The Institute on Aging celebrated its 25th anniversary with two major events on October 2 and 3, 1998.

Dr. Robert Butler, a major leader in the field of aging, delivered a 25th anniversary lecture to a standing-room-only crowd on Friday, October 2. In his talk titled “2023: The Promise and Challenges of Longevity,” Dr. Butler spoke of the need to increase awareness of aging and recognize intergenerational dependence. He reviewed medical advances to date and suggested that society would benefit from considering ways to live the later years we have well rather than thoughtlessly pursue more of them. He asked the audience to imagine society in 2023 when the Institute on Aging will celebrate its 50th anniversary. He outlined possible future scenarios in ten areas including social security and medicare, everyday life, women, children, work, citizenship, molecular medicine, the functioning of the human brain, a different way of experiencing aging, and how to end life. He concluded his talk with this question for the future: “it remains to be seen - will life in an older America in the 21st century be characterized by a growing societal maturity - or will humanity remain as is - essentially in adolescence - subject to violence, greed, rapacity, fragile narcissism, - living in the face of our death.” The reception following the talk provided members of the audience the opportunity to speak with Dr. Butler.

On Saturday, October 3, 175 members of the university and local community enjoyed a dinner together at Tripp Commons. Dr. Carol Ryff, described the Institute on Aging’s research, education, and clinical programs and its challenges and opportunities for the future. Dean Virginia Hinshaw of the Graduate School emphasized the importance of aging programs within the University, and Associate Dean Susan Skochelak announced that Aging and Geriatric Medicine is a key priority in the Medical School’s strategic plan for the future. Dr. Butler also addressed this audience, speaking on “Reflection and Rebellion: A New Stage of Life.”

In addition to his talks, Dr. Butler met with physicians, researchers, postdoctoral trainees and geriatric fellows at the VA GRECC during his visit to Madison. They presented their research and clinical programs to him, and he shared his insights about these current initiatives.

The Institute on Aging continues its 25th anniversary celebration and the UW Sesquicentennial with a talk by Dr. Diana Kuh, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London Medical School, London, England. The lecture, which is co-sponsored by the University Lectures Committee, the Center for Demography and Ecology, the Demography of Aging Training Program, the UW Women’s Working Group, and the Department of
Disease risk via at least two pathways: likely exposure to causal low birth weight. Social factors throughout life also affect resistance are particularly strong for overweight adults with risk of coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, and insulin on disease risk in later life. Early life exposures are not merely childhood when environmental insults may have lasting effects periods chronic disease risk. Growing evidence supports processes that operate across the life span and alter adult studies the long term biological, social and psychosocial novel developments in their current revival.

