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David Lyons retires in December

Praised across the campus for 26 years of service

David J. Lyons, vice president for business and finance, advised President Torsten Wiesel this week of his wish to retire at the end of December, a wish Wiesel has acceded to. While continuing as a part-time consultant to Rockefeller, Lyons, who marks his 65th birthday this year, will pursue opportunities to act as a financial and administrative consultant to other colleges and universities.

"Dave Lyons has served the university for more than a quarter century as the trusted financial strategist and administrator for four of the university's seven presidents," Wiesel wrote in the announcement of Lyons' retirement. "He has toiled long and hard, and exceedingly well, to support all of us here and has richly earned the opportunity to step back from the demands of day-to-day responsibilities."

David Rockefeller, who recently completed 55 years of service on the Board of Trustees, said, "Dave's contribution has been remarkable. His loss will be felt by the university community and by those of us who cherish his commitment to preserving what makes Rockefeller unique and wonderful."

Lyons's tenure was replete with success, innovation, and responsiveness. Upon joining the university in 1970 as director of economic planning, he made the then radical suggestion that financial ledger cards be replaced with a computer-based accounting system, to be run on the computer of a neighboring institution so as to avoid a large investment in new computing



David J. Lyons, vice president for business and finance, marks his 65th birthday this year.

equipment. Citing this "progressive thinking," the Professional Association for Development, Use, and Management of Information Systems in Higher Education bestowed on Lyons a CAUSE Award for Exemplary Achievement. He went on to garner more honors from similar professional organizations.

"During his long tenure here,

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Dana honorees to speak at RU

The two neurobiologists honored with this year's Charles A. Dana Awards for Pioneering Achievements in Health, H. Robert Horvitz, professor of biology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Carla J. Shatz, professor of neurobiology at the University of California, Berkeley, will lecture at a symposium at Rockefeller Wed., Nov. 8. Organized by the Charles A. Dana Foundation, the program is entitled, "Building a Brain: Cell Death and Dynamics in the Developing Nervous System."

"Both 1995 Dana Awards focus on aspects of human development," said David Mahoney, chairman of the foundation, which furthers research on neuroscience and education. "It is in human development, after all, that neuroscience and education converge, and where advances in both fields perhaps can make the greatest difference to society."

Horvitz is president of the Genetics Society of America, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

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Biochemist to discuss cell fates at Friday lecture



Judith Kimble is professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Judith Kimble, professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) investigator, will speak on "The GLP-1/LAG Signal Transduction Pathway Controls Cell Fates during *C. elegans* Development" at the Friday lecture today (Nov. 3).

Kimble's research focuses on the identification and characterization of the genes that control cell fates in the soil nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*. She and her colleagues identified a signal transduction pathway, GLP-1, which controls the decision between mitosis and meiosis in the germ line and controls early embryonic induction in the early embryo.

"Judith Kimble is a pioneer in the study of *C. elegans* development," said Professor Michael Young, who introduces Kimble today. "Some of her most significant findings involve a cell fate determination mechanism found in the nematode, which is conserved in organisms as diverse as frogs, flies, and humans."

Kimble received a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1978, where she studied with David Hirsh. From 1978 to 1982 she was a postdoctoral fellow in John Sulston's laboratory at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular

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Hospital celebrates milestone



Eighty-five years ago last Friday (Oct. 27), the Hospital admitted its first patient—a tailor suffering subacute bacterial endocarditis. That patient, who had struggled with related symptoms for six years, died hours after admission. In contrast, a patient recently treated in the Hospital for the same condition left restored and healthy. "As we take note of this anniversary and celebrate medicine's achievements, we turn back with pride," said Professor and Physician-in-Chief Jules Hirsch (seated, facing camera), who scheduled on the anniversary date the annual Hospital staff meeting and traditional plenary staff photo on the Hospital steps. After a festive lunch in Cohn Library, all enjoyed cake.

2 Math models

3 Selling science

4 Corpus Christo

Mathematics meets biology in course offered at Hospital

A six-week course on design and analysis of kinetic studies will be taught by David Foster, professor of bioengineering at the University of Washington, Seattle. Beginning Tues., Nov. 7, the lectures will address the role of mathematical models in experimental design, while workshops will allow participants to explore their own data as well as case studies.

