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Building's dedication looks to future of research at university

In a festive, open-air ceremony attended by a crowd of over 400, the 14-story John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller Research Building was officially dedicated under sunny blue skies Wednesday afternoon.

"We have much to celebrate in this complex structure that now stands so majestically as the newest addition to our campus," said Chairman of the Board of Trustees Richard Furlaud, who presided over the dedication ceremony. "This building exemplifies our mission to advance knowledge as our motto states—'pro bono humani generis'—for the benefit of humankind.

"This mission was shaped and realized for nearly a century by the two men we honor today—John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller. We pledge ourselves to its continuation with the fervor they brought to its inception."

Furlaud read a proclamation from Governor Mario Cuomo congratulating the university on the new building, and acknowledged the presence of State Senator Roy Goodman and Deputy Mayor for Finance and Economic Development Barry Sullivan in the audience.

HHMI gives \$30 million

The building could not have become a reality without the support of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), which totaled over \$30 million, Furlaud said. He then introduced Purnell Choppin, president of HHMI who was a faculty member of The Rockefeller University for 28 years.

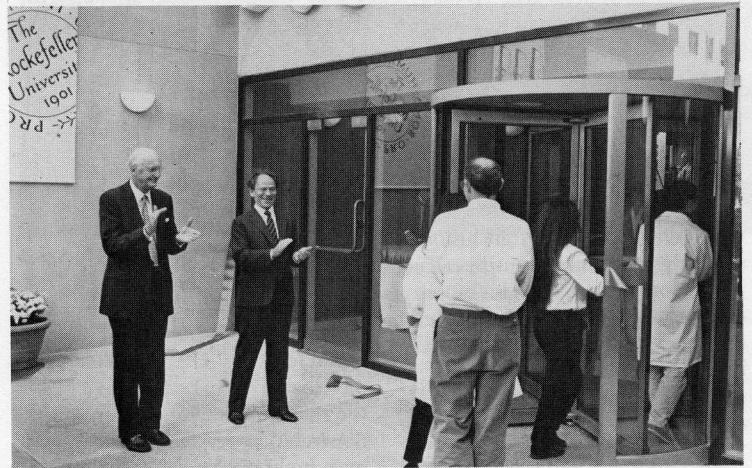
Calling the dedication of the building a "marvelous milestone in biomedical research," Choppin said that he hoped the ceremony would celebrate not only the building

itself, but also the superb research that would take place within it. He expressed his pleasure that the 11 HHMI researchers at the university will be housed in a building named for John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller, men who changed the face of science and who made the nation and world a better place.

Building honors Rockefellers

In introducing David Rockefeller, Furlaud underlined the commitment to scientific inquiry in public service that was passed on from father to son over three generations—from John D. Rockefeller, Sr. to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to David Rockefeller. The original institute for medical research founded in 1901 was named after John D. Rockefeller, Sr. The research building towering above the audience was being named in honor of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. who provided leadership for the first half century of the institute, and David Rockefeller, whose 52-year record of service, dedication, and leadership continues to this day as he chairs the board's executive committee.

David Rockefeller thanked the university for the honor, and called on others to help support the work being done here.



Chairman of the Board Richard Furlaud (left) and President Torsten Wiesel applaud as young members of the Heintz lab enter The John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller Research Building as part of the dedication Wednesday.

"When the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research was launched, my grandfather and father hoped they would be joined by others elsewhere in this country in providing support for basic scientific research," he said. "Both of them considered their gifts to be seed money; investments in the future that would be repaid, not to them, but to society in general through the replication of their idea by other individuals and institutions. They were convinced that immense benefits would flow from free and unfettered scientific enquiry. And, they were right."

"I am deeply grateful for the recognition you have given to my

See *Dedication*, page 2

The Rockefeller family legacy thrives at RU

Doron Weber of News&Notes spoke with Peter Johnson, coauthor of *The Rockefeller Century* and *The Rockefeller Conscience*, about the Rockefeller family and its long and fruitful relationship with The Rockefeller University. The following, the second in a two-part series, focuses on the impact of the third and fourth generations of the Rockefeller family on the university.

Weber: What can you tell us about the third generation of the Rockefeller family and how David Rockefeller became so involved with the university?

