

New Directions

Volume 16 | Issue 1

Article 2

1-1-1989

Newsfile

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Recommended Citation

Staff, Editorial (1989) "Newsfile," *New Directions*: Vol. 16: Iss. 1, Article 2.

Available at: <https://dh.howard.edu/newdirections/vol16/iss1/2>

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NEWSFILE

A 10-year review of private-sector contributions to the University shows a substantial growth in dollar amounts received between 1979 and 1988, according to figures compiled by the office of the Vice President for Development and University Relations.

In 1979, for example, the university received a total of \$4,327,022 from the private sector. In 1988 that figure more than doubled, reaching \$10,976,883.

The grand total over the 10-year period — from alumni, corporations, foundations, friends, organizations/associations and international donors — is \$59,793,817.

Contributions from alumni broke the \$1 million mark in 1983. In 1979, for example, contributions from alumni, including alumni organizations, was \$796,135. In 1983 it was \$1,308,114 and in 1988, \$1,779,105.

The breakdown and total contributions from 1979 to 1988 from alumni, corporations, foundations, friends, organizations/associations and international donors, respectively, is as follows: \$11,558,864; \$13,363,189; \$22,628,160; \$6,256,046; \$4,414,758; \$1,572,800. These figures represent regular yearly 10-year contributions, with the exception of international donors who did not contribute in 1982, 1983, 1985 and 1986.

An Office of Research Administration has been created at Howard to strengthen the university's research thrust.

Marion Mann, a former dean of the College of Medicine, heads up

the new office. He holds the title associate vice president for research.

According to executive vice president Carlton P. Alexis, who oversees the unit, "The scope of Dr. Mann's responsibilities will cover both pre-award and post-award activities related to research grants."

A 1954 Howard medical school graduate, Mann served as dean of the College of Medicine from 1970 to 1979. He then returned to the classroom to teach pathology, formally retiring from the faculty in 1983 but continuing to maintain an active involvement in the college.



A new program designed to give students hands-on experience with some of the tasks that are essential to the university's operations has been established by Howard President James E. Cheek.

Through The Howard University Administrative Internship Program, selected students will be involved in such areas as budgeting, research, operations analysis, personnel administration and public relations for either a semester or a full academic year.

Participants will be chosen annually on the basis of academic performance, service, letters of recommendation and personal interviews. Candidates must be full-time students and must have completed at least 30 semester hours at Howard.

Vincent Johns, dean for student life and activities, has direct responsibility for the program.

George E. Bonney, associate director for Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the university's Cancer Center, has been awarded a \$283,722 five-year grant by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health.

Specifically, the funds will be utilized in the construction of "up-to-date genetic linkage maps of the human chromosomes, and to test hypotheses concerning the genetic map, sex and race differences, and disease heterogeneity."

Florence Demenais, also with the Cancer Center, will work with Bonney as an investigator on the gene mapping project.

In an unrelated matter, Bonney was recently presented with the George W. Snedecor Award by the American Statistical Association and the Biometric Society. The award was given in recognition of the best published work, in this case a scientific paper, in biometry in 1987.

Four Howard Physicians made the list of *Black Enterprise* magazine's "America's Leading Black Doctors." In its October issue, the magazine cites as the "best": LaSalle D. Leffall Jr., chairman of the Department of Surgery, Howard University Hospital; Clive O. Callender, director of the hospital's Transplant Center; Roselyn P. Epps, director of the university's Child Development Center and W. Lester Henry Jr., the John B. Johnson Professor of Medicine at the College of Medicine.

The four were among 15 physicians in the country deemed by the magazine to be the best. Leffall, dressed in a scrub suit and standing in a Howard University Hospital surgical suite, made the magazine's cover.

Two other Howard physicians were listed under a second heading, "More of the Best". They are sickle cell disease specialist Roland B. Scott and medical geneticist Robert F. Murray.