"Mathematical modeling has made significant contributions to our understanding of the physiology and pathophysiology of metabolic systems," said Foster, a guest in the Breslow lab. "With competition for research dollars increasing, this tool is assuming greater importance in simulating experiments and analyzing data."

The syllabus covers many aspects of models. Foster will use a software program, SAAM (Simulation Analysis and Modeling), designed in his lab.

Hosted by the Hospital's General Clinical Research Center, the course is the third organized by Rachael Kolb, director of information services at the Hospital, and Jonathan Wagg, Howard Hughes Medical Institute postdoctoral fellow in the Gadsby lab.

"These differ from Computing Services [CS] courses in that they are tailored for researchers with specialized interests," said Kolb, who initiated CS classes in 1987.

Wagg expanded, "The dynamic



From left: David Foster, a professor visiting in the Breslow lab, Jonathan Wagg, a postdoc, and Rachael Kolb, systems manager, have organized a course on computer modeling of kinetic processes, to begin Tues., Nov 7.

processes of life comprise a synchronicity of countless events—interactions between a wide range of physical entities, for example, molecules, macromolecules, organelles, and cells. Computer simulations can be used to describe such interactions. The kinetics course introduces some basic principles underlying these types of simulation, using biological examples."

Completed in August, the previous courses—on computer simulation and use of the Internet's scientific resources—were taught by, respectively, biophysicist Mailen Kootsey of Andrews and Duke universities and Adrian Van Zyl, a physician at Monash University,

both of whom are former colleagues of Wagg's. Staff from the library, CS, several labs, and the Media Resource Service Center also contributed, and students included RU faculty.

"Jon's contacts provided state-of-

Financial manager added incalculables to RU

(continued from page 1)

Dave put all the critical financial and administrative systems and many key people in place," said Fred Bohlen, executive vice president. "When faculty and staff feel this is a good place to build a career, it is a tribute to Dave's administrative vision and commitment to personal service. In the period ahead, no one will replace him because he is, in fact, not replaceable."

Professor Günter Blobel said: "Going to David Lyons for the annual budget meeting, tête à tête, was like going to confession. One went there feeling guilty and came away with fatherly blessings and plenary indulgence, a combination of Treasury Department and Rome. Unique and irreplaceable!"

Wiesel characterized Lyons as "the kind of person who gains and holds the trust of his colleagues. His office has been the place where the people of the university brought their problems and difficulties, and Dave never failed to help in the resolution of those issues."

Professor James Darnell corroborated: "For all lab heads, Dave has been a steady influence. I will miss him as a fixture in our community."

"He has been an integral part of the human element on campus," said Frederick Seitz, president emeritus.

Professor Attallah Kappas said, "David is one of the 'carriers' of the culture of the university. Many others here can be so described, but

the-art know-how. The RU participants also made invaluable contributions. I'm sure that's what drew people and made the classes such a success," said Kolb, who said some five dozen people replied to a notice about the Internet course and about three dozen to the one on computer simulation. CS is developing a similar Internet course.

For the kinetic studies course, the organizers will accommodate all who are interested. Foster, who also heads the Resource Facility for Kinetic Analysis at the University of Washington, said, "I'll spend as much time as necessary explaining how to use the software to address the questions and data that people bring to the class."

To enroll or for more information, contact Kolb, x8062, or e-mail rachael. Course information is posted on the RU home page at <http://www.rockefeller.edu/hosp/saamann.html>.

surely David is preeminent in this regard."

In tendering his intent to retire, Lyons wrote to Wiesel, "You know of my great affection for the university and its scientists. It has been an extraordinary privilege and honor to have been associated with this remarkable institution for so many years."

In December, the president and leaders of the Board of Trustees will host a dinner ceremony honoring Lyons' many contributions and 26 years of distinguished service.

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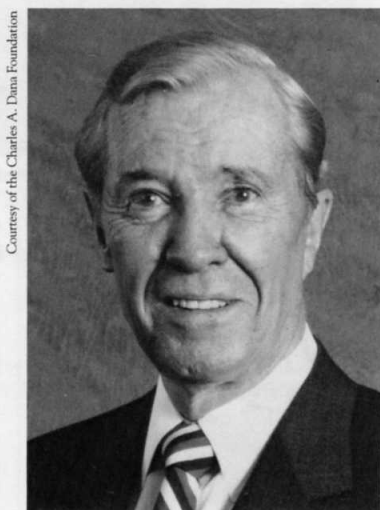
Dana symposium

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He will speak on his research into the genetic pathways controlling programmed cell death in nervous system development. Shatz, president of the Society for Neuroscience, will describe her work on the roles of brain function, neural activity, and external world experience in the development of the brain.

