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Rockefeller changes health insurance carrier

Mass Mutual Life Insurance Company will replace The Prudential Insurance Company of America as one of the university's major health insurance claim administrators beginning Fri., Oct. 1.

"The Prudential, which had been serving the university since the 1970s, changed its focus in recent years, catering to larger organizations," said Virginia Huffman, director of Personnel. "Rapidly, employee benefits were becoming too costly, so the challenge was to see if another company could offer us equivalent benefits while reducing administrative costs. Mass Mutual gave us a very competitive bid. We expect excellent service because they cater to mid-size organizations like us."

Insurer to give seminars

Representatives from Mass Mutual will be on campus Thurs., Sept. 23 to provide information on the recent changes to the university health insurance coverage. Two presentations will be given in Caspary Auditorium, one from 11:00 A.M. to noon and another from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. Identification cards will be given out at these sessions. Representatives will also be on hand to answer questions between 3:00 and 4:30 P.M. in Nurses Residence 110B.

At the beginning of next month, the accounts of employees enrolled with Prudential for major medical/surgical medical services will be transferred to Mass Mutual. (The health insurance accounts of employees enrolled in health management organization plans such as Oxford and HIP will not be affected.) The accounts of employees who currently have dental accounts with Prudential will also be transferred to Mass Mutual at the beginning of next month. Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield will remain the university's insurance carrier for hospitalization.

Under Mass Mutual, enhancements to the policy include:

- an increase of the maximum benefit for outpatient mental and nervous treatment from \$2,000 to \$10,000;
- an increase of the lifetime maximum benefit for inpatient mental and nervous treatments from \$50,000 to \$100,000;
- no separate deductible for a

newborn child;

- an increase of the current limits for well baby care to 80 percent of fees up to \$300 per year to the age of five;
- an increase to coverage in full of second surgical opinions;
- an increase to coverage in full of physician-approved acupuncture treatments;
- an increase of home health care visits covered from 40 to 200;
- the expansion of convalescent care coverage from 50 percent of fees for 60 days to 80 percent of fees for 120 days.

Additions to the plan include:

- 80 percent coverage of an annual gynecological exam;
- 80 percent coverage of oral contraceptives;
- coverage of expenses for emergency treatment incurred within 72 hours of an accident, in coordination with Blue Cross coverage.

The dental plan will also cover

See *Health Insurance*, page 2

New luncheon service to begin

Those who have wanted an elegant and affordable meal on campus will be pleased to know that a new luncheon service begins next Mon., Sept. 20 in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall.

"We will offer a very special buffet," said Judd Newman, the university's director from Restaurant Associates. "The food will be made

of the freshest ingredients, simply and healthfully prepared every day. We plan to use Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room, which will provide a lovely environment to eat in, especially with the renovation of the space organized by Kate Cameron, Bill

See *Luncheon Service*, page 3

Friday lecturer to speak on microtubules

Ronald D. Vale, associate professor of pharmacology at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), will speak on "Proteins Involved in Microtubule Dynamics" at the first Friday lecture of the season today (Sept. 17).

Recent studies by Vale's laboratory have led to the identification and purification of a new class of proteins in frog eggs, which may modulate the complex structural organization of the "microtubular network." The network is a cell structure known to form the mitotic spindle during cell division, guide substances to and from the cell nucleus, and establish cell polarity.

"The microtubular network is not a static structure, since it can rapidly reorganize in response to extracellular cues," explained Vale. "The protein we found severs microtubules very rapidly during the transition from interphase to mitosis and may play a role in the disassembly of the microtubular network observed in the cell cycle. We hope to learn more about the role and mechanism of this protein in cell cycle regulation. Some day, we may find similar proteins in humans as well."

After receiving a Ph.D. in neuroscience at Stanford University in 1985, Vale worked as a staff fellow in a laboratory of neurobiology associated with the National Institutes of Health and stationed in Woods Hole. In 1986, Vale joined the faculty of UCSF as assistant professor.

