



U.S. Department of Health
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National Institutes of Health



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

1. Concluding Scientific Symposium Brings Science to Life on the Hill

“Bringing Science to Life,” the Institute’s 25th Anniversary Concluding Scientific Symposium, was a great success, with over 600 members of the nursing science community attending the event on October 13 at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill.

Dr. Rita Colwell, Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, served as the master of ceremonies.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Karen Daley, president of the American Nurses Association; Dr. Michael Gottesman, deputy director for intramural research at NIH; and Dr. Anand Parekh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Science and Medicine), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NINR was honored to recognize Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii for his renowned and dedicated history of being an advocate for nurses, nursing science, and quality healthcare for all.

The event’s scientific speakers/panelists presented excellent examples of the breadth, depth and public health impact of NINR-supported science, including:

Dr. Sandra B. Dunbar of Emory University’s Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing shared her latest findings on improving outcomes and self-care behaviors for cardiovascular patients and their families via the development and testing of nursing interventions.

Dr. J. Randall Curtis, Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington and Section Head for Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Harborview Medical Center, reviewed clinical research on understanding and evaluating clinician-family communication in the ICU and the use of this research to develop and evaluate an intervention designed to improve the quality of palliative care in the ICU. He also shared the results of a recent cluster randomized trial to test such an intervention and the lessons learned from this trial for future research and clinical practice.

Dr. Marjana Tomic-Canic, professor of Dermatology at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, discussed the molecular and cellular basis for impaired healing in different types of chronic, nonhealing wounds. She presented her latest discoveries from the context of how understanding the mechanisms that inhibit wound healing will provide a basis for new treatment strategies and development of therapeutic approaches to treat these conditions in patients.

Dr. Martha A. Q. Curley, professor, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, reviewed the evolution of sedation practices in the ICU with a focus on pediatric critical care. She discussed her preliminary work that supported the design and conduct of RESTORE, a 31-center cluster randomized controlled trial that tests a change in sedation management practices in pediatric patients with acute respiratory failure.

After their presentations, the scientific speakers took audience questions in a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Kathleen Dracup of the University of California-San Francisco School of Nursing. The

symposium concluded with a poster awards presentation and poster session featuring over 100 posters on a variety of clinical and research topics.

2. NINR's New Strategic Plan

The Concluding Symposium also marked the release of NINR's new strategic plan, which defines the critical role that NINR-supported research, and indeed all of nursing science, will play in improving the health of the Nation over the next 25 years and beyond.

Intended for researchers, clinicians, stakeholders, and the general public, the new strategic plan outlines the role that NINR-supported science can play in addressing the nation's most pressing health and health care challenges.

This strategic plan seeks to harness the strengths of nursing science to power an ambitious research agenda that will meet current and future health care needs and anticipate future health challenges and priorities.

The new strategic plan is available online at www.ninr.nih.gov/strategicplan.

3. "Science of Compassion" End-of-Life and Palliative Care Summit Videocast and Media Coverage

NINR greatly appreciates the outstanding contributions of the nearly 1,000 scientists, researchers, palliative and end-of-life care health professionals, educators, policy analysts, members of professional organizations, and members of the public who attended and participated in the "The Science of Compassion: Future Directions in End-of-Life and Palliative Care" Summit on August 10-12.

Links to NIH videocasts of the Summit are online at www.ninr.nih.gov/scienceofcompassion.

The event was also well covered by the news media, including:

- *Congressional Quarterly*
- [*Hospitalist News*](#)
- **Catholic News Service**
- [*Oncology Times*](#)
- **Nursing Spectrum**

The *Hospitalist News* article linked above also includes a video on the Summit, with interviews of Dr. Jennifer Temel of Massachusetts General Hospital, parent advocate Dianne Gray, and Dr. J. Randall Curtis of the University of Seattle, Washington.

4. Dr. Grady Speaks at Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science Conference

On October 12, Dr. Patricia A. Grady, Director, NINR, spoke at the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science's (CANS) 2011 Special Topics Conference in Washington, DC.

Dr. Grady's lecture, "Nursing Science at the Intersection of Comparative Effectiveness and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research," reflected the themes of the conference. In her presentation, Dr. Grady detailed how nurse clinicians, nurse scientists and NINR help to lead the translation of scientific discoveries into practice through Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) and Patient Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR).