Stephen Foster, president of the Dana foundation, will introduce the scientists, who will give 15-minute presentations, followed by a question and answer period and a reception in Caspary Hall.

The 1995 Dana award recipients, announced Fri., Oct. 6, include educator Mildred M. Winter, who created and leads the home education program, "Parents as Teachers," and Leonard H. Goldenson, founder and long-time head of ABC-TV, who helped establish America's system of voluntary health organizations and whose philanthropy has supported brain research. The awards ceremony will take place in the evening at the Plaza Hotel.



Courtesy of the Charles A. Dana Foundation

Chair of the Dana foundation David Mahoney will attend the symposium.

The Dana foundation began the awards program in 1986 to recognize outstanding innovation in health and education.

The symposium will take place at 2:00 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium. All are welcome.

Scientist advocates science advocacy

Samuel Silverstein, chair of the Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, spoke on "Scientists as Advocates for Biomedical Research" at the second Zanvil A. Cohn Forum on Health Affairs of the academic year Tues., Oct. 24. President of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) in 1994-1995, he now chairs its Public Affairs Advisory Committee.

Here News&Notes presents an abridged version of his talk.

A deep sense of frustration and gloom pervades the biomedical research community. From senior professors to postdoctoral fellows and graduate students, the fear is palpable and overt. Established research scientists fear they will lose grant support. Unfortunately, their fears are realistic.

I mean no criticism of NIH or of its leadership. Harold Varmus and others are doing their best to use NIH's resources wisely and fairly, but the number of outstanding scientific opportunities vastly exceeds the resources available.

There are, however, reasons for optimism. Many political figures support the NIH, notably Representative John Porter, Senator Mark Hatfield, and Speaker Newt Gingrich, who clearly states in his book *To Renew America* that continued investment in basic biomedical research is a national priority.

Biomedical research fulfills its promise

I am also optimistic because basic research in the life sciences deserves the public's support. First, because it is this nation's and the world's best hope for the future. Second, there are now unprecedented opportunities for substantial scientific progress. We are on the verge of understanding the molecular basis of learning, memory, and cognition. Striking advances are reported almost weekly in our understanding of the biological mechanisms that govern development, fundamental immunological processes, and cancer. The human genome effort is on budget and ahead of schedule.

And the lag between discovery and application decreases yearly. Thrombopoietin and leptin were identified and cloned only last year. I have little doubt that thrombopoietin will be in clinical use within five years. The demand for these novel products is high. The success of Amgen with erythropoietin is but one indicator.

The prospects for much higher

demand in the future are even better. The world's population may reach 10 to 11 billion by the middle of the 21st century. This will create large markets for medicine and health services, food and other agricultural products, and bioremediation methods to assure clean water and air.

Life sciences today are truly vibrant, and further investment is merited. There is good agreement that the social rate of return from such public investment is 20 to 40 percent. And a \$1.6 trillion budget has sufficient leeway to provide NIH with \$12 billion or even \$13 billion in FY 1996, if there were the political will to do so.

Researchers must rally to the political challenge

But biomedical research has a political problem.

Biomedical scientists are as articulate as any segment of our society. However, most members of the biomedical research community have been uninterested in politics, marginally interested in communicating with the general public about their research, and largely unconcerned about acknowledging the support of their public benefactors.

I believe there are four ways that the research community could and should respond to the political challenge ahead.

First is communication. We must use language that is euphonious to the public. For example, the term *peer review* connotes cronyism. The term *competitively awarded* is better. Also, we will be fortunate when the public recognizes the NIH as the abbreviation for the National Institutes of Health, which means we must stop using the acronyms NCI, NIAID, NIGMS, NICHD, etc.

Courses in the responsible conduct of science should address issues such as the importance of citing public sponsorship of research and of communicating effectively the meaning of one's work to the public. They should also discuss how to conduct an interview with the press and stress that being a good citizen of the scientific community demands attention to community groups and elected officials.

For \$100 per year

In addition, we need more financial support for professional societies. In addressing Research!America's annual meeting, former Senator Paul Tsongas noted that their annual budget is about \$850,000, about the same as FASEB's, by the way. "You people aren't serious," Tsongas told the group.