Vale has won many awards, including the Searle Scholar Award, the R. R. Bensley Award from the American Association of Anatomists, the Pfizer Award in enzyme chemistry from the American Chemical Society and the Young Investigator Award from the Biophysical Society. He has also received numerous fellowships.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 3:45 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium. Tea will precede it at 3:15 P.M. in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room.



Alzatta Fogg will supervise the luncheon service in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall.

2 Summer student revels in science

2 Long-term care insurance available

3 Photo spread: campus changes

Seminar to explain long-term care insurance

Last year, Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (TIAA) introduced Teachers LongTerm Care insurance to Rockefeller University employees, retirees and their families. This insurance offers protection of income and assets from the financial threat of the costs of long-term care services.

The program—which provides coverage for care at home, in a nursing home or in an adult day health care facility—now has several new features, including:

- an Annual Inflation Protection Option, which enables policyholders to increase their daily and lifetime coverage every year in accordance with increases in the Consumer Price Index. This helps offset the effects of inflation and lowers the initial premium cost;
- an Alternate Plan of Care Feature, which expands the types of care covered beyond those specifically defined in a standard policy. For example, in certain cases TIAA will pay for construction in a home of a ramp for wheelchair access or of grab bars in a bathroom;
- availability of the plan to individuals between the ages of 18 and 84. Previously, applicants had to be at least 40 years old.

A seminar conducted by TIAA on Mon., Sept. 27 in Nurses Residence 110B from noon to 1:30 P.M. will provide more information. There will be only one session this fall. Family members are also invited. Call TIAA Long-Term Planning Center, 1-800-582-8422, by Sept. 22 to sign up for the seminar or to request printed material.

University changes health insurance carrier to Mass Mutual

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more expenses. Preventive and diagnostic services (class A) will be reimbursed at 100 percent instead of 80 percent. Basic restorative services (class B) will be reimbursed at 80 percent instead of 50 percent. Orthodontic expenses for each dependent child up to age 19, with a lifetime maximum of \$1,000, will be covered. In addition, annual benefits available will increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Deductibles for the Mass Mutual plans are slightly higher. Beginning Jan. 1, 1994 the medical individual annual deductible will increase from \$100 to \$150, the medical family annual deductible will increase from a cap of \$300 to

Summer student revels in joy of science

Hope Cohen-Webb, now a senior at Haverford College, spent the summer studying cell transcription as a SURFer—one of 10 funded Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows at The Rockefeller University—in the Roeder lab.

"When one of my Haverford science professors heard that I would be working in the Roeder lab at The Rockefeller University, he said he would gladly take my place if I

didn't want to go," recalled Cohen-Webb. "Now, I know why: working in a world-renowned lab where research is happening around the clock turned out to be an intense and memorable experience."

As a molecular biology major, Cohen-Webb had worked in a laboratory setting before, including in the Müller lab, but never with a graduate student as a mentor. With close guidance from sixth-year graduate fellow Alexander Hoffmann, Cohen-Webb learned some basic techniques in molecular biology and bacterial expression of recombinant proteins, and carried out a new experiment for Hoffmann to elucidate the structure and function of human TATA box-binding protein, a protein central to the regulation of gene expression.

"This work had never been done before," exclaimed Cohen-Webb. "Alex and I designed an experiment to make specific mutations of TATA box binding protein. It was a first time for both of us."

It was Hoffmann who had suggested bringing a SURF student into the Roeder lab. "I knew we would both get something out of it," he recalled. "I know from my own experience that I might never have become involved in research had it not been for a summer I spent in a lab at Johns Hopkins. I learned a lot from my mentor there, and had always hoped that one day I might inspire someone the way he inspired me."

