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NEWS AND NOTES 1990, DECEMBER 14

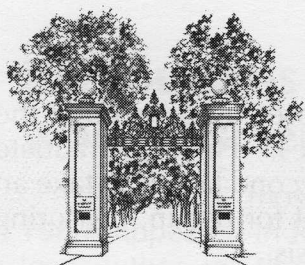
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News & Notes

Rockefeller hosts tomorrow's scientists

Twenty-three seniors from the Bronx High School of Science spent two hours visiting four labs at the university on December 5. At the end of their visit, which of the following did they have?

A. A better understanding of scientific instrumentation.

B. An enhanced interest in careers in science.

C. An enthusiastic appreciation of the Rockefeller.

D. All of the above.

The answer, of course, is "D."

The students are taking "Modern Frontiers in Chemistry," a course designed to "bring theoretical concepts to reality," said Ruth Cohen, their teacher. Unfortunately, fiscal realities are keeping her from demonstrating physical realities. "We have no instrumentation in the course because we have no funds," Cohen said.

So she brought her class to the university to learn about instrumentation. Needless to say, what they saw here was incalculably more impressive than what even the best-endowed high school could provide.

Brian Guenther, Graduate Fellow in the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics, explained the technique of x-ray diffraction and showed how computers can generate a model of a protein that accounts for the interactions



Gloria Coruzzi addresses visitors from the Bronx High School of Science

among all its atoms.

In the Laboratory of Biophysics, Jessica Cha, Postdoctoral Associate, used photoacoustics to detect oxygen formation from a leaf of spinach that had been exposed to light from a dye laser. This technique can measure the efficiency of energy use by plants.

Then, Postdoctoral Associate Michael Drain, another member of the lab, gave a tour of the "copper room," a chamber lined with a 1/8-inch layer of copper. The metal protects sensitive measuring instruments from

☛ See **Scientists** on next page

Van Valer resigns

Robert L. Van Valer, Vice President for University Relations, resigned Monday to pursue other opportunities and challenges in the field of fund-raising. Van Valer, who has been with the university for 17 years, will depart at the end of January.

President David Baltimore said that the resignation is announced "with sincere personal regret," then added, "I am delighted to report that Van will continue to assist us in an advising and consulting capacity."

Maren Imhoff, Director of Development and second-ranking administrative officer in the department, assumes full responsibility for managing the department while a search is conducted for a replacement for Van Valer. Imhoff has been Director of Development since July 1988. She came to the university in 1984. ➡➡

Lab Safety book is on waste disposal

Recent legislation requires states to provide for the disposal of their own low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) by 1993. With this in mind, members of Rockefeller's Laboratory Safety office have written a comprehensive reference book to help states comply with these regulations.

Low-Level Radioactive Waste: From Cradle to Grave was written by four members of Lab Safety: Edward L. Gershey, Director; Robert Klein, Industrial Hygiene & Safety Officer; Esmeralda Party, Radiation Safety Officer; and Amy Wilkerson, Assistant to the Director. The book examines sources of LLRW, the history of its disposal, management alternatives, and trends in waste disposal. It is published by Van Nostrand Reinhold, and it is available at some bookstores and by mail for \$32.95. ➡➡

Births

Mary Jane Zimmermann, Executive Assistant in the Lederberg Lab, and her husband, **Marc**, had a daughter on September 28. **Mary Katherine** weighed 8 lb. 10 oz. when she was born at Phelps Memorial Hospital in North Tarrytown.

Elizabeth R. de Oliveira e Silva, Research Associate in the Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics and Metabolism, and her husband, **Moacyr M. Da Silva**, had a daughter on November 28. **Stephanie Louise** weighed 7 lb. 10 oz. when she was born at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Scientists (continued from page 1)

electromagnetic radiation emitted from a laser used to study the electronic interactions in bilayer membranes. Finally, Graduate Fellow John Delaney showed how the picosecond laser can take an infrared pulse and convert it into white light for use in measuring reactions in a model system for photosynthesis.

Meanwhile, in the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry and Physical Biochemistry, Postdoctoral Associates Nalin Pant and Carlos Rios and NMR Spectroscopist Francis Picart explained NMR spectroscopy, circular dichroism and Fourier transforming infrared spectroscopy—all techniques for determining molecular structure with different levels of detail. They are used in the lab to study biological and synthetic peptides, proteins, and protein/DNA interactions.

