

**ANNUAL REPORT: DIVISION OF
INTRAMURAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS.
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL
HEALTH. FY 1992. OCTOBER 1, 1991 -
SEPTEMBER 30, 1992. VOLUME I -
SUMMARY STATEMENTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649057283

Annual report: Division of Intramural Research Programs. National Institute of Mental Health. FY 1992. October 1, 1991 - September 30, 1992. Volume I - Summary statements by Various

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VARIOUS

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Director, Division of Intramural Research Programs
October 1, 1991 - September 30, 1992

Nineteen ninety-two has been an eventful year - for the Intramural Research Program (IRP) of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) as well as the other Institutes of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA). There were changes in leadership of all three organizations; institute goals were redefined and priorities reordered; and there were changes in laws and regulations which affected the very way-of-life of the entire scientific community here on the NIH campus.

Through all these changes, the IRP held steady and continued to fulfill its mission of producing new knowledge to advance the field of neuroscience and contribute to better understanding of the causes, treatment and prevention of the major mental illnesses.

As the 1992 fiscal year comes to a close, the IRP will have come full circle in its organizational history. Along with its parent institute, it will again be a part of the NIH under recent legislation to reorganize ADAMHA. Under the terms of that legislation, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) may not merge the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) or the NIMH with any other institute or entity within the NIH for a 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Act. Further, with respect to FY1994 and FY1995, the Directors of NIAAA, NIDA, AND NIMH shall prepare and submit directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, an annual budget estimate for their respective institutes after reasonable opportunity for comments by the Secretary of DHHS, Director of NIH and the Institutes' Advisory Council. The President's budget for FY1993 is already firm.

The reorganization of ADAMHA, in addition to transferring the research functions of its three institutes to the NIH (including health services research for each) established a new entity, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) with three Centers, each devoted to providing "services" for its own constituency.

Dr. Bernadine Healy, the recently appointed Director of the NIH, strongly supported the return of the NIMH to "the fold" even though it had become three institutes (NIAAA and NIDA had separated from NIMH) after it left. She and the NIH institutes had been coping with many of the same problems that faced ADAMHA

except on a grander scale. Positions (FTE) were over-committed, travel funds had been cut to the bone, scientists were denied the privilege of accepting honoraria for outside work that had been approved in the past, scientific integrity was no longer an accepted premise and a strategic plan developed for the conduct of research in the future was coming under fire from parts of the scientific community. The long-time Deputy Director for Science had resigned early in Dr. Healy's regime and an extended, intensive search for a successor has just culminated with the appointment of Dr. Lance Liotta formerly Chief, Laboratory of Pathology, National Cancer Institute to this important post. I was privileged to serve on the Search Committee which supplied Dr. Healy with several excellent candidates from whom to choose. Dr. Liotta is a gifted scientist and administrator and his appointment bodes well for the leadership of intramural NIH.

Other contributions I have made this period to the NIH scientific community include service as:

- (1) Member of the Search Committee to fill the post of Director of the Clinical Center;
- (2) Member of a sub-committee to plan a plenary symposium in connection with the NIH Research Festival for 1992;
- (3) Head of the planning effort to honor Nobel Laureate Julius Axelrod with a festschrift;
- (4) Member, ADAMHA Senior Biomedical Research Service (SBRS) Credentials Committee, a system recently authorized by the Congress to improve opportunities within the Federal structure to recruit and retain top level scientists by making salaries and benefits more competitive with those of the private sector;
- (5) Chair, NIH Women's Committee.

It is worth noting that this last assignment grew out of the fact that the NIMH IRP had played a leadership role in the movement to recognize and take action on a number of matters of concern to women scientists (tenure, promotion, family leave, etc.).

Throughout the year we have persevered in our efforts to strengthen and bring more credibility to the peer review process by which we are evaluated. With the assistance of our able and dedicated Board of Scientific Counselors we believe we have made considerable progress. This is an appropriate juncture to express our appreciation to our "retiring" chairperson, Dr. Bruce McEwen, and to our current board members, Dr. Steve Bunney, Chair, and the following Board members: Dr. Jack Dixon, Dr. Herbert Meltzer, Dr. Edward Stricker, Dr. Susan Leeman* and Dr. Robert Moore*.

* Confirmation of appointment pending

They were joined in their task by ad hoc reviewers selected for their expertise in the work of the laboratory/branch under review. We are deeply appreciative of their efforts.

In the FY1992, the following IRP components were reviewed:

Clinical Neurogenetics Branch
(Detera-Wadleigh only)

Clinical Neuroendocrinology Branch
(Gold)

Section on Pharmacology, Laboratory of Clinical Science
(Saavedra)

Section on Clinical Pharmacology, Experimental Therapeutics
Branch
(Potter)

Section on Analytical Biochemistry, Laboratory of Clinical
Science
(Markey)

Laboratory of Socio-Environmental Studies
(Schooler)

Laboratory of Neurophysiology
(Wise)

In addition, two Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) administrative meetings were held aimed at improving and refining the peer review process itself.