FASEB societies contribute only \$10 per member per year to support FASEB's public policy efforts. If every member were to contribute \$100 annually, we would have \$4.2 million annually to support public affairs and public education.

In 1995, Americans will provide over \$13 billion for seven Federal agencies for basic research in the life sciences. We are asking every man, woman, and child for \$56 in 1996. In advocating for research, my colleagues and I urge Congress to appropriate even more. But we are asking others to invest without asking more of ourselves.

University leaders and trustees have much to contribute

University leadership can do much to meet the political challenge. As one example: The increasing complexity of life science research demands collaboration. But tenure committees give little credit to junior researchers for papers published with tenured colleagues. In a period of constrained resources, cooperation assumes greater importance and should be valued.

FASEB has enjoyed success in bringing leaders of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and agricultural companies to Congress to speak in support of the NIH. University trustees who are leaders in major corporations, law firms, and investment banks can be equally effective, but they are asked to assist all too infrequently.

Many among us often ask: Are we training too many scientists? But the question itself is paternalistic. Is it our responsibility to deny students training in the life sciences? I think not. We should advise students at the outset the competition for academic positions is fiercer than ever, while reminding them that the best always have opportunities. And graduates of doctoral programs should be encouraged to pursue as wide a range of options as possible—industry, government, teaching in secondary schools and colleges, and communications.

Practitioners must tell patients

Finally, practicing physicians can advocate federal support for biomedical and behavioral research. While most physicians train in an academic health center that prides itself on its participation in medical research, most physicians in practice today have little knowledge of the way research is supported. While I have no data for this supposition, I guess that most physicians are unaware of the contributions of research to their practices. Like



On the Rockefeller faculty for two decades starting in 1964, Samuel Silverstein worked with Zanvil Cohn, Samuel Dales, James Hirsch, and George Palade.

other consumers of technology, they embrace products of research with little concern for their origins. They simply expect the appearance of ever more powerful concepts, techniques, or drugs.

Would it be unsound educational policy, or politically incorrect, to explicitly discuss with medical students that they bear a responsibility to communicate to their patients the importance of continued public investment in research? Would it be inappropriate for the clinical and physician offices at medical schools and academic health centers to make available brochures, written in lay terms, that inform patients about the ways their tax dollars make it possible to provide new and better treatments of their ailments?

Physicians have the public's confidence. Medical faculty should convince these future physicians that they bear a crucial responsibility to educate patients about the contribution of tax dollars to medical research through the NIH. If they do not, the culture will not change, medical students and residents will not learn of the NIH's contribution, and 50 years from now, medical scientists will still be asking why so few Americans recognize the contribution their tax dollars make to medical research through the NIH.

In sum, the biomedical research community can do a number of things that would strengthen itself internally, thereby increasing its political effectiveness. At question is whether it has the motivation and discipline to make these changes, and can do so at a speed sufficient to deter those who seek to downsize public investment in biomedical research.

Sculptors of behemoth artworks to lecture at RU

Christo and Jeanne-Claude, a husband and wife team of sculptors who construct enormous artworks on natural and urban sites around the world, will lecture at Rockefeller Thurs., Nov. 9 as part of the 1995 Fall Programs of the Architectural League of New York.

In their lecture, "Wrapped Reichstag, Berlin, 1971-1995, and Works In Progress," the couple will discuss swathing the German parliament building in silvery fabric and rope as well as artworks they plan for New York's Central Park and the western United States.

Conceived in 1971 and begun with a collage in 1972, the Reichstag project culminated Sat., June 24, 1995, when the century-old building was draped in 100,000 square meters of aluminum-coated polypropylene and bound by 15,600 meters of blue rope—trap-pings displayed for two weeks. Funded by the two sculptors, the artwork required lawyers, engineers, metal and fabric workers, permission by the German govern-

©Christo, Photo: Wolfgang Volz



Sculptors Christo and Jeanne-Claude will discuss their *Wrapped Reichstag, Berlin, 1971-1995*, at a Nov. 9 lecture at RU.

ment, and 90 climbers and 120 construction workers. In the artists' statement, they wrote that the wrapping "created a sumptuous flow of vertical folds highlighting the features and proportions of the imposing structure, revealing the essence of the Reichstag."