Quoting Dr. Grady, "...Nurse scientist leadership is crucial for moving our country forward both in terms of health sciences research and in terms of the translation of that research into timely, effective, and sustainable improvements to health and health care in real world settings."

5. NINR Releases Spanish Version of Palliative Care Brochure

Palliative Care: The Relief You Need When You're Experiencing the Symptoms of Serious Illness, NINR's award-winning brochure, is now available in Spanish. *Cuidados Paliativos: El alivio que necesita cuando tiene síntomas de una enfermedad grave* describes what palliative care is, who it benefits, and how it works. It explains that palliative care is not hospice care, but provides symptom relief to patients of any age and at any time during an illness. Readers learn that palliative care can be delivered in tandem with other medical treatments and is particularly helpful to those dealing with chronic illnesses such as AIDS, cystic fibrosis, and diseases of the heart, lungs, and kidneys.

Cuidados Paliativos is available online at www.ninr.nih.gov/cuidadospaliativos. Free print copies (up to 25) are available on request. Please email info@ninr.nih.gov or call NINR at 301-496-0207 to request print copies.

6. Dr. Elaine Larson to Give 2012 NINR Director's Lecture

Dr. Elaine Larson, Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Research at the Columbia University School of Nursing and Professor of Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, has been selected to give the second NINR Director's Lecture on January 17, 2012. Larson, a member of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research, will discuss her globally recognized research in infection prevention and control in a lecture titled "Infection Prevention: An Interdisciplinary Team Approach."

Dr. Larson is a former Dean, Georgetown University School of Nursing. She has been a member of the Board of Directors, National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, and the Report Review Committee, National Academy of Sciences. She is a fellow in the Institute of Medicine and the Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research to Prevent Antimicrobial Resistance at Columbia University and has been Editor of the American Journal of Infection Control since 1995. She has published more than 250 journal articles, four books and a number of book chapters in the areas of infection prevention, epidemiology, and clinical research.

The NINR Director's Lecture is an annual event, designed to bring the nation's top nurse scientists to the NIH campus to share their work and interests with a trans-disciplinary audience. The award was initiated as part of the year-long observation of the Institute's first 25 years at the NIH.

The second NINR Director's Lecture is scheduled to take place from 10:30 -11:30 a.m. on January 17, 2012 in the NIH Clinical Center's Lipsett Amphitheater.

7. New Research Highlight: High Compliance with "Central Line Bundle" Preventive Practices Can Decrease ICU Infection Rates

Research by Dr. Patricia Stone of Columbia University was recently highlighted on the NINR website.

Dr. Stone and her team studied how to reduce the risk of bloodstream infections (BSIs) in ICU patients who require a central line – a special type of intravenous catheter surgically implanted into a major vein – for the delivery of fluids, nutrition, and medications.

The study found that improving compliance with central line bundle best practices and policies could help hospitals to achieve a 38% reduction in BSIs, thereby lowering health care costs and improving health outcomes.

This work was funded by an NINR R01 grant.

For full details on this and three additional new NINR research highlights, visit:

<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/ResearchHighlights>.

Citation:

Furuya E. Y., Dick, A., Perencevich, E. N., Pogorzelska, M., Goldmann, D., Stone, P. W. (2011). Central line bundle implementation in US intensive care units and impact on bloodstream infections. PLoS ONE, 6, 1, e15452. DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0015452.

8. Three New Members Named to National Advisory Council for Nursing Research

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has appointed three new members to the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR), the principal advisory board for NINR. Members of the council are drawn from the scientific and lay communities, embodying a diverse perspective from the fields of nursing, public and health policy, law, and economics.

The NACNR meets three times a year on the NIH campus to provide recommendations on the direction and support of the nursing, biomedical, social, and behavioral research that forms the evidence base for nursing practice. An important role of the council is to conduct a second level of review of grant applications that have been scored by scientific review groups. In addition, the council reviews the Institute's extramural programs and makes recommendations about its intramural research activities.

