News & Notes from the National Institute of Nursing Research: August 2012

1. Collaboration on Future NIH News Releases and Other Media

In collaboration with your institution, NINR seeks to promote and disseminate published results of NINR-funded research through the publication of press releases and other media. Should you have an accepted research article (page proof) that you wish to share with NINR, please send an email to info@ninr.nih.gov.

2. Update on the 2013 Graduate Partnerships Program

The application period for the 2013 NINR Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP) will open on Monday, September 17, 2012.

The NINR GPP combines the academic environment of a university and the breadth and depth of research at NIH. The program is open to any doctoral (PhD) student currently enrolled in a school of nursing. Preference is given to applicants with a commitment to a career as an innovative and creative leader in the nursing and scientific research community and a research interest that is congruent with focused research areas in the NIH Intramural Research Programs.

For more information on the 2013 GPP, visit www.ninr.nih.gov/gpp or send an email with “NINR GPP” in the subject line to NINRIRPTraining@mail.nih.gov.

The application deadline is January 3, 2013.

3. Dr. Ann Cashion Named Acting Scientific Director

On August 13, Dr. Ann Cashion was named as Acting Scientific Director for the NINR Intramural Research Program.

Dr. Cashion previously served as the Senior Advisor to the Office of the Director for the past year.

Before coming to NIH, Dr. Cashion held the position of Professor and Chair of the Department of Acute and Chronic Care in the College of Nursing, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN.

Dr. Cashion’s previously funded research and clinical interests target genetic/genomic and environmental components associated with outcomes of organ transplantation.

In her most recently funded study she combined emerging technologies (microarrays) and behavioral questionnaires to investigate gene-environment interactions leading to obesity in recipients of kidney transplantations during the first year after transplant. Dr. Cashion has received several honors for her work and is well known nationally and internationally in this area.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Cashion to her new role.
4. Dr. Grady Quoted in *Nature Medicine* Article on Nurse Scientists as Principal Investigators

NINR Director Dr. Patricia A. Grady was quoted in the journal *Nature Medicine* earlier this month as part of an article on the increasing numbers of nurse scientists working as principal investigators (PIs) for clinical trials.

The article noted the rise in the number of nurses with doctoral degrees, how NINR supported and nurse-led research operates at the interface between biology and behavior, and the patient quality-of-life questions nurse scientists are trained to ask when working with drug trials.

The story also mentioned the long NINR support for the research of Dr. Pamela Mitchell of the University of Washington, who has served as PI on dozens of clinical studies over her career.

The full article is online at [http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v18/n8/pdf/nm0812-1165.pdf](http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v18/n8/pdf/nm0812-1165.pdf).

5. Funding Opportunity Announcement: Addressing Needs of Informal Caregivers of Individuals with Alzheimer’s Disease in the Context of Sociodemographic Factors (R01)

An NINR funding opportunity announcement solicits research focused on the needs of informal caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) and other dementias in the context of different sociodemographic factors.

Research is needed to help informal caregivers provide supportive care for their loved one with dementia while concurrently maintaining their own health, quality of life, and life satisfaction. This funding opportunity announcement addresses the need for further research of the sociodemographic context issues related to this topic. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- Culturally-tailored interventions to help informal caregivers leverage supports, manage their burden, stress, and other negative outcomes, and to maximize their healthy behaviors
- Culturally-sensitive educational tools to improve informal caregivers’ skills, knowledge, and access to resources, services, and social support
- Interventions addressing the challenges, barriers, and unique situations related to a caregiver’s age, gender, or socioeconomic status
- Elucidation of the role, interrelationships, or moderating influence(s) of sociodemographic factors, social support, and/or coping processes on the effectiveness of interventions designed to decrease informal caregiver stress, burden, and other negative outcomes, and to improve informal caregivers’ overall quality of life and life satisfaction
- Studies of the role of sociodemographic factors in informal caregivers’ decision-making processes related to care preferences, treatment options, and preferences for interactions with healthcare professionals
- Sociodemographic research on informal caregivers’ knowledge and perception of the etiology of AD, its symptoms, and the availability and effectiveness of resources and social support
- Increased understanding of the differences in informal caregivers’ experiences based on sociodemographic factors

**Application Due Date**: September 14, 2012

6. USAID-NIH Collaboration Brings Research into Practice for Child Survival: Call-for-Proposals to Improve Child Health

The U.S. Agency on International Development (USAID) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have jointly announced a new grant program called Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Health to help end preventable child deaths in developing countries.

The PEER Health Child Survival program is supported by USAID’s new *Center for Accelerating Innovation and Impact* within the Global Health Bureau, and the Office of Science & Technology in the Policy, Planning, and Learning Bureau. The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at NIH will support the review of proposals. Fogarty International Center at NIH and NICHD staff consulted with USAID to formulate the program.

**Pre-proposals are due August 31, 2012** for applications from all countries (except Indonesia) to the National Academies, which will manage the program. For application details, visit [www.nationalacademies.org/peerhealth](http://www.nationalacademies.org/peerhealth).

7. Registration Open for 2012 Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit

General registration for the 2012 Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit is now open.

The Summit is an HHS-wide endeavor involving a broad spectrum of the federal government that seeks to advance activities to eliminate health disparities. The agenda will build on the momentum of the 2008 Summit and the increased interest of federal agencies to demonstrate their commitment towards improving the health of all Americans. The Summit represents an ongoing focus on emerging science and its intersection with practice and policy, while maintaining momentum on current national and international trends in addressing the social determinants of health.

The Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 31st through Saturday, November 3rd, 2012 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland.

General online registration is available at [www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/registration.html](http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/registration.html).

For more information, please email 2012Summit@mail.nih.gov or visit [www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/index.html](http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/index.html).

8. Current Funding Opportunity Announcements and Notices

All current NINR Funding Opportunity Announcements, including Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Program Announcements (PAs), as well as Notices of interest from NIH, are available on the NINR website at [www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/DEA/OEP/FundingOpportunities/default.htm](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/DEA/OEP/FundingOpportunities/default.htm).

These items can also be found in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts: [grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html).

9. 78th Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research

The open session of the 78th meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR) will take place on September 18, 2012, from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Conference Room 6C6, Building 31, C wing, on the campus of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Visitors are welcome to attend.
The NACNR meets three times a year to provide recommendations on the direction and support of the nursing, biomedical, social, and behavioral research that forms the evidence base for nursing practice.

More information about the NACNR is available online at: www.ninr.nih.gov/AboutNINR/NACNR.

Information on visiting the NIH campus is available online at: www.nih.gov/about/visitor/index.htm.