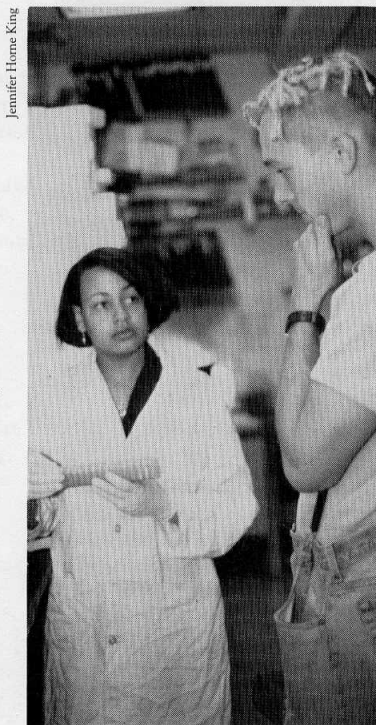
Like most scientific studies, Cohen-Webb's summer research project required some fine-tuning along the way. "Expressing a human gene in *E. coli* was not as easy as I thought it would be,"

recalled Cohen-Webb. "But I learned how to problem-solve with Alex. Each morning, we would meet and discuss the results of the previous day's work. Together, we would devise a new strategy—change one of the conditions—then I would try the procedure over again."

Unlike many summer students, who never see the results of their work before returning to school, Cohen-Webb saw the fruit of her research the night before leaving. "I'll never forget seeing a single, faint band on the gel where there had been a blank all summer long. It was extremely exciting. I only wish that I could stick around for a few more weeks to finish up the rest of the project."

Prior to working at Rockefeller this summer, Cohen-Webb was convinced she would get an M.D. and work in a clinical setting, possibly in Jamaica where she grew up. "Now, I'm seriously considering getting an M.D.-Ph.D. degree so that I might be able to combine research with clinical care," she said.

The SURF program was established about nine years ago by an anonymous donor who provided funding to support 10 summer research projects for undergraduates in Rockefeller laboratories. Other undergraduate and high school students are able to work at Rockefeller during the summer with funds from individual laboratories.



Jennifer Horne King

Hope Cohen-Webb, a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow, worked with graduate fellow Alexander Hoffmann in the Roeder lab during the summer.

\$450, and the deductible for dental restorative services (classes B and C) will increase to \$50. Premium contributions will be re-evaluated annually.

Prudential will continue to administer all flexible spending plan reimbursements until Jan. 1, 1994, when Mass Mutual will take over this task.

All medical and dental claims incurred before Oct. 1 should be sent to Prudential as soon as possible. (This also applies to medical claims incurred prior to, on or after Oct. 1, if they relate to an ongoing disability and/or pregnancy.) All new medical and dental claims incurred on or after Oct. 1, should be filed with the Mass Mutual claim office: Massachusetts Mutual

Life Insurance Company, Group Claim Department, 700 Veterans Highway, Suite 202, Hauppauge, New York 11788-2982. The telephone number is 1-800-333-2770. The policy number is 114337. Mass Mutual claim forms and envelopes will be available in the Personnel Office (Founder's Hall 103) after Mon., Sept. 27.

In another change to Rockefeller's health insurance administration, as of Oct. 1 all surgical, medical, major medical and dental benefits will be self-insured by the university. In other words, claim payments to employees will be funded directly from university funds and employee contributions.

For further information, contact the Personnel Office, x8300.

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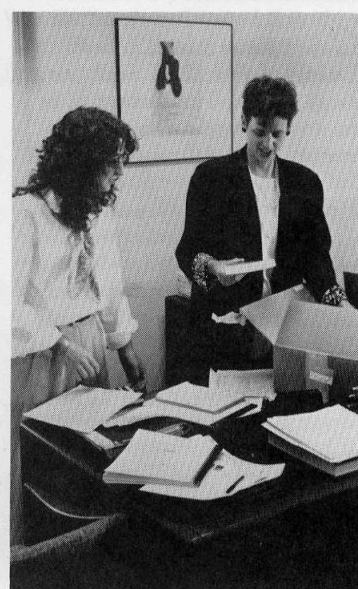
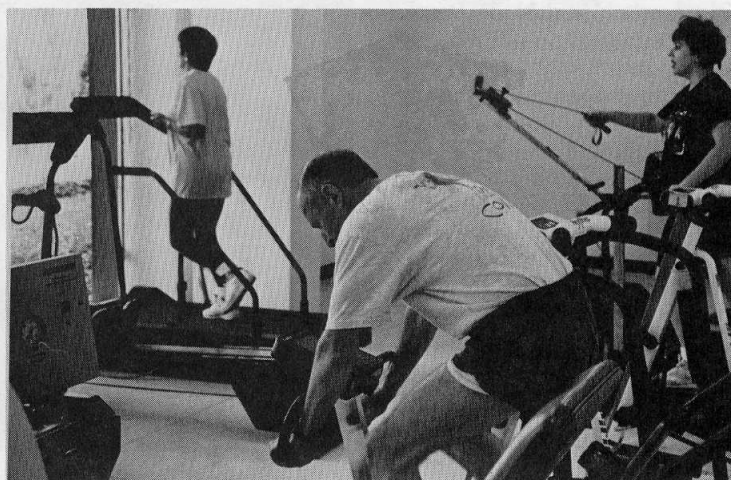
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Moving into new academic year