NINR Director Dr. Patricia A. Grady is pleased to welcome the following new Council members:

Kenton R. Kaufman, PhD, is a professor of biomedical engineering and the W. Hall Wendel, Jr., Musculoskeletal Research Professor at Mayo Clinic. He is co-director of the Mayo Clinic's Biomechanics and Motion Analysis Laboratory, where he has studied the development and application of innovative techniques for the analysis of human movement. His research focuses on in-vivo dynamic assessment of musculoskeletal function and modeling. He is also involved in developing and testing next-generation prosthetics and orthotics. His work is primarily translational and is aimed at improving the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of human musculoskeletal injury and disease. Dr. Kaufman received his PhD in biomechanical engineering from North Dakota State University. He is a past president of the American Society of Biomechanics; a founding member and past president of the Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society; and a Fellow in the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Courtney H. Lyder, ND, is the dean of the UCLA School of Nursing, professor of nursing, medicine and public health, and executive director of the UCLA Health System and Patient Safety Institute. He previously served in progressive leadership positions at Yale University and the University of Virginia. He is the first African American dean at UCLA and the first minority male to be dean of a school of nursing in the United States. Dr. Lyder's interests include care of vulnerable and minority elder adults with a particular emphasis on chronic care issues, wound care nursing, and health services research. He has studied the use of innovative technologies to help elders "age in place," and has developed numerous innovative training programs in gerontology. His scholarship helped influence the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to change regulations related to the care of the elderly in the nation's

16,000 nursing homes. He received his MS and ND degrees in geriatric nursing from Rush University. He is the author of over 195 journal articles, books, book chapters, and abstracts.

James A. Tulsky, MD, is director of the Center for Palliative Care and a professor in the schools of medicine and nursing at Duke University. He also directs the NINR-funded Duke Center for Self-Management in Life-Limiting Illness. Dr. Tulsky received his MD from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, where he was also a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar. He was in the first cohort of the Project on Death in America Soros Faculty Scholars. He is the recipient of a Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physicians Faculty Scholars Award, a Veterans Administration Health Services Research Career Development Award, the 2002 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, and the 2006 Award for Research Excellence from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. His current research focuses on enhancing communication between oncologists and patients with advanced cancer, and he is widely published in the areas of provider-patient communication and quality of life at the end of life.

9. NIH Welcomes Proposals for 2012 NIH Director's Transformative Research Projects Program

A major goal of the NIH is to foster bold and creative investigator-initiated research. In pursuit of this goal, the Transformative Research Projects Program has been created under the auspices of the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research to enhance submission and support of exceptionally innovative, high-risk, original and/or unconventional research that has the potential to have a profound impact in clinical, basic or behavioral/social science arenas.

NIH Roadmap Transformative Research Awards provide up to \$25 million total costs per year for a single project. The NIH encourages applications for the Transformative Research Projects Program from scientists representing all disciplines relevant to the NIH mission, including the biological, behavioral, clinical, social, physical, chemical, computational, engineering, and mathematical sciences. Interdisciplinary teams as well as individual investigators with bold ideas are encouraged to apply.

The deadline for submitting Transformative Research Project applications is January 12, 2012, with Letters of Intent due by December 12, 2012. See the complete application instructions in the RFA ([RFA-RM-11-006](#)).

Additional information, including Frequently Asked Questions about the Transformative Research Projects Program, is available at: <http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/T-R01>.

For more information, please contact: T_R01@mail.nih.gov.

10. NINR Staff News: Award for Dr. Bryan; Welcome to Drs. Cashion, Hardy & McCloskey; New Role for Dr. Weglicki; Drs. Engler Join IRP

News and Notes is pleased to share some recent NINR staff honors, role changes, and additions, including:

Dr. Yvonne Bryan Receives NIH Director's Award

Yvonne Bryan, PhD, who was named Special Assistant to the NINR Director earlier this year, was recently honored with a 2011 NIH Director's Award.

On August 2, Dr. Bryan received the NIH Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Award of the Year, which recognized her outstanding contributions to equal employment opportunity at NINR and at the NIH, while promoting the understanding of nursing science.

A videocast of the event is available online at <http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?file=16768>.

Congratulations to Dr. Bryan for this recognition of her work.

Dr. Ann Cashion Joins NINR Director's Office

NINR is pleased to welcome Ann Cashion, PhD, RN, FAAN, who has joined the Institute as Senior Advisor in the Office of the Director. Dr. Cashion comes to NINR through an Intergovernmental Personnel Act agreement. Dr. Cashion's tenure began in August 2011, and she will be with NINR for one year.

