

Health & Science

Howard Research Team Goes To Ethiopia

A team of Howard University faculty and student researchers are spending the summer in Ethiopia doing research on malaria, sleeping sickness and AIDS, as well as providing training in a full range of scientific and biomedical topics.

The projects undertaken in conjunction with this effort include research on finding ways to develop biological control mechanisms against the tsetse fly and malaria-bearing anopheles mosquito species.

In Addis Ababa, faculty will teach anatomy and physiology courses to military corpsmen. Week-long workshops in molecular biology and biochemistry will be presented to faculty, staff and students in the ministries of health and agriculture. A special

symposium on "Integrated Parasitological Research" will be included with those workshops.

Faculty and students will travel to the northern town of Mekele where they will evaluate patients with malaria for resistance to various drugs and teach science, mathematics, chemistry, biology and English to 250 high school teachers. They will also study the development of new protocols for the treatment of malaria.

The summer-long program is funded by a National Institute of Health/Minority International Research Training grant from the Fogarty International Center and an National Science Foundation/Research Careers for Minority Students grant. Dr. Winston Anderson, a member of

the faculty of the Howard Department of Biology, is the principle investigator for both grants.

"This trip follows on the steps of a successful similar program we held last summer," says Anderson. "This continuing effort to mount a research and training program in parasitology and permaculture, and build a training and research capacity in Ethiopia will soon begin to bear fruit with results that will help to improve the lives of people in Ethiopia and people throughout the world who suffer from similar health problems."

Included on the team are Howard faculty members Dr. Amha Asseffa, biochemistry and the Cancer Center; Dr. Theodore Bremner, biology and the Cancer Center; Dr. Richard Millis,

physiology and biophysics; Dr. Tamarat Retta, medicine; Dr. Brenda Jasper, allied health; Dr. Vincent Hollis and Dr. Winston Anderson, biology; Dr. James Lindesay, physics; Dr. Abraham Ford, communications; and Dr. Adeniran Adeboye, mathematics.

Others on the team include medical, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as faculty from the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Washington, Brown University, Yale University and the Food and Drug Administration. Students were selected from Howard University, Xavier University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Morehouse College, Morgan State University and Brown University.

Unhealthy Eating Habits Prevail

Health food items on a restaurant menu are like the various tools men collect in their garages -- nice to have around, but seldom used for home improvements.

A recent survey of callers to The American Dietetic Association's Consumer Nutrition Hot Line shows that 98 percent of male callers think restaurants should offer healthful menu items.

However, when it comes to actually ordering, only 54 percent say they frequently or always select a healthful item.

About 66 percent of the men surveyed told ADA that they go out to eat at least once or twice a week.

These results are consistent with conclusions drawn from ADA's 1995 "Winning Strategies," a national survey of men's nutrition attitudes and behaviors -- about 82 percent of the men surveyed said they were very concerned about nutrition, but only one-half indicated making any changes in their diets within the previous year.

Preschool Immunization Consortium

The Oregon Preschool Immunization Consortium (OPIC) advises parents to check their children's immunization status. Parents should have an immunization card documenting each child's vaccinations.

"The current measles outbreak in the Portland Metro Area and Marion County reminds Oregonians that vaccine-preventable diseases are still with us, even though they don't occur documenting each child's vac-

inations.

"The current measles outbreak in the Portland Metro Area and Marion County reminds Oregonians that vaccine-preventable diseases are still with us, even though they don't occur often," says Nancy Church, consortium chairperson.

"Vaccines prevent ten serious childhood diseases including measles. A child's first measles shot should be given at 12 to 15 months of age. A second dose

can be given when the child is 4 to 6 years old, or 11 to 12 years old. Other childhood vaccinations basically begin at birth with intervals at 2, 4, 6 and 12 months of age.

"So, please pull out your child's immunization card and check your records. And because of the recent measles outbreak, we also encourage parents to check their own immunization status while checking their child's."

The Oregon Preschool Immunization Consortium is a broad-based coalition of more than 60 member organizations from the public and private sectors.

The Consortium's common goal is to increase the immunization rate to 90 percent for Oregon's children ages birth to two years old. The current immunization rate is 67 percent, ranking Oregon 47th in the nation.

Vitamin Rich Red Wine

Nation Conference on Wine and Health Comes to Portland

Wine connoisseurs and novices alike from around the country have been registering to attend the 1996 Women for WineSense National Conference. Space is rapidly being filled, but there is still plenty of room for more guests. "Wine: A Positive Perception," will be held in Portland, Oregon, July 11-14. This is the first educational wine conference of its kind hosted by the Oregon Chapter of Women for WineSense.

"Wine: A Positive Perception" will be brought to life by keynote speaker Jancis Robinson, an internationally recognized wine writer and television personality. Robinson and over 30 other noted speakers will discuss a vast array of topics concerning the healthful attributes of moderate wine consumption, consumer/public opinion and of course the enjoyment of wine. The three day conference will be made up of: workshops, panel discussions, special dinners and healthy fun.

The event will take place at the Portland Marriott Hotel located on the city's beautiful Willamette riverfront. Some activities will be spread throughout Oregon's lush wine country, giving many a first peek at the expanding Oregon industry. Men, women novices and connoisseurs are all welcome to attend the conference.

For more information on the WWS National Conference, please contact Nancy Daniel at (503) 581-7458, or Maria Ponzi at (503) 628-1227, or fax to (503) 628-0354.



Kaiser Permanente hosted a luncheon for the Amalgamated Transit Union's Black Caucus Conference during the group's 29th annual meeting, held recently in north Portland. Pictured are (left to right) Will Sawyer, Kaiser Permanente senior account executive; Kaiser Permanente's Health Plan Manager Denise Honzel; Amalgamated Transit Union officers Elaine Vance, secretary-treasurer; President Patricia Burgess; and Leon James, who serves as vice-president.

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"So What About Me?"

A Workshop for caregivers of HIV Affected Persons

On June 22, 1996, Center Pointe, will sponsor a workshop for the care providers of HIV affected persons to explore what attitudes best serve you and the person you are caring for. There will be time for sharing and mutual support, as well as input around the issues of self care, managing stress and grief and taking care of yourself as a care provider. Professional Care Providers are welcomed, as well as family members, friends and volunteers. The workshop will be presented by Fr. John McGrann, Founder and Director of Kairos Support for Caregivers in San Francisco. Fr. McGrann has been a priest for 29 years and has ministered to persons with AIDS and their caregivers for the past 10 years in the Bay Area. The workshop will take place on June 22, 1996, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Carvlin Hall at St. Philip Neri Parish, 2408 SE 16th Ave., Portland. Brown bag lunches are suggested with drinks provided. A \$10.00 donation is requested.

A Reminder:
Father's Day is Sunday, June 16th.
Happy Father's Day to all fathers everywhere.

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