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Head of development named VP Imhoff leads record-breaking fund-raising effort

Maren "Marnie" Imhoff has been promoted from director of development to vice president for development, President Torsten Wiesel announced last month. Under Imhoff's direction, the Development Office helped raise a record \$33.3 million in new gifts and pledges last fiscal year.

"Her promotion reflects the excellent and creative direction Marnie has given to our fund-raising efforts over the past two and a half years, and her wise and skillful leadership of the Development Office," said Wiesel. "She has demonstrated to all who have had the privilege of working with her that she has the vision and energy to lead an expanded development program to support our plans for the future of the university and, as an officer of the university, contribute more broadly to the administrative challenges we have before us."

The \$33.3 million in new gifts and pledges raised last fiscal year exceeded the university's goal of \$30 million and the previous high of \$28.5 million set last year. Among the gifts and pledges were eight (the highest ever) of \$1 million or more, including:

- \$2.5 million from the Mellon Foundation to establish a graduate research fund named in honor of William O. Baker, chairman emeritus of both the Mellon Foundation and The Rockefeller University Board of Trustees;
- \$2.5 million from the Markey Trust to support research in molecular medicine;
- \$2 million from the Carl J. Herzog Foundation to endow a chair, the Carl J. Herzog



Maren "Marnie" Imhoff is the university's new vice president for development.

Professorship in Clinical Investigation;

- \$1.2 million from the Margaret Milliken Hatch Trust to fund laboratory renovations;
- \$1 million from the Pew Charitable Trusts to strengthen research programs in the neurosciences;
- \$1 million from the Ira W. DeCamp Foundation, also designated for the neurosciences.

In addition, the 130-member Rockefeller University Council met the terms of the Gustavo Cisneros Challenge, resulting in a \$2 million gift to the university. The challenge was issued to the Council in 1991 by Gustavo Cisneros, a former Council member and current university trustee who pledged the \$2 million if the Council succeeded in raising \$10 million by June 30, 1993. The challenge grant resulted in many new major gifts to the university and a doubling of Council giving over the previous two-year period. While some portion of these gifts will support current operations, many are in the form of pledges that will help university programs in future years.

"The university's fund-raising success was made possible by a great many people," said Imhoff. "I would like to express my deepest thanks to the university's generous friends, whose support is vital to the scientific programs carried out

RU to reimburse employees' tuition

The Rockefeller University will now reimburse full-time, non-faculty employees for a large part of the cost of job-related tuition, the Personnel Office announced last week.

"It's important to provide employees with an opportunity to improve their qualifications and rise to more rewarding and challenging positions," said Virginia Huffman, director of Personnel. "Not only will the program lead to improved job performance, but it will ultimately contribute to a greater sense of well-being at the university."

"We are committed to enhancing the educational growth of our employees by assisting those who strive to obtain undergraduate degrees," she continued. "We also wish to recognize the continued advancement of those employees who have demonstrated competence and commitment to the university through length of service."

The university will reimburse 85 percent of tuition charges, fees and books for approved courses up to a maximum of \$2,000 per fiscal year for employees with six months to three years of service and up to \$3,000 per fiscal year for employees with over three years of service.

Courses that enhance job performance without interfering with

full-time work at the university will be eligible as long as prior approval has been granted by an employee's laboratory or department head. Courses must be part of a fully accredited undergraduate, technical or certificate program.

Graduate courses must be part of a complete, matriculated program. Adult education courses, seminars and other programs which do not provide a grade or pass/fail rating are not eligible for reimbursement.

"Laboratory assistants might want to take a course that will improve their skills at the bench; administrative or managerial personnel, seminars in writing, finance or management," said Huffman.

Prior to course enrollment, employees seeking tuition reimbursement must fill out an application (available at the Personnel Office, Founder's Hall 103) with their supervisor. Reimbursement will be made upon completion of the course and submission of a payment receipt (bursar's bill) and pass rating or grade of "C" or better.

The university will continue providing for interest-free tuition loans to help pay for tuition. Tuition loans, from whatever source, will not effect the amount of eligible reimbursement.

For more information, contact the Personnel Office, x8300.

Children's School opens in new location



Children arrived at The Rockefeller University Children's School for the first day of classes, Tues., Sept. 7, in the school's new facilities on the first floor of Graduate Students Residence. A ribbon-cutting in Berlin Garden (on the south end of the building) Thurs., Sept. 16 at 4:00 P.M. will celebrate the opening. All are welcome to attend.