The Mass Spectrometry Laboratory also helped bring the students up to speed on the latest advances in instrumentation. There, Associate Professor Brian Chait explained "laser ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry," a technique that uses intense bursts of ultraviolet light to convert proteins in the condensed phase into isolated gas phase ions, then tracks their motion to accurately determine their molecular masses. Developed here at the university, this method enables the lab to analyze crude biological fluids and identify the proteins they contain.

After the lab visits, the students regrouped in the Nurses' Residence where, a few hours earlier, Associate Professor Gloria Coruzzi had started the day off with an overview of Rockefeller's research activities. Coruzzi, a member of the Laboratory of Plant Molecular Biology, also enthusiastically endorsed the benefits of working in a lab while still in high school—something she herself had done here at the Rockefeller while a student at Hunter High School.

The students' comments after their lab visits suggest they may well take Coruzzi up on her suggestion. "Fantastic," one said. "Incredible," said another. "That instrumentation was really amazing."

—by Susan Blum



Sweatshirt Shop offers new items

The university Sweatshirt Shop is offering several new items in time for the holidays, including all-cotton T-shirts, crop tops, golf shirts, nylon waist packs, and soft canvas portfolios, all sporting the university emblem. During this busy shopping season, the store will be open 11:30-1:30 Monday through Wednesday, December 17-19. The shop has a number of gift items for sale under \$10. (Please note that the Sweatshirt Shop will be closed December 20 through January 7. Regular Tuesday hours will resume January 8.) ➡➡

RU journals featured most cited women scientists

Three of the most cited papers by women scientists during the 1980s appeared in Rockefeller University Press journals—and the lead author for the most frequently cited article was a former professor here, Marilyn Farquhar.

The ratings, published recently in *The Scientist*, noted that "Junctional complexes in various epithelia," by Farquhar and her husband, G.E. Palade, has been cited 1,854 times since publication in *The Journal of Cell Biology* in 1963.

The seventh most cited article, by E.S. Vitetta, *et al*, was "Cell surface immunoglobulin. II. Isolation and characterization of immunoglobulin from mouse splenic lymphocytes." It has been cited 409 times since it appeared in *The Journal of Experimental Medicine* in 1971. In tenth place was another JEM paper: "The major histocompatibility complex-restricted antigen receptor on T cells. II. Role of the L3T4 product." This 1983 article by P. Marrack, *et al*, has been cited 219 times. →→

Employee Recognition Day honors twenty-eight

The Fifth Annual Employee Recognition Program was held on Thursday, December 6, to honor those with long service to the university. This year, twenty employees celebrated ten years and eight celebrated twenty years.

The ceremony was hosted by one of Rockefeller's newest employees, President David Baltimore, and followed by a reception in the Abby Aldrich Dining Room.

The award for those with ten years of service was a Tiffany pen; twenty-year employees received Tiffany crystal bowls with the university seal on the bottom.

Ten-year honorees were Elizabeth Begley, Frank Bockowski, Jonathan Boice, Wendy Coucill, Paula Desko, Marybeth Dougherty, Philemon Downer, Sydelle Gingold, Martha Kellar, Rachael Kolb, Philip Manning, Michael McCarney, Florante Santos, James Schaefer, James Stanorski, Lessie Stone, James Sullivan, Li-Lan Tsai, Timothy Webster, and Linda Worn.

Twenty-year awardees were Martha Bodden, Oscar Irizarry, Rudolph Josephs, David Lyons, Luce Milord, Alvin Pinnock, Heidemarie Robinson, and Pedro Torres. →→



Luce Milord (left) receives a gift from David Baltimore as Eileen Holleran looks on.

Shari Diamond

Security catches another intruder

A thief was captured Monday in Smith Hall thanks to the quick action of Eva Straumsnes, secretary to Vice President and General Counsel William Griesar, and members of Rockefeller Security.

At around noon that day, Straumsnes saw a man she did not recognize near her office in Smith Hall Annex. She asked what he wanted and was told he was there to replace some ceiling tiles. Suspicious, Straumsnes called Captain Michael John in Security.

