



U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services
National Institutes of Health



News & Notes from the National Institute of Nursing Research: August 2011

1. Dr. Grady Authors *Nursing Outlook* Article on Advancing Health for Seniors

A new article from NINR Director Dr. Patricia A. Grady appeared in the July 2011 issue of *Nursing Outlook*, a special issue which focused on “Gerontological Nursing: Development of the Science, Education and Practice.” Dr. Grady’s article, entitled “Advancing the health of our aging population: A lead role for nursing science,” discussed the key role for nursing science as the aging of the Baby Boom generation creates new challenges for American healthcare professionals, families and caregivers.

As Dr. Grady stated in the article: “Today, people are living longer than ever before, and as the baby boomers age, the number of older adults is expected to increase exponentially over the coming decades. Combined, these two demographic shifts will lead to enormous challenges for society.

“They will require us to identify strategies to allow older adults to live independently for as long as possible; provide health care and education for older adults who are self-managing multiple chronic illnesses; ensure that older adults in long-term care settings receive high-quality care; and support family members and friends who are caring for an older loved one with dementia and/or a disability.”

The full text of the article is available online at:

<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/NR/ronlyres/F64D83FB-DD5E-4781-BCDB-CE589DECB948/0/DrGradyNOGeriatricNursingJuly20112.pdf>

2. Register Now for NINR’s Scientific Symposium, *Bringing Science to Life: A Healthier Tomorrow*

Registration is now open for the NINR scientific symposium, *Bringing Science to Life: A Healthier Tomorrow*. This Symposium will conclude NINR’s 25th Anniversary events. It will be held on October 13, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The day will include keynote and science presentations, a panel discussion, and a poster session. This event is free, but registration is required.

Online registration for the Symposium is available at:

<https://meetings.ninr.nih.gov/meetings/healthiertomorrow/>.

Information on Symposium speakers can be found at:

<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/ahealthiertomorrow>.

Announced Speakers include:

Mistress of Ceremonies:

Dr. Rita Colwell

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Karen Daley
Dr. Michael Gottesman
Senator Daniel Inouye, Hawaii

Scientific Speakers:

Dr. Martha A.Q. Curley
Dr. J. Randall Curtis
Dr. Kathleen Dracup
Dr. Sandra B. Dunbar
Dr. Marjana Tomic-Canic

Please note that NINR's concluding symposium falls in between the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science's (CANS) 2011 Special Topics Conference and the American Academy of Nursing's (AAN) 38th Annual Meeting and Conference. Both events are also being held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill.

The CANS Special Topics Conference, "Comparative Effectiveness and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: The Intersection of Nursing Science and Health Care Delivery," will be held on October 12, 2011. For more information and to register, please visit the CANS web site at: www.nursingscience.org.

The AAN Annual Meeting and Conference, "Health Promotion Across the Lifespan: Focus on Evidence," will take place October 13 – 15, 2011. Please visit the Academy's web site, www.aanet.org, for more information or to register.

3. Executive Summary Published for 'Interdisciplinary Advantage' Conference

The executive summary of "Bringing Science to Life: The Interdisciplinary Advantage," the April 27, 2011 conference co-sponsored by the National Center for Research Resources and NINR, is now available on the NINR website.

Designed to improve interdisciplinary research participation, the conference was held in conjunction with the joint annual meeting of the Association for Clinical Research Training and the Society for Clinical and Translational Science. Experts shared information about successful interdisciplinary collaborations that have advanced the translational trajectory from bench to bedside, and to community practice.

The executive summary is available online at:

http://www.ninr.nih.gov/NR/rdonlyres/D052D98E-85D8-48D2-A11B-6D6546695F4A/0/Interdisciplinary_Advantage_ExecSummary_071111.pdf

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Karen Huss
NINR Division of Extramural Activities
Email: hussk@mail.nih.gov

4. NINR IRP Post-Doctoral Fellow Honored

Dr. Arseima "Yesy" Del Valle-Pinero, a post-doctoral fellow in the Biobehavioral Unit of NINR's Intramural Research Program (IRP), was recently honored with a [2011 Puerto Rico Young Scientist Award](#) from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). Dr. Del Valle-Pinero's

award was based on her submission to the 43rd IUPAC World Chemistry Congress entitled “Development of a Mass Spectrometry Protocol for Determination of Sugar Concentration in Urine of Patients with Chronic Abdominal Pain after Ingestion of Test Solution.”

Dr. Del Valle-Pinero received her Ph.D. in neuroscience from the University of Florida in 2009, and is currently in the second year of an NIH Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) at NINR. In 2008, she received a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships (F31) to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease (NIDDK). Congratulations to Dr. Del Valle-Pinero and the NINR IRP on this achievement.