2 LARC postdoc studies cancer

2 Money for phone calls recouped

3 Tracking path of white blood cells

Postdoc conducts cancer research

After seven years of arduous training to become a veterinary oncologist, Carol Novotney, a postdoc in the Laboratory Animal Research Center, became board-certified in veterinary medical oncology last month.

"It's been a long road, but the certification will enable me to focus on my area of interest—oncology—without feeling like I have to keep up with every other area in veterinary medicine," said Novotney. "Now that I am certified, I am looking forward to combining laboratory and clinical cancer research."

Novotney has already helped conduct clinical research on canine sarcomas and spontaneous bone tumors while a faculty member at North Carolina State University. During that time, Novotney was one of a group of investigators to be given consent from pet-owners to study innovative cancer treatments on their sick animals.

"The pet owners were surprised to learn about promising multimodality treatments for numerous types of cancer," explained Novotney. "Also, we were grateful to have the pet owners participate in the protocols."

Since the studies were conducted in collaboration with Duke University Medical School, the

results helped further the advancement of research into new cancer therapies for humans.

Novotney plans to direct clinical research out of private practices while at the same time developing a laboratory model for cancer treatment. "There is so much room for innovation in cancer research—probably more than in any other area," she said. "My work will not only help animals but could further the development of more effective cancer treatment in humans. I couldn't ask for a more rewarding combination than that."

While at The Rockefeller University, Novotney is learning molecular genetic techniques and is attempting to create a transgenic bird. Throughout her fellowship, she will familiarize herself with how lab animal research protocols are designed and conducted. As one of the LARC veterinarians, Novotney is on call to treat lab animals whenever problems arise. In addition, she serves as occasional teacher to lab technicians and visiting veterinarian students.

After completing her two-year fellowship at Rockefeller in 1994, Novotney hopes to remain in New York City. "I like being in such a socially and intellectually dynamic city," she said.



Carol Novotney, postdoc in the Laboratory Animal Research Center, recently passed her veterinary medical oncology boards.

Money for unauthorized calls recouped

Thanks to an investigation by the Security Department, a check for \$41.60 covering the expense of two unauthorized international calls was given to the university.

In a letter to the editor in *News&Notes* (Aug. 27), Professor Emeritus Merrill Chase alerted the community to the fact that two calls to Venezuela, one for 28 minutes and one for 30 minutes, had been made from his office Sun.,

June 6. Following up the complaint, the Security Department found that an outside firm had been contracted to work on the ducts in the Hospital, where Chase's office is located, the day the calls were made. Security also found that the leader of the crew was from Venezuela. When these facts were brought to the contractor's attention, the firm agreed to reimburse the university the expense.

Fund-raising sets new university record

(continued from page 1)

by the faculty and students. I would particularly like to express appreciation to President Wiesel, the trustees—including Chairman of the Board Richard Furlaud and Chairman of the Development Committee Alexander Forger—and the university's faculty, all of whom generously contribute their time and expertise to our fund-raising efforts."

The Development Office submitted 56 proposals for private support and organized more than 130 events last year, from the large-scale Council meetings and Trust and Estate Committee meetings to the smaller dinners and meetings. Last year, a major program was launched to expand the circle of friends and supporters of the university. Through a series of dinners hosted by the trustees, many new individuals have been introduced to the university, particularly those from the Wall Street community. The program is gaining momentum, and three such events are already scheduled for the coming year.

Imhoff graduated from Dickinson College and attended Andover Newton Theological

School. She worked in fund-raising for Union Theological Seminary, a non-denominational theological school in New York City, before joining the development staff at Rockefeller in 1984. By 1988 she was director, reporting to the vice president for university relations. She became head of development in 1990.

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Profiles

Marta Delgado

Place of birth: The Bronx.

Place of residence: Bergen County, New Jersey. "Living in the suburbs keeps me sane."

New position: Financial administrator, Office of Graduate Studies.

Primary goal: To help students understand their budgets and stipends, as well as grant and fellowship programs; also, to help the students comply with thesis and graduation guidelines.

Greatest challenge: Customizing a D-Base program "to make our masses of data more readily accessible. Of course, it will also be a great challenge to work with over 150 Ph.D. and M.D.-Ph.D. students!"