Dr. Cashion is Professor and Chair of the Department of Acute and Chronic Care in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. She is a highly experienced scientist, specializing in genetic/genomic and environmental components associated with outcomes of organ transplantation.

She has served as Communication Chair of the CDC-sponsored GAPPNet, a collaborative initiative involving partners from across the public health sector who are working together to realize the promise of genomics in healthcare and disease prevention.

Dr. Linda Weglicki Named Chief of Office of Extramural Programs

On August 29, Linda Weglicki, PhD, RN, was appointed as Chief of the Office of Extramural Programs (OEP), of NINR's Division of Extramural Activities.

Dr. Weglicki joined NINR in 2008 as a Health Scientist Administrator for the portfolio of infant, child and family health. She earned her PhD in Nursing from the University of Michigan in Health Promotion and Risk Reduction. She earned her Master's in Community Health Nursing and her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Wayne State University. She has a post-master's certification in teaching and education.

Dr. Weglicki's research has focused on health promotion in ethnically diverse urban populations. She has published in a variety of interdisciplinary journals. Her publications and presentations have included studies of risky behavior in youth and young adults, eHealth applications to promote health among older adults, and environmental risks associated with air pollution. Dr. Weglicki is an advocate of interdisciplinary research collaborations and partnerships to promote translational research.

Dr. Lynda Hardy Joins OEP

Lynda R. Hardy, PhD, RN, has joined OEP as a Health Science Administrator. Dr. Hardy assumes the responsibilities for the HIV/AIDS and Children and Family Sections of OEP where she will serve as program director. Dr. Hardy earned her PhD in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and her Master's degree in Nursing Administration from George Mason University. Prior to her appointment to NINR, Dr. Hardy was the Director of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group Network Operations Center and held faculty positions at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, George Washington University – Pediatrics, and Baylor University School of Medicine. Dr. Hardy's research and interests have focused on HIV/AIDS disease and childhood diseases, especially obesity and diabetes.

Dr. Donna Jo (“DJ”) McCloskey Returns to NINR

Donna Jo (“DJ”) McCloskey, PhD, RN, joins the NINR Office of Extramural Programs, where her portfolio will include management of Center Grants in addition to training-related activities. She had previously worked at NINR as the training director for the Intramural Research Program.

Dr. McCloskey comes to NINR from the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), Division for Clinical Research Resources, where she served as the Program Officer principally responsible for the management and support of General Clinical Research Center grants and Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs).

Dr. McCloskey began her career at the NIH in 1985 and for 7 years worked in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory in the Critical Care division of the Clinical Center Nursing Department. Over the next 13 years at the NIH, she held a senior research nursing position in the Hematology section of the Department of Laboratory Medicine. As a Research Nurse Specialist, Dr. McCloskey developed a portfolio of research focused on the thrombotic complications associated with venous access devices. Dr. McCloskey has published her research in national and international journals. Dr. McCloskey earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia; her Masters Degree in Arts and Sciences from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia; and her Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing from George Mason University. She has been the recipient of a number of NIH awards and the Marymount Alumni Achievement Award.

Drs. Mary and Marguerite Engler Join NINR IRP

NINR is pleased to welcome Dr. Marguerite Engler and her sister Dr. Mary Engler to its Intramural Research Program (IRP). The Englers bring with them prestigious track records as nurse scientists with a focus on cardiovascular health, including the possible health benefits of substances found in cocoa, dark chocolate and other sweet treats.

Marguerite M. Engler, PhD, RN, FAHA, is a Senior Clinician in the Division of Intramural Research at NINR and Chief of the Cardiovascular Symptoms Unit of the NINR IRP. She is a former Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Physiological Nursing at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF). Her research focuses on the role of nutrition and various nutrients in the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease. She was the principal investigator on the EARLY (Endothelial Assessment of Risk in Lipids from Youth) trial, a study that examined the effects of diet and nutritional supplements on the cardiovascular health of children and adolescents with high cholesterol who are at increased risk for coronary artery disease. Dr. Engler’s recent studies have focused on the effects of the Mediterranean diet and omega-3 fatty acids on vascular health in children with hereditary hyperlipidemia. She has published in highly respected, peer-reviewed scientific journals including the *American Journal of Hypertension*, *Lipids*, *British Journal of Pharmacology*, *Experimental Biology and Medicine* and many more. She is also the former Editor-in-Chief of *Progress in Cardiovascular Nursing*.