The lecture will take place at 6:30 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium.

A limited number of complimentary tickets are reserved for members of the RU community. Contact Helen Call, x8967.

The next Architectural League lecture in Caspary will be given by architect Fumihiko Maki Thurs., Dec. 7. For additional information, contact the league at 753-1722.

Camerata Bern played classics with class and originality

by Associate Professor
George Reeke

The Camerata Bern string orchestra, with Thomas Zehetmair, violin soloist and conductor, and Heinz Holliger, oboist, performed at RU Thurs., Oct. 26.

Holliger joined the group for the Bach C minor concerto for oboe and violin. Although Bach wrote the concerto for harpsichord, one can be glad to have heard the oboe version. Holliger's full, smooth tone joined with the strings to produce a very elegant, classical mood. Zehetmair conducted with only essential gestures while performing the violin solo part, yet the orchestra played with precision throughout. The effect was particularly beautiful in the slow movement.

For a change of pace, the group then played a Bartok divertimento for strings in which angry, throbbing sections alternated with interludes of Viennese schmalz, highly chromatic sections with more conventionally tonal ones.

After intermission, the group played the well-known Vivaldi *Four Seasons*, emphasizing contrasts. The tonal variety obtained from just the four standard violas was quite surprising and made one forget how bland the piece usually sounds. Overall, the Camerata Bern made an excellent impression that compared favorably with previous visits to our stage.

On Wed., Nov. 15, Daniel Smith with Michael Rabinowitz and Jazz Combo will perform. Call Cathy Rogers, x8437, for ticket information.

Kimble

(continued from page 1)

Biology in Cambridge, England. She joined the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1983 as an assistant professor, becoming professor in the Department of Biochemistry in 1992 and professor in the Department of Medical Genetics in 1993. She received her HHMI appointment in 1994.

Kimble was a Jane Coffin Childs and NIH postdoctoral fellow. She received the NIH Research Career Development Award and the Pound Award for Excellence in Research from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Kimble was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences this year.

The lecture will be held at 3:45 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium and preceded by tea at 3:15 P.M. All are welcome.

Potpourri



Ensemble Rebel, a baroque ensemble, will perform chamber music from the courts of Louis XIV and Charles II at the Tri-Institutional Noon Recital. The concert, to be held at noon in Caspary Auditorium, is free. All are welcome.

Conservation society lecture

Alison Richard, provost and professor of anthropology and environmental studies at Yale University, will discuss "Lemurs of Madagascar: The Lost, the Living and Lessons They Offer" Tues., Nov. 7 at 6:00 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium. A limited number of complimentary tickets is available to the university community. Contact the Office of Public Affairs, x8967.

Immunology seminar

Professor Ralph Steinman discusses "Patient-oriented Research in Immunology and HIV-1 Infection" Wed., Nov. 8 at 10:00 A.M. in Nurses Residence 110B.

Clinical Research Seminar

David D. Ho, director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and professor of medicine and microbiology at New York University School of Medicine, will discuss "Viral Dynamics" Wed., Nov. 8 at noon in Nurses Residence 110B.

Donations

The RU Children's School (CS) and Infant-Toddler Center is collecting rice and canned vegetables for a Thanksgiving donation to the Yorkville Common Pantry. Bring donations by Fri. Nov. 17 to the collection box at the CS entrance, on the ground floor of GSR.

Birth

Born to Leena Nevalainen-Smith, postdoctoral associate in the Müller lab, and Jonathan Smith, assistant professor in the Breslow lab, a son, Kai Joel Smith, 7 lb, 5 oz, Sept. 30.

Honor

Professor Paul Greengard received the Hamilton College Alumni Achievement Medal for Distinguished Contributions to Science last month. Greengard, who graduated from Hamilton in 1948, was recognized for "extraordinary contributions to progress in the fields of neuroscience."

Award

Associate Professor William Hall received a Diwan Award for contributions to research on human T cell leukemia viruses at the International Congress on Human Retrovirology at the Institut Pasteur last month. Antoine Gessain of the Institut and Kazuo Tajima of the Aichi Cancer Center in Japan shared the award with Hall.

Lecture

Professor James E. Darnell, Jr., discussed "Signaling Mechanisms Used by Cytokine Receptors—Jaks and STATs" at the symposium "Molecular Medicine: Cytokines in Health & Disease," sponsored by the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center last week.