Previous positions at The Rockefeller University: Special assistant to the medical director (1989-93) and administrative assistant, Personnel Office (1988-89).

Confession: "I thrive on numbers. Over the years, I have come to



Marta Delgado is the new financial administrator in the Office of Graduate Studies.

appreciate how much they affect people."

Sports: Swimming and dancing.

Hobbies: Gardening and flower arrangements. "Enjoyment comes from seeing the final outcome."



Studies track journey of white blood cells across vessel walls

By Susan Blum

Impressive as it was, the traffic this past holiday weekend was nothing compared to the traffic that is commonplace within the human body. Every second, for instance, billions of red and white blood cells circulate within the bloodstream via an intricately organized "highway" system of blood vessels.

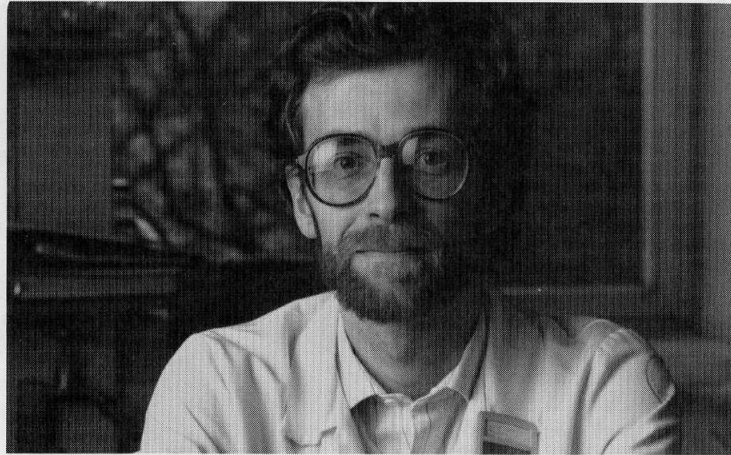
During inflammation—part of the body's immune system response to invaders such as viruses and bacteria—many white blood cells (leukocytes) migrate across a vessel's wall to reach the site of infection. There, they help destroy the invading offenders and mop up the resultant debris. Though the inflammatory response is often beneficial, it is nonetheless a double-edged sword. Much of human pathology is the result of inflammation that occurs at the wrong time or place. Thus, medical scientists have long endeavored to understand and control it.

For over a century, it has been known that the voyage of leukocytes across blood vessel walls is a multi-step process. First, the leukocytes leave the central stream of circulation and slowly roll along the vessel wall. Then they stop their rolling and stick tightly to the endothelial cells that line the blood vessel's inner surface. Finally, they squeeze between the junctions separating one endothelial cell from another to get to the tissue lying beyond the blood vessel wall.

Much has been learned over the past decade about the role that specialized molecules called cell adhesion molecules (CAMs) play in this process. CAMs, found on the surface of many cells, are "hooks" that bind cells to one another through various kinds of molecular interactions. In inflammation, a class of CAMs called selectins controls the rolling stage, while another class, called integrins, is responsible for the sticking, or adhesion, phase.

PECAMs help solve puzzle

Until recently, however, the final stage—called transmigration—presented more of a puzzle. It was widely believed that integrins might be responsible not only for adhesion but for transmigration, too, but the details were difficult to tease apart. Now, Rockefeller researcher William Muller and his colleagues have shown that a different kind of CAM, called PECAM-1, is necessary for leukocyte transmigration across the vessel wall. Their results appeared in the August issue of *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*.



Rockefeller researcher William Muller and his colleagues are studying the passage of white blood cells across the blood vessel walls, a process that is part of the body's immune system response to invaders such as viruses and bacteria.

Muller's work on PECAM-1 dates back to 1989, when he first discovered the molecule on the junctional surface of endothelial cells, and then on the surface of a type of blood cell called platelets. (Thus, the origin of the molecule's acronym, which stands for Platelet/Endothelial Cell Adhesion Molecule-1). Muller subsequently found PECAM-1 molecules on two types of leukocytes, called monocytes and neutrophils, as well. He then analyzed PECAM-1's structure, and showed that it was similar to other CAMs that belong to the so-called "immunoglobulin gene superfamily." Next, he showed that PECAM-1 not only looks like a CAM, but functions as one, too.

