry M. Picower