5. New Funding Opportunity Announcement: Obesity and Asthma Awareness and Management (R01)

A new NINR Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications to stimulate research to examine the interconnections of asthma and obesity.

The prevalence of both asthma and obesity have significantly risen in the past few decades. Although the association between these two conditions has been found in many studies, the exact mechanisms for how this association arises are unresolved. Because both of these conditions have their beginnings in early life, an aspect of the association between them that requires more understanding is their common exposures in early life.

Studies that investigate the molecular pathways linking asthma and obesity are encouraged. In addition, intervention studies targeting asthma or obesity and their effects on each one, and possible mechanisms of action are encouraged.

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: Not Applicable

Open Date (Earliest Submission Date): September 5, 2011

For more information: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-245.html>.

6. NINR Invites Applications for the 2012 Graduate Partnerships Program

The application period for the 2012 [NINR Graduate Partnerships Program \(GPP\)](#) is now open. The NINR GPP is a doctoral fellowship training program that coordinates training and funding for doctoral students attending a school of nursing supported by an NINR-funded Institutional Research Training (T32) grant. The program combines the academic environment of a university and the breadth and depth of research at NIH.

Please note: To be eligible for the NINR GPP, the applicant must currently attend (or be accepted to) a school of nursing supported by a T32 grant funded by NINR.

Application instructions and answers to frequently asked questions are available online at: <https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/gpp/appinfo>.

The application period for the NINR GPP will close on January 31, 2012 at 8 a.m.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Natalie A. Rasmussen

Intramural Research Training Director, Assistant Clinical Investigator

NINR Intramural Research Program
Email: rasmussenna@mail.nih.gov

7. New Funding Opportunity Announcements: Social and Behavioral Research on the Elderly in Disasters (R01, R21, and R03)

Three new FOAs issued by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and NINR encourage applications to conduct behavioral and social science research on the consequences of natural and man-made disasters for the health and well-being of the elderly, with an ultimate goal of preventing or mitigating harmful consequences. Disasters include weather-related events, earthquakes, tsunamis, large-scale attacks on civilian populations, technological catastrophes, and pandemics.

Recent disasters have served as reminders that older people can be both more vulnerable and in some ways more resilient than younger people. Research in the social and behavioral sciences can be useful both for the practical work of helping future efforts to prepare for or mitigate disasters and for the scientific understanding of aging, health, and well-being.

The health outcomes of greatest interest include mortality, disability, severe distress and clinically significant morbidity (as opposed to mild or transient symptoms), and economic hardship sufficient to harm health. These FOAs relate to the NIA mission to improve the health and well-being of older Americans through research and the NINR mission to prevent disease and disability. Research and translation efforts can help inform planning by drawing on lessons from disasters of multiple types and locations.

Letter of Intent Due Date: Not applicable

Open Date (Earliest Submission Date): September 5, 2011

For more information: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-263.html>

8. 75th Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research

The open session of the 75th meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR) will take place on September 20, 2011, 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:

<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/AboutNINR/NACNR>.

Information on visiting the NIH campus is available online at:

<http://www.nih.gov/about/visitor/index.htm>.

9. Department of Health and Human Services Seeks Input on Proposed Human Subject Regulations

The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in coordination with the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) has issued an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) to request comment on how current regulations for protecting human subjects who participate in research might be modernized and revised to be more effective.

The ANPRM seeks comment on how to better protect human subjects who are involved in research, while facilitating valuable research and reducing burden, delay, and ambiguity for investigators. The current regulations governing human subjects research were developed years ago when research was predominantly conducted at universities, colleges, and medical institutions, and each study generally took place at only a single site.

Although the regulations have been amended over the years, they have not kept pace with the evolving human research enterprise, the proliferation of multi-site clinical trials and observational studies, the expansion of health services research, research in the social and behavioral sciences, and research involving databases, the Internet, and biological specimen repositories, and the use of advanced technologies, such as genomics.

How to Comment:

Comments must be identified by docket ID number HHS–OPHS–2011–0005, and can be submitted by one of the following methods:

Online Via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>:

Enter the above docket ID number in the “Enter Keyword or ID” field and click on “Search.” On the next Web page, click on “Submit a Comment” action and follow the instructions.

Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier [For paper, disk, or CD–ROM submissions] to:

Jerry Menikoff, M.D., J.D., OHRP,
1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 200,
Rockville, MD 20852.

Comments received, including any personal information, will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on September 26, 2011.

More information is available online at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07-26/pdf/2011-18792.pdf>

10. 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 <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:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>.