Muller's recently published results derive from test-tube experiments designed to probe PECAM-1's role in the inflammatory process. Using a novel assay he developed, Muller and his colleagues demonstrated that transmigration ceases when several types of anti-PECAM reagents are used to block PECAM-1 molecules that are located either on leukocytes or on endothelial cells. The researchers have just now corroborated these test-tube experiments in animal studies showing that antibodies directed against the PECAM-1 molecules of mice block inflammation in the living animals.

These studies show that PECAM-1 is necessary for transmigration. But whether PECAM-1 is sufficient for that process remains an open question. "It may turn out that the integrins are also important for transmigration, but it's clear they can't do it alone," Muller says. He and his colleagues are now trying to learn the details of how PECAM-1 molecules function in transmigration, and how they might

be interacting with other cell adhesion molecules.

According to Muller, the most obvious way PECAM-1 molecules might function is through leukocyte PECAM-endothelial cell PECAM interactions that bind the two types of cells to one another during the white blood cells' passage through the junctions between endothelial cells. But, he points out, it is also possible that PECAM-1 molecules function in other ways, such as through interactions with integrins.

Wanted: new anti-inflammatory drugs

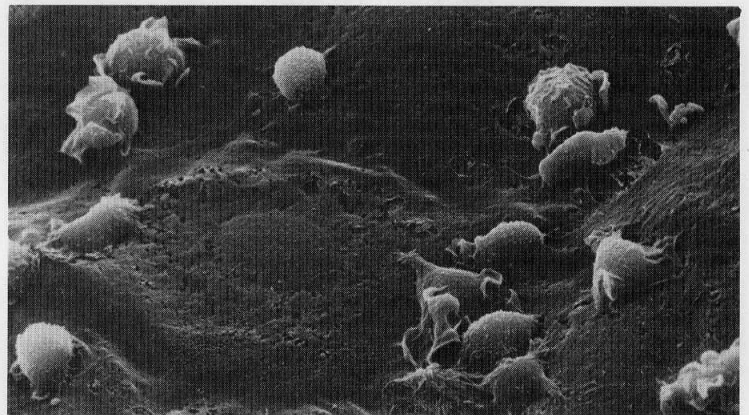
A deeper understanding of PECAM-1 function may lead to novel additions to medicine's ever-growing armamentarium of anti-inflammatory drugs. Such drugs are vitally important, because uncontrolled or inappropriate inflammation plays a role in a wide variety of conditions and diseases such as arthritis, atherosclerosis and auto-

immune diseases such as lupus and post-transplant organ rejection.

Agents already exist that can interfere with the rolling and binding stages of a leukocyte's voyage across the blood cell wall, and one possible result of research on PECAM-1 would be a "combination therapy" that would target all three stages of leukocyte emigration. "The point is to block an ongoing physiologic process—that is, inflammation—so the more ways you can attack it, the better your advantage will be," says Muller.

The ultimate goal of anti-inflammatory therapy is not to completely thwart the body's ability to mount an inflammatory response, but merely to block inflammation specifically where it has gone haywire—for instance, in an arthritic joint. Muller thinks it might eventually be possible to block PECAM-1 molecules on the endothelial cells of particular "vascular beds"—that is, the blood vessel walls in a particular region—but to leave untouched PECAM-1 molecules on most endothelial cells and on all leukocytes. That way, a leukocyte's voyage across the vessel wall would be blocked only in places where it was counterproductive. Such an anti-inflammatory strategy, while still just "science fiction," is theoretically possible, Muller says. In fact, he points out, a similar approach has already been used to direct chemotherapy drugs to specific parts of the body.

On the flip side, increasing knowledge about the regulation of PECAM-1 function may eventually make it possible to enhance the inflammatory response where and when it is needed—for instance, in patients whose immune systems are compromised by AIDS or immunosuppressive drugs.



White blood cells (small, irregular light cells) treated with anti-PECAM-1 antibodies are stuck at the junctions between blood vessel endothelial cells (flat, dark cells) and cannot migrate through them. (Scanning electron microscopy by David Phillips, The Population Council.)

Potpourri

Tri-Institutional Noon Recital

The Tri-Institutional Noon Recital will begin its eighth season with Music From China, a concert of classical and contemporary music, today (Sept. 10). The performers, who will play traditional Chinese instruments, will include Susan (Wong) Cheng of the Wilson lab on the *ruan*, Wu Man on the *pipa*, Tien-Juo Wang on the *erhu* and *gaohu*, Yang Yi on the *zheng* and Wei Laigen on the *di*. The concert, to be held in Caspary Auditorium at noon, is free. All are welcome.