Johnson: David is the youngest, born in 1915. Of the six children, five boys and one girl, he was the most drawn to science. He was taught the scientific method at an early age and became interested in insects, specifically beetles. He worked at the station for the study of insects at Tuxedo Park and at the American Museum of Natural History throughout his youth. There, he was taught how to observe, categorize, and examine insects and beetles, how to preserve them, how to use a microscope, what the different parts of the insect did, and how to dissect them. He's been a collector of beetles his entire life and has one of the great private collections of

See *Rockefeller*, page 3

Eminent scientists speak at symposium



President Torsten Wiesel (center) and Professor Francis Crick (right), one of the scientists who discovered the molecular structure of DNA, attend the conference on cell biology and neurobiology, organized by Professor James Darnell (left), yesterday (Sept. 24). The symposium was part of the four-day celebration of the new research building.

2 Three appointed to endowed chairs

4 Program of events and festivities

Dedication paves way for future

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father and me for the roles that we have played in the evolution of this great institution. Whatever contribution we have been able to make has already been richly rewarded by the brilliant results produced by many who have worked here. Nothing could have brought me greater compensation than the knowledge, for example, that the investigations of Rockefeller scientists have made blood transfusions not only possible but routine occurrences; or, that we are a bit closer every day to uncovering and solving the mysteries of cancer and AIDS because of the dedicated work of men and women on this campus."

Wiesel speaks of reaching out

Next, Torsten Wiesel, president of The Rockefeller University, spoke to the gathering. Wiesel talked about the commitment to open the university to the outside world and to be responsive to society's desire to conquer disease.

"Science used to be simpler, its cost and scale much smaller than today. No private fortune, not even one attached to names such as Rockefeller and Hughes, can fully fund the science that will be carried out in this new building. In fact, most of the funds for research on campus come from the federal treasury. The ivory tower is an illusion of the past; we all know that the lifeblood of science is drawn from the public at large, through their representatives in government.

"Whether our towers are made of ivory, or of glass, steel, and stone, they must have doors that lead out

as well as in."

Wiesel introduced the keynote speaker, Walter Massey, director of the National Science Foundation (NSF), saying his "experience both as a physicist and scientific administrator at Brown and at the University of Chicago's Argonne National Laboratory make him ideally suited to implement public policy in support of scientific research."

NSF director gives address

Massey's keynote address focused on his thoughts about the past and the future of scientific research in this country. He reiterated the fact that a few far-sighted individuals have had a tremendous impact on the shape of research, but that research now required broader support, including from the Federal government. He advised The Rockefeller University not to lose sight of the value of being a pure research institution, and to keep integrating disciplines such as biology, physics, and chemistry.

"There are new expectations for research in this country," he said. "Many of the underlying rationales for public support of science are changing. At the height of the cold war, people viewed science as insurance against technological surprise from an adversary. Today, the nation increasingly looks to science as the source of the technological advance necessary for economic prosperity and an improved quality of life.

"The research enterprise should not try to insulate itself from these forces of change. To do so would not only be a mistake, it would be

Three named to endowed chairs

At the end of the dinner honoring David Rockefeller Wednesday, President Torsten Wiesel announced the appointment of three of the university's investigators—Gunter Blobel, Emil Gotschlich, and Paul Greengard—to endowed chairs.

Blobel, whose field of study is cellular and developmental biology, will join another of the university's professors, Norton Zinder, as a John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Professor. The professorships honor the contributions of John D. Rockefeller,

Jr. to the university.

Gotschlich, a bacteriologist and immunologist, will become The Gwin Follis-Chevron Professor. The Standard Oil Company of California endowed the professorship in the name of Chevron U.S.A. Inc. in 1980 with a grant of \$1.25 million.

Greengard, a neurobiologist, will join James Darnell, Jr. as a Vincent Astor Professor. The Vincent Astor Foundation endowed these chairs for two senior scientists in 1974 with a grant of \$2 million.

impossible. The future vitality of research depends on our ability to be as creative and forward looking in the future as people like John D. Rockefeller were a century ago."

Ribbon-cutting is grand finale

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was the grand finale to the event. The audience applauded as the curtain was pulled back, revealing the name freshly engraved on the building, "John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller Research Building." Peggy Rockefeller, David Rockefeller's wife, joined the speakers of the day to cut the long, blue ribbon strung across the entranceway to the building.

To the fanfare of a brass band, David Rockefeller then led a procession into the building, followed by the speakers at the ceremony and members of the Heintz laboratory, the first research group to move into the building.

The audience then dispersed to toast the new building with champagne and chocolate-covered strawberries.