Mary B. Engler, PhD, RN, is a Senior Clinician and Chief of the Vascular Biology Unit of the Tissue Injury Branch in the NINR IRP. She previously held positions as Professor and Director of the Cardiovascular and Genomics Graduate programs in the Department of Physiological Nursing at UCSF. Her area of research has focused on nutritional interventions and vascular biology in the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Engler has been a pioneer in the study of the vascular effects of

the omega-3 fatty acids, and was the first to demonstrate the direct vasorelaxation effects of DHA, the major omega-3 fatty acid, in 1990. She has also studied the effects of flavonoids found in fruits and vegetables, on vascular endothelial function, oxidative stress measures, blood lipid profile and blood pressure in healthy adults. Her work has shown how flavonoid-rich dark chocolate can improve blood vessels' ability to dilate or expand. Her research team also found that the major flavonoid in chocolate, epicatechin, was absorbed at high levels in the blood (*J Am Coll Nutr* 2004, *Nutr Res* 2004, *Nutr Reviews* 2006). She was also the co-investigator on the EARLY study. Her recent studies have focused on the effects of the Mediterranean diet and omega-3 fatty acids on vascular health in children with hereditary hyperlipidemia.

“The NINR Intramural Research Program is delighted to welcome scientists of the Englers’ caliber to campus,” said Dr. Raymond Dionne, scientific director of the NINR IRP. “Their work is a unique combination of important physiological and cardiovascular science with a high degree of public interest, and we are very fortunate to have them on staff as nurse scientists and mentors.”

11. HHS Tightens Financial Conflict of Interest Rules for Researchers

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently issued an updated Final Rule on conflict of interest (COI), providing a framework for identifying, managing, and ultimately avoiding investigators’ financial conflicts of interest.

NIH staff worked with others in HHS to revise the 1995 regulations to update and enhance the objectivity and integrity of the research process.

Major changes to the regulations include the definition of significant financial interest, the extent of investigator disclosure, the information reported to the Public Health Service awarding component, the information made accessible to the public, and investigator training.

Additional details about the changes to NIH COI regulations can be found at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/>.

12. AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships

The application period for the AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships is now open. The Fellowships are opportunities for professional development and public service operated by AAAS as part of its mandate to “advance science and serve society.” NINR has welcomed two AAAS Fellows, who are currently with the NINR Office of Science Policy and Public Liaison.

The program aims to foster scientifically informed, evidence-based policy and practice by involving scientists and engineers from a broad range of disciplines, backgrounds and career stages to engage their knowledge and analytical skills while learning first-hand about policymaking and implementation at the federal level; and to build leadership for a strong science and technology enterprise that benefits all people. This is accomplished by developing the capacity of scientists and engineers to effectively inform individuals and institutions that influence and determine policies, regulations and funding.

To be considered for a Fellowship via AAAS, an applicant must hold U.S. citizenship and have a doctoral level degree (PhD, ScD, MD, DVM, etc.), in any of the following:

- Social and Behavioral sciences
- Medical and Health sciences

- Biological, Physical or Earth sciences
- Computational sciences and Mathematics
- Engineering disciplines (applicants with a MS in engineering and three or more years of post-degree professional experience also qualify).

Successful candidates should:

- Demonstrate exceptional competence in their specialty appropriate to their career stage, and have the strong endorsement of three references.
- Show an understanding of the opportunities for science and engineering to support a broad range of non-scientific issues, and display a commitment to apply their scientific or technical expertise to serve society.
- Exhibit awareness and sensitivity to the political, economic and social issues that influence policy.
- Be articulate communicators, both verbally and in writing, to decision-makers and non-scientific audiences, and have the ability to work effectively with individuals and groups outside the scientific community.
- Demonstrate initiative, problem-solving ability, leadership capacity, and the flexibility and willingness to address policy issues outside their scientific realm.

The application deadline for the Fellowships is December 5, 2011.

More information on the program and an online application is available at:

<http://fellowshipapp.aaas.org>.

13. 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>.

14. 76th Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research

The open session of the 76th meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR) will take place on January 17, 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:

<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>.