Sweat Shirt Shop

The Sweat Shirt Shop, located in Rockefeller Research 133, will reopen Tues., Sept. 14 and will be

open on a weekly basis on Tuesdays from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. New additions have been made to this season's inventory. Proceeds benefit The Rockefeller University Children's School.

Concert series

Schedule and subscription information for the 1993-94 Rockefeller University evening concert season is now available. A pre-concert buffet supper will be served at 6:00 P.M. for \$15 per person.

Reservations are necessary. A 10 percent discount to the series is available to all members of the university community who submit subscription requests before Wed., Sept. 15. This season's series will feature solo recitals and chamber music from a roster of internationally renowned musicians:

- New York Philharmonic Ensemble (Oct. 20, Jan. 19);
- Pianist Alicia De Larrocha (Nov. 24);
- Aspin Wind Quintet (Dec. 15);
- Soprano Harolyn Blackwell (Feb. 2);
- Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet (Mar. 2);
- Violinist Benny Kim (Apr. 13);
- Guarneri String Quartet (May 11).

For information, subscriptions or supper reservations, contact Catherine Rogers, concert coordinator, x8971.

Race for cancer

Women of The Rockefeller University can race or walk through Central Park to support the research, education, screening and treatment of breast cancer in the third annual New York Race for the



Audrey English, administrative secretary to Professor James Darnell, celebrated her retirement last week with colleagues and friends after 19 years at The Rockefeller University. English worked with Darnell for 10 years before coming to Rockefeller, first at Einstein College of Medicine, then at Columbia University.

Cure. Sponsored by The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which will direct similar races in 35 cities nationwide this year, the five-kilometer (3.1 mile) race will be held Sun., Sep. 12 at 9:00 A.M. It will both start and finish at the 72nd St. Transverse, between Fifth Ave. and Central Park West. Pre-registration costs \$15; registration on the day of the race costs \$18. All entrants will receive commemorative T-shirts, gift bags and refreshments. For more information, contact Robin Maloney, Controller's Office, x7736.

Science Outreach Program

Those who host summer interns in the lab may be interested to know that the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and many professional societies provide supplements encouraging paid summer internships for high school students and teachers. In addition, volunteers are needed to speak at schools and otherwise help in science education. For more information, contact Science Outreach Program Coordinator Bonnie Kaiser, x7431,

Box 172 or e-mail "bonnie." Kaiser would also like to thank the faculty, fellows, postdocs and staff who made last summer's program so successful.

Appointments

Visiting professor: Lawrence Sirovich, Feigenbaum lab.

Departures

Associate professor: Roger Rusack, Goulianos lab.

Guest investigator: Masako Udon, Carter lab.

Promotions

Marilyn Dammerman of the Breslow lab and Kathryn Zimmerman of the Hatten lab were promoted to the rank of assistant professor.

Moves

The Office of Public Affairs is now located on the third floor of Caspary. The Office of Sponsored Programs is now located on the second floor of Nurses Residence. Phone numbers and box numbers for these departments will remain the same.



Louise Verbsky, accounts payable clerk in the Controller's Office, celebrated her 70th birthday last month with colleagues and friends. "Not many have been here as long as I have," said the 18-year veteran.

James H. Baxter, Jr. dies

James H. Baxter, Jr., a medical director at the U.S. Public Health Service who worked as a visiting investigator at The Rockefeller Institute (now The Rockefeller University) from 1947 to 1948, died recently of a heart ailment.

During World War II, Baxter studied tropical diseases. After the war, Baxter focused his research on kidney physiology. Alongside Donald Van Slyke and George Cotzias at The Rockefeller Institute, Baxter studied

the influence of various diets on the liver and kidney of the rat. He also worked as a research fellow at Cornell University Medical College and Johns Hopkins University.

In 1950, he joined the staff of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute at the National Institutes of Health, where he continued to study kidney diseases and also researched heart conditions. Baxter retired in 1976 and later joined the staff of the U.S. Public Health Service.



The renovation of the cafeteria on the first floor of Tower continued this week. The cafeteria will reopen Mon., Sept. 13.