A tribute to David Rockefeller

A dinner honoring David Rockefeller and thanking him for 50 years of service to the institution followed the dedication ceremony Wednesday evening. Speakers included Chairman of the Board of Trustees Richard Furlaud, President Torsten Wiesel, David Rockefeller's daughter Neva Goodwin, Life Trustee Brooke Astor, and Professor Michael Young.

Guests at the dinner included: Trustee Annette de la Renta and her husband Oscar de la Renta; Katherine Graham, publisher of *The Washington Post*; Trustee Pamela Harriman; RU Council member Nancy Kissinger; and Winston

Lord, former U.S. Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. In addition to David Rockefeller and Neva Goodwin, members of the Rockefeller family at the dinner included: Peggy Rockefeller; Laurance and Mary Rockefeller; Happy Rockefeller; Richard Rockefeller; David Rockefeller, Jr.; Steven and Kimberly Rockefeller; and Kelly Simpson.

The dinner was held on the still unfinished ninth floor of the new building. Thanks to the inspiration of Isabel Furlaud, blueprints were put on the tables and plumbing parts were used for candelabras in keeping with the construction theme for the evening. As an extra touch, scientific beakers were used as flower vases and additional candle holders. The unusual flower arrangements were conceived and designed by RU Council member Cathy (Mrs. Stephen) Graham.

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Neva Goodwin (top left) spoke at the dinner (bottom) honoring her father David Rockefeller (top right) Wednesday.

Rockefeller legacy continues at RU

(continued from page 1)

beetles in the world, composed of more than 50,000 specimens.

David's brothers had little interest in scientific endeavor. Although David was a history and literature major, as a freshman at Harvard he was able to take an advanced course in zoology and get an A. In the early '30s he worked one summer for a scientist at the Museum of Natural History in the southwest. He participated in a scientific experiment for two months that traced beetles and other insects in the Grand Canyon. He understood science. He was a natural to go on the board of The Rockefeller University, which he joined in 1940.

After WWII, the institute went through a process of intense internal examination. The experience of the Great Depression, WWII, and the onset of the Cold War changed the context within which the institute existed. Inside the institute, there was a great deal of concern about the effectiveness of the structure, its cohesiveness, and the science that would be pursued. The formal review process began in 1950 with a committee chaired by David Rockefeller and Detlev Bronk. This committee reviewed the operations of the institute and made a series of recommendations that radically altered the structure and, in a certain sense, the mission of the place.

Weber: I read that they were thinking of dissolving the institute at one point and just giving the endowment to some medical schools?

Johnson: The review committee left no option unconsidered. The Rockefeller Foundation had just gone through a similar process. John D. Rockefeller (JDR), Jr. encouraged them to consider all possibilities and said, "Maybe the best thing to do is just give all the money away." The trustees and officers were stunned, especially JDR, 3rd who had just become chairman. But, Jr. believed that organizations outlive their usefulness, so you should never be afraid of eliminating them.

Obviously the idea was that the university needed to change certain things and it did—one of which was to improve the interaction among the institute members. Bronk and David Rockefeller believed in the expansion of the university, putting up buildings, filling those new buildings with the latest apparatus, and attracting more top-quality scientists here.

This is a place of immense importance to David because he knows it's a place of immense importance to the world. He feels that maintaining its essentially private nature while still attracting government funds is critical for the freedom of inquiry and intellectual enterprise that has characterized the university throughout its existence. I think he feels that this is somewhat at risk—not because there are dictators in Congress but because resources are so scarce and will continue to be for the rest of this century. That's why the university's links to the private sector are so important to him. The university needs to continue to have a fruitful collaboration with all sectors.

Weber: Have the Rockefellers historically played a large role raising funds for the university?

Johnson: In the early days they didn't need to do it. The money that came from the endowment that John D. Rockefeller provided, as well as JDR, Jr.'s own money, produced a very large annual income for the university. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the process of cost escalation and expansion, that the original endowment began to be insufficient for the needs of the university. It was at that point that fund-raising had to be addressed.

Fund-raising was especially difficult here because the perception was, "oh the Rockefellers are involved in that, they don't need money." In fact, that's a problem the university still has. They are now addressing that in a good way. Now it's better known that RU can no longer do it all by itself.