Of the country's top Black doctors, the magazine observes: "They

face the prospect of life and death each day, men and women who are on the cutting edge of their respective fields of medicine . . . And carrying out their healing, they temper their medical skills with both innovation and compassion."

John L. Procope, member of the university's Board of Trustees, and Roger D. Estep, vice president for development and university relations, participated in a recent Executive Leadership Council session at the headquarters of the Gannett publishing empire in Virginia.

During the session, Gannett executives issued a glowing report card on the company's efforts to bring in more minorities and women in four job categories — officials and managers, professionals, technicians, and sales.

In the news business, which should be of interest to graduates of the School of Communications at Howard, Gannett's report card looks good. Here is why:

■ Of the seven Black publishers of daily newspapers nationally, five are with Gannett.

■ Two of three women editors of mass-circulation newspapers in the country — in Des Moines, Iowa, and in Rochester, N.Y. — are with Gannett.

■ In the newsroom, at USA Today, minorities and women hold 21 percent and 45 percent, respectively, of the positions.

James P. Comer, speaking at the ninth annual Charles H. Thompson Lecture-Colloquium, asserted that "low income children can learn as well as anyone else" . . . given a school climate conducive to learning.

To back up his assertion, he drew on the experience of an intervention project started by Yale University's Child Study Center in two inner-city schools in New Haven, Conn. Comer, a 1960 graduate of the Howard University College of Medicine, serves as director of the center's School Development Program and holds two other positions at Yale — as professor of psychiatry and an associate dean of

the medical school.

When he and his colleagues began the project in 1968, students in the two schools, almost all of whom were Black and poor, ranked near the bottom in achievement and attendance among the city's 33 schools. By 1984, with no change in the socioeconomic profile, students in the fourth grade of the two schools ranked third- and fourth-highest in the city in the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, while their attendance rates were amongst the city's highest.

As for how this came about, Comer said, "There was no magic pill. All we did was improve the environment."

Among the steps taken to do that: helping middle-class teachers to see that children who grew up in "non-mainstream social networks" were not "bad," or "dumb," but simply had not developed the social, language and other skills middle-class children automatically acquire at home; fostering the involvement of previously alienated and distrustful parents in school activities and governance in order to help bridge the gap between home and school; creating a mental health team to bring child development knowledge into the classrooms, work with specific children experiencing difficulties and help ward off behavioral problems; developing a "no fault policy" wherein "instead of finger pointing (at the child, teacher, parent, school) you focus on the problem."

The project is now being implemented in 50 schools around the country. Speaking of low income children, in general, Comer concluded, "These children are all our children . . . Our society cannot afford to lose them."

The annual Charles H. Thompson Lecture-Colloquium traditionally serves as a forum to address pressing educational issues. Thompson (1895-1980) served the university in numerous influential capacities, among them: chairman of the education department, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and founder-editor of the *Journal of Negro Education*.



A stained-glass window designed by Professor Emerita Lois Mailou Jones Pierre-Noel and honoring the 366 Infantry Regiment was recently installed on the east side of the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel on campus.

The 366 Infantry Regiment, an all-Black military unit, fought in World War I and II.

Douglas Phillips of Philadelphia, Pa., crafted the window from Pierre-Noel's original design.

Wall sculptures by Howard artists Frank Smith and E.H. Sorrells-Adewale were installed in a federal building in New York City as part of the Social Security Administration's 50th anniversary celebration.

Smith's sculpture is an abstract ceramic frieze suggestive of the improvisation and propulsion of jazz. Sorrells-Adewale's work, a two-panel assemblage of acrylic branches and twine baby dolls, commemorates the planning and savings ethic that inspired the Social Security system.

The two works are included in a collection entitled "Art-in-Architecture."

Two recent grants will enable the university to launch new efforts to address the AIDS epidemic:

■ The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has awarded the university \$982,333 to develop a National AIDS Minority Information and Education Program for Health Care Providers and Support Service Personnel.