This summer brought a number of changes to The Rockefeller University campus. *Top left:* The newly renovated cafeteria reopened this week under the management of Restaurant Associates. *Top right:* The gym has reopened after construction in Graduate Students Residence. *Bottom right:* The Office of Sponsored Programs is now located on the second floor of Nurses Residence. (Public Affairs is on the third floor of Caspary.) *Bottom center:* The entrance to Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall and Caspary Hall is being renovated. *Bottom left:* The Housing Office is now located exclusively on the third floor of Scholars Residence. *Center left:* Construction is under way in Sophie Fricke Hall to create a new toddler center on the first floor, and the new graduate student center on the second.

Luncheon service to open in new location, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall

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Hodgson and George Candler. Eventually, we hope to add outdoor seating on the terrace so that diners can take advantage of nice weather."

The menu will differ from that served in the cafeteria. In addition to the buffet, cappuccino, espresso and gourmet coffees and teas will be part of the daily selection.

Alzatta Fogg, who just returned from training at Restaurant Associates's operations at the United Nations, will supervise the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room. The executive sous-chef there will be Rita Kuehlewind.

Luncheon will be served from noon to 2:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. The cost per person will be \$7.50 plus sales tax, payable by laboratory account

number (for official business), cash or major credit card. Tickets purchased for the Tower luncheon service will be honored until the end of October. After this time, they can be reimbursed in the Controller's Office.

To make lunch reservations, call the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room, x8894, or Food Services, x8890. For small conferences, food can be taken from the

Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room to meeting rooms such as Caspary 1-A, Caspary 1-B or the Faculty and Students Club. The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall dining room can be reserved for evening events; catering can be provided by Food Services. Contact Sandra Walsh, x8072 or Box 234, to make room reservations. Rooms must be reserved before catering is arranged.

Potpourri

Tri-Institutional Noon Recital

The Meridian Arts Ensemble, a brass quintet known for its varied repertoire and mastery of contemporary works for brass, will perform at the Tri-Institutional Noon Recital today (Sept. 17).

First prize winner of both the Concert Artists Guild New York Competition and the Chamber Music Chicago Discovery Competition, the ensemble has performed at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, and Lincoln Center's Damrosch Park. The artists—the first from the roster of the Concert Artists Guild to give a Rockefeller noon recital—will play works by Milton Babbitt, Coperario/Gibbons/Lasso, Johann Schein, John Halle, David Sampson, Rich Shemaria and Frank Zappa. The concert, to be held in Caspary Auditorium at noon, is free. All are welcome.

Ribbon-cutting ceremony

The ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating The Rockefeller University Children's School's new facilities has been postponed until Thurs., Sept. 30 at 4:00 P.M. The event will be held in Berlin Garden (at

Peter Schauf



The Meridian Arts Ensemble will perform at Tri-Institutional Noon Recital today (Sept. 17).

the south end of Graduate Students Residence).

Award

Professor Emeritus Bruce Merrifield has won the 1993 Chemical Pioneer Award. The award recognizes chemists, chemical engineers or their associates who have made outstanding contributions which have had a major impact on advances in chemical science and

industry, the chemical profession or both.