Jr. was not the kind of man to say, "I don't want anyone else to give money." It just wasn't necessary in his day. In fact, he was a great believer that if you couldn't get other people to support a project financially, then it probably wasn't a very good idea or at least you haven't convinced other people that it was. The Rockefeller office developed the idea of matching funds and challenge grants as a way of forcing the institution to go out and sell its idea to a broader number of people.

In the years since then, David's role has been to enhance the ability of the university to ensure that the best and the brightest scientists work at the university and to help them in their fund-raising, positioning them well with the Federal government. Increasingly in the 50s, 60s and 70s, when he was chairman of the board, he also helped with private foundations—Howard



Many members of the Rockefeller family attended the dinner paying tribute to David Rockefeller. *Front, left to right:* Mary Rockefeller, Happy Rockefeller, Laurance Rockefeller, Peggy Rockefeller, David Rockefeller. *Back, left to right:* Steven Rockefeller, Kimberly Rockefeller, Richard Rockefeller, Neva Goodwin, David Rockefeller, Jr., and Kelly Simpson.

Hughes and other groups like that. It's often a very hard sell.

Weber: If for the first 50 years Rockefeller money subsidized the university and then it wasn't enough, does this in any way suggest a diminution of the family's relative influence on the university?

Johnson: The answer is a qualified yes. The family never wanted to control the university. They wanted the university to determine its own course, and to participate in that process. There's a diminution in their involvement because of the very nature of the evolution of modern society. If you are no longer able to provide all the money then you have to share power and responsibility.

That brings up a whole set of governance issues that are still being determined. Where does the budget come from and what role do the people and institutions who support it play in determining what happens? What legitimate role does the government have in directing how public funds are spent?

Weber: What about the future?

We've had three very powerful Rockefeller figures involved here. Is there an heir apparent?

Johnson: Two of his children are on the board, Neva Goodwin and Richard Rockefeller. Richard is a medical doctor very committed to public health, a general practitioner in private practice in Maine. Each generation of Rockefellers—and the ones that will come in the future—have played a different role in the university and have a greater or lesser degree of authority and control. Arguably, JDR, Sr. had the most power because he had control over the purse and over whether or not something would actually be created. JDR, Jr., because of his

own style and desire to share responsibility and work with other people, had less control, less authority. He had an incredible amount of respect accorded to him because of who he was. That translated into an ability to get things done.

David, who has had an immense impact on the physical and intellectual structure of this university has, interestingly enough, had much less power because the world changed. He understood that and worked very closely with other people. The same thing will be true of the next generation. They will have less power in a financial sense at the university. But they have the potential for playing as strong a role as their father, grandfather, or great grandfather through their impact on intellectual and scientific activities. Both Neva and Richard are immensely committed to the potential of the university. We're not going to find, over the normal course of events, the financial clout and impact that David had. But, in many ways, it's the commitment to the ideas and the structure of the university that are as important as anything else.

Historically I can't think of many other individuals who had the same influence on an institution for as long as the Rockefellers have had with this university. However, the point is not how much influence or control individual Rockefellers have had at the university. More importantly, the university is a unique place and the Rockefellers have played an important role in making it so. A good part of that relationship has been the family's strong understanding of the real nature of science and how to properly support it. That is, in the end, the most significant aspect of their role in the 90-year history of The Rockefeller University.

Schedule for University and Community Days

University Day

University Day, today (Sept. 25) from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M., will include a host of activities for faculty, staff, and students of The Rockefeller University:

- 2:00 P.M. The Heintz lab, the first group to move into the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller Research Building, will conduct a tour of its facilities on the fourth floor. (Also at 3:00 P.M.)

- 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Campus volleyball teams will face off on the tennis court in front of the Graduate Student Residence.

- 2:30 P.M. Professor Michael Young will give a lecture, "Biological Clocks," in Tower 301.

- 2:45 P.M. Physician-in-Chief Jules Hirsch and his colleagues will give a tour of The Rockefeller University Hospital, one of the oldest buildings on campus, beginning from the Hospital lobby. (Also at 4:15 P.M.)

- 3:00 P.M. The Heintz lab will conduct a tour of its new facilities on the fourth floor.

- 3:30 P.M. Professor Charles Gilbert will speak on "The Dynamic Brain" in Tower 305.

- 4:00 P.M. The Employee Recognition Award Program—honoring faculty and staff celebrating their 10th or 20th anniversaries at the university—will be held at 4:00 P.M. on the ninth floor of the new building. A reception will follow.