■ The U.S. Conference of Mayors has awarded it \$41,000 to develop a model for training minority teens and young adults to conduct risk reduction workshops on AIDS, other sexually-transmitted diseases and substance abuse.

Principal investigators for both projects are Wayne Greaves, chief of the division of infectious diseases at Howard University Hospital, and DeLoris L-James Hunter, director of the office of leadership development programs in the School of Education.

The CDC-funded program is designed to enable physicians, dentists, nurses, social workers, psychologists and others who care for or counsel persons with the deadly HIV virus, which causes AIDS, to increase their knowledge about the disease and their counseling skills.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors-funded program will train 60 people in the Washington, D.C., area as peer health educators. These educators will fan out to recreation centers, public schools and health clinics with a large youth clientele to conduct preventive workshops on sexually-transmitted diseases.

Dean Harry G. Robinson, III, of the School of Architecture and Planning is the designer of a garden memorializing writer Dorothy Parker that was constructed and dedicated this fall outside the NAACP's national headquarters in Baltimore. She died in 1967.

The garden is the resting place for the witty writer's ashes which had been kept in the file cabinet of a New York attorney's office for years. NAACP executive director Benjamin Hooks, upon learning of this fact, offered to have the ashes brought to Baltimore and placed in an appropriate setting.

Parker, who was Jewish, had willed her estate to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and upon his death, to the NAACP, in keeping with her lifelong commitment to civil rights. The NAACP saw its gesture as a way to pay public appreciation to that commitment as well as to honor the traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation be-

tween Blacks and Jews.

Robinson's design for the memorial garden features a low concrete column surrounded by three circles of brown brick (symbolizing Parker's membership in the Algonquin Circle of literary lore) set beneath towering pine trees. The aim of the whole project, he says, was to create "an unpretentious and honest garden that reflects who Dorothy Parker was."



Man M. Varma, a School of Engineering faculty member since 1966, has been named a distinguished professor, following recent action of the Board of Trustees. He had been recommended for the special rank by vote of the University Senate.

Varma, who has pioneered research in the environmental engineering industry on mutagenicity (biological mutation) and the by-products formed during the treatment of water, has published more than 100 technical papers in national and international scientific journals. He has been a Fulbright Scholar, a consultant to the World Health Organization and a visiting professor of environmental engineering at Harvard University.

Vivian W. Pinn-Wiggins, chairman of the department of pathology at Howard University College of Medicine and Howard University Hospital, is the president-elect of the National Medical Association (NMA). When she is installed this summer, she will be the second woman in the 94-year history of the NMA to hold the top post. The

organization represents the nation's approximately 16,000 Black physicians.

Isabelle Hammond, who became a media star when she returned to Howard at age 91 to pick up the studies she had begun in the '20s, died of cardiac arrest October 21. She was 92.

Prophetically, in May 1987 she had told a *Washington Post* reporter: "The truth is, I might not live long enough to graduate, but I'm not doing this for the degree. I'm going to school for the gift of learning."

She was born on February 14, 1896 in the nation's capital. At the age of 9 she made her public piano debut at the 19th Street Baptist Church and music was to be her love — and the source of her livelihood — for most of her life.

In 1916 she became the founder/president of her own music school, the Hammond Institute of Music and Fine Arts, and through this role introduced scores of Washington children to the joys and beauties of music. In 1922 she entered Howard University, hoping to earn a bachelor's degree in music education. But she was forced to drop out to provide for her seven children. In addition to teaching piano, she was a composer, church organist, playwright and community activist.

When she returned to Howard to pick up the thread of her long-deferred college studies, she chose to enroll in a course on the psychology of music. Through it, she told a reporter, she hoped to continue her search for "the relationship of music to the human soul."

The Center for Sickle Cell Disease recently received a \$300,000 grant from the Maternal and Child Health Program, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The grant money will be used for the expansion of newborn screening services in the District of Columbia. □