The many scientific accomplishments of the past year are detailed in the individual reports of the twenty-three IRP laboratories and branches which follow, and although counting numbers of publications and how many times they are cited are crude and sometimes misleading indicators of scientific productivity, they are nonetheless two objective measures of success. Data covering neuroscience publications and citations (1986-1990) which recently appeared in Science (256:468, 1992), shows the NIMH IRP fared quite well compared to its national (including other NIH Intramural Research Programs) and international colleagues. In fact, when both citations and numbers of publications are considered we ranked ahead of all other comparable research institutions!

Since many members of the IRP staff have received special recognition for their work from their peers outside Government, it is appropriate to note the following:

Dr. Louis Sokoloff received an Honorary Doctorate of Science Degree from Georgetown University.

Dr. David Baron received the Second Annual Nancy C. A. Roeske, M.D. Certificate from the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Judith L. Rapoport received the American Psychiatric Association Award for Research from the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Ted Usdin received the Young Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression.

Dr. Robert Post and Dr. Susan Weiss both received the Ziskind-Somerfeld Research Award from the Society for Biological Psychiatry.

Dr. Henrietta Leonard received a Third Prize Young Investigator Award from the Obsessive Compulsive Foundation, Inc.

A number of staff have also received honor awards from the Institute, ADAMHA, the Public Health Service and the DHHS:

Ms. Jean Barr received the NIMH Director's Award for Significant Achievement.

Dr. Carolyn Zahn-Waxler, Dr. Gene Bingham and Dr. Leslie Ungerleider received the ADAMHA Administrator's Award for Meritorious Achievement.

Dr. Karen Berman and Dr. Frank Putnam received the PHS Commendation Medal.

Ms. Brigit Noonan received the ADAMHA Co-worker Award.

Dr. Richard Coppola received the PHS Outstanding Service Medal.

Dr. Rex Cowdry, Dr. Miles Herkenham and Dr. Sanford Markey received the PHS Superior Service Award.

Dr. David Neville, Dr. Thomas Wehr and Dr. Daniel Weinberger received the PHS Distinguished Service Medal.

Dr. Elliot Gershon, Dr. Joel Kleinman and Dr. David Rubinow received the ADAMHA Outstanding Service Medal.

Dr. Philip Gold and Dr. Thomas Uhde received the PHS Meritorious Service Medal.

Ms. Anabel Holliday received the ADAMHA Administrator's Award for Meritorious Achievement.

Dr. Michael Brownstein received the DHHS Distinguished Service Award in Biomedical Research.

Dr. Judith Rapoport and Dr. Dennis Murphy both were named Meritorious Executives in the Senior Scientific Service.

A special note of congratulations to our Clinical Director David Rubinow who was awarded the Clinical Center Award for Teaching (by vote of all the NIH Institutes).

We congratulate them all and share in their pride of a job well-done. (For other recent awards see the Addendum).

It is worthy of note that the Goodwin-Jamison book on "Manic-Depressive Illness" -to which IRP staff made substantial contributions- received the Most Outstanding Book in the Biomedical Sciences Award from the Association of the American Publishers.

It is also worth noting that the IRP prepared and submitted a nominating package for Seymour Kety and Lou Sokoloff to share the 1992 Nobel Prize for their pioneering leadership in the technological advances being made in brain research. The winner will not be announced until November 1992.

Dr. Ronald Schoenfeld completed his first full year on the job after taking over from Hazel Rea, who held the post of Deputy Director for many years. Ms. Rea, who retired, continues to serve the IRP half-time as a re-employed annuitant in the role of Senior Advisor to the Director IRP. Dr. Schoenfeld brings a special interest in neuroethology to the task of recruiting new talent for our Poolesville operation, lately placed under the aegis of Steve Wise, Chief, Laboratory of Neurophysiology. He has also contributed to our recruitment efforts to find a head for a newly created Section on Developmental Neurobiology in the Laboratory of Cell Biology, and for a new Chief of the Laboratory of Psychology and Psychopathology, when Al Mirsky resumes his research career as an independent investigator. Dr. Marian Yarrow is also winding down a long and distinguished career as Chief of the Laboratory of Developmental Psychology. She will continue to serve until a worthy successor can be found.

The IRP is well-served by an able administrative staff under the aegis of Ms. Anabel (Bunny) Holliday who also manages, with the help of a highly competent staff, our budget and personnel operation. The budget has presented special problems this year as, with the help of Dr. David Rubinow, Clinical Director, we have tried to bring under control the accounting complexities and ever-mounting costs associated with running the Clinical Center.

The small hospital that we operate in the William A. White Building at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in the District of Columbia provides a contrast, for -with the assistance of Dr. Rex Cowdry and his administrative staff- we are able to contain hospital costs and still carry out a viable clinical research program for our laboratories and branches located in the William A. White Building.

Activities carried out in connection with the Technology Transfer Act are under the direction of Kathleen Conn, who is assisted in