Trust and Estate Committee

Twenty-five members of the Committee on Trust and Estate Gift Plans convened for the group's annual business meeting last Tuesday in Nurses Residence 110B. Speakers included Frederick A. Terry, Jr., chair of the committee, Jack McDermott, chair of the group's nominating committee, and Fred Bohen, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the university.

Some new members of the Committee on Trust and Estate Gift Plans were introduced, including: Jonathan R. Bell, partner at Debevoise & Plimpton; Richard J. Cunningham, partner at Fulbright & Jaworski; William H. Forsyth, partner at Lane & Mittendorf; Steven M. Loeb, partner at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton; Thomas E. Roepe, vice president of Chemical Bank; and Stanford J. Schlesinger, partner at Shea &

Gould. Two new members, Thomas W. Archibald, executive vice president of the Bank of New York, and Daniel S. Mosley, partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, were unable to attend.

Appointments

Assistant professors: Scott Creel, Nottebohm lab; Tzyh-Chang Hwang, Crane/field/Gadsby lab.

Adjunct faculty: Alice Gottlieb, Carter lab; Natalia Louneva, Mauzerall lab; Paul Samuel, Breslow lab.

Visiting associate professor: Gunther Neuhaus, Chua lab.

Research associates: Margaret Burroughs, Steinman lab; Ruud Steenvoorden, Chait lab; Jong-Bo Yoon, Roeder lab.

Research associate and clinical scholar: Gil A. Cu, Zabriskie lab.

Postdoctoral associates: Hong Fei Friedman lab; Liana Tsenova Berkova, Steinman lab; Torhu Ohuchi, Hanafusa lab; Ken Shuai J. Darnell lab; Satyanarayana Vunnam, Merrifield lab.

Postdoctoral fellows: Jacqueline Bromberg, J. Darnell; David Buyer Breslow lab; Diana Cundell, Tuomanen lab; Takashi Kusunoki Steinman lab; Teresa Kathleen Neil, Kappas lab.

Departures

Associate professor: Roger Rusack Goulianos lab.

Assistant professors: Robert Gibb Pfaff lab; Anant Menon, G. Cross lab.

Research associate: Kuniaki Meguro, Sassa lab; Susan Wente-Hardy, Blöbel lab.

Adjunct faculty: Olaf Schneewind Fischetti lab; Janet Sparrow, Wies lab.

Visiting professor: Reuben Hershey, H.Wang lab.

Reviews praise book by RU author

Trustee and Adjunct Professor Alexander Bearn's new book, *Archibald Garrod and the Individuality of Man* (Oxford: Clarendon Press) is now available in bookstores (see also *News&Notes*, Apr. 23, 1993). The book examines the life and ideas of Archibald Garrod (1857-1936), a physician who developed the concepts of inherited metabolic disorders, which he called inborn errors of metabolism, and of subtle chemical differences among individuals.

The book has received praise from journals around the world:

This admirable biography has two principal virtues. First, it is based on sound and extensive archival research.... Of equal virtue is Bearn's eloquent analysis of Garrod's scientific ideas. Nature, June 24, 1993.

This excellent biography by

Alexander Bearn should do much to redress the neglect of Garrod's work and to put it into its true perspective. In addition to describing the life and work of the man in a most readable and scholarly way, it gives us some fascinating insights into the early development of human genetics and of the battles between the Mendelians and the biometricians. The Lancet, May 15, 1993.

Bearn has written a biography which is just as remarkable as Garrod himself.... He has succeeded in showing the reader on the one hand why Garrod enjoyed such great standing, whilst on the other, how his contemporaries failed to comprehend his fundamental contribution to human genetics. The biography also reflects the nature of its author—full of humor and brilliance. Translated from Medizinische Genetik, June 1993.



Assistant Professor Ulrike Gaul (left) and Associate Professor Marjorie Russel speak with Biomedical Fellow Nori Okada at the first-year student barbecue Monday.