John and other guards immediately searched the area and found the man in the stairwell of Smith Hall. He had in his possession a portable Smith-Corona typewriter, a Mettler PJ400 digital scale and a black leather briefcase containing papers and books. The briefcase and scale were returned to their owners before they were discovered missing; the typewriter was returned Wednesday.

Director of Security Joe Nekola congratulated Eva Straumsnes, noting it was "her prompt and astute actions that enabled us to apprehend him. The Security Department has limited resources, but with the help of the campus community in situations such as this, we can greatly enhance our overall effectiveness."

Nekola also observed that calling Security is the right thing to do in such a situation. "Don't try to apprehend an intruder yourself," he said. "That can be dangerous." →→

Announcements

Halim featured at Tri-Institutional Recital today

Indonesian pianist Eduardus Halim will perform at today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital at Sloan House, 1233 York Avenue. Admission is free.

Halim, who began his piano studies at age six, earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Julliard School and was awarded the Nadia Reisenberg Prize upon graduation. Since then he has performed around the world, and he was the winner of the 1988 Young Concert Artists International Auditions and the 1988 Sydney International Piano Competition. During today's performance he will perform works of Bach, Liszt, and Chopin.

Children's School bake sale today

The Rockefeller University Children's School will hold its second bake sale of the year today in the Tower lobby from 8:30 to 3:30. As always, there will be a variety of cakes, muffins, pies and breads, as well as, possibly, more exotic items such as sushi. This sale will also include holiday cookies and African violets. All proceeds go to benefit the school.

Chimes at Midnight to be shown Sunday

The last movie in the 1990 Fall Film Series, Orson Welles' *Chimes at Midnight*, will be shown Sunday night, December 16, at 7:30 in Caspary Auditorium. The film, adapted from five Shakespeare plays, explores the nature of friendship and betrayal, focusing on the character Falstaff and his adventures with Prince Hal. Co-starring with Welles are Jeanne Moreau and Sir John Gielgud. Admission is free.

Campus Archives Office moves

The Rockefeller University Archives office is moving from Nurses' Residence room 202 to Flexner Hall Extension room E-357. Consequently, the office will be closed from now through Friday, January 4.

Apply now for Children's School 1991-92

The Children's School is presently accepting applications for the 1991-92 academic year. Priority enrollment will be given to those who submit an application before January 31, 1991. Applications received after that date can be considered only if there are spaces available.

Application forms may be obtained from the school, which is located on the ground floor of Sophie Fricke Hall. Address inquiries to Barbara Adams at box 50 or x8580.

Dinner-Dance thank you

The university's Holiday Dinner-Dance last Friday was a big success. On behalf of the Holiday Dance Committee, committee representative Margarita Campbell thanks all who supported the event: Cabinet Shop, Custodial Services, Dean's Office, Faculty and Students' Club, Food Services, Media Resource Service Center, *News and Notes*, Purchasing, Security and all faculty, students, administration, employees and guests who attended.

No late-night operators in 1991

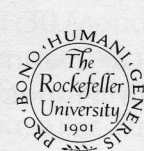
Beginning January 1 there will no longer be a telephone operator on duty at the main switchboard on the first floor of the hospital from 11:00 p.m. through 7:00 a.m.



During this period, the security guard on duty at Founder's Hall will field any incoming calls and handle emergency calls through x1111. If there is a medical emergency, the guard will notify the third-floor nursing desk and the doctor on call.

When the university switchboard is closed, the switchboard area in the hospital lobby and the main door to the hospital will be locked and alarmed to the security desk at Founder's Hall. Access to the hospital can be gained through Founder's Hall by the third-floor bridge, which passes from Founder's through the Nurses' Residence to the hospital. University staff on their way to and from the hospital or the laboratories are asked to use this route during the indicated times.

Patients, visitors and persons unfamiliar with the campus will be escorted to the third floor, if warranted, by a security guard. Questions may be directed to x7719. →→



NewsNotes is published on Fridays throughout the academic year by the Public Affairs Office of Rockefeller University. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to Box 68, or call 570-8967. Articles may also be submitted via electronic mail to *newsnotes*. The deadline for each Friday's issue is the preceding Monday at 5:00 p.m. The Rockefeller University is an equal opportunity employer and has an affirmative action program to increase the employment of women and members of protected groups at all job levels. Editor: Robert Brown. Designer: Patricia Sadiq.