- 4:15 P.M. Physician-in-Chief Jules Hirsch and his colleagues will

give a tour of the Hospital starting from the Hospital lobby.

- 5:00 P.M. Professional bassist Leon Maleson of Faculty Administration, will perform with The Leon Maleson Jazz All Stars on the plaza outside the new building.

Community Day

The university will host a variety of events for members of the local community tomorrow (Sept. 26):

- 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Refreshments will be served on the ninth floor of the new building.

- 11:30 A.M. The Heintz lab will conduct a tour of its facilities on the fourth floor of the new building. (Also at 12:30 P.M.)

- 12:00 noon. Professor Elaine Tuomanen will speak on "Spy vs. Spy: Outwitting Bacterial Strategies in the Brain" in Tower 301.

- 12:30 P.M. The Heintz lab will conduct a tour of its facilities on the fourth floor.

- 12:45 P.M. A tour of The Rockefeller University Hospital will begin from the Hospital lobby. (Also at 1:45 P.M.)

- 1:00 P.M. Professor Charles Gilbert will speak on "The Dynamic Brain" in Tower 305.

- 1:45 P.M. A tour of The Rockefeller University Hospital will begin from the Hospital lobby.

Exhibits

Six exhibits will be on display in the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and

David Rockefeller Research Building:

- "From Microbes to Molecules: A Century of Science at The Rockefeller University," on display in the atrium of the new building, traces the history of the buildings on campus and the corresponding development of the science conducted within their walls.

- "Infection and Immunity," on the ninth floor, explores aspects of this area of research at Rockefeller using Easy-View® microscopes and interactive video programs on loan from The New York Hall of Science. Investigators from the labs of George Cross and Miklós Müller will be on hand to answer questions and explain their work.

- "Rockefeller University's Science Outreach Program," on the ninth floor, will serve as an introduction to the high school students, teachers, and scientists involved in the university's outreach program.

- "The Continuity of Leadership," on display on the ninth floor, highlights the involvement of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller in shaping the university.

- "The Challenge of Creating the Rockefeller Research Building," on the ninth floor, gives an architectural curator's view of the building process, from conception through construction;

- "The Research Building and its Neighborhood," also on the ninth floor, is a photographic essay of the new structure.

Potpourri

Sunday film

All Screwed Up (Tutto a posto e niente in ordine, Italy, 1976), directed by Lina Wertmüller, will be shown at 7:30 P.M., Sun., Sept. 27, in Caspari. Admission is free.

Computer sequencing

On Sept. 29, GenBank will discontinue its "fasta email server," which enabled researchers to compare dna or protein sequences to various databases via electronic mail.

This change occurred because of reorganization within GenBank and the National Center for Biotechnology Information—National Library of Medicine (NCBI). GenBank will continue to compile sequence data and accept submission of new sequence information from researchers. Although NCBI will not offer "fasta" as the search engine for database comparisons, it currently provides a "blast email server," a program developed at NCBI which performs "fasta" and sensitive searching of sequence databases.

The "blast email server" provides access to many databases. The procedure for issuing search requests and the syntax of the requests are similar to "fasta email server." Users simply send requests to another email address.

For details about the "blast email server," refer to the help files found in the directory "/usr/public/sequence/NCBI" on rb. For assistance using the email service, contact Computing Services, x8940. For assistance interpreting results of blast analyses, contact Anthony Popowicz (login *tony*), x8925.

Computer workshops

Space is available in the following Computing Services workshops offered next week:

Introduction to UNIX and Mail, Thurs., Oct. 1, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Introduction to the Vi Editor, Fri., Oct. 2, 10 A.M. to noon.

Kermit for the Macintosh and PC, Fri., Oct. 2, 2 to 4 P.M.

Workshops are free but registration is required. To register, call x8935 and leave a message.

Biomedical forum

This year's first meeting of the Tri-Institutional Biomedical Forum will be held in Abby Aldrich Lounge, Tues., Oct. 14, at 5 P.M. Professor Emeritus Maclyn McCarty will speak on "The Early History of Clinical Investigation at The Rockefeller Institute." Call Grace Silvestri, X8103, to make reservations or to be put on the mailing list.



Top: Professor Nat Heinz (center) shows Purnell Choppin, president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and his wife Joan Choppin his lab in the new research building. **Bottom:** Bonnie Platt (left) and Susanna Ander of the Deans' Office look at the exhibit in the atrium of the new building. **Right:** The John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and David Rockefeller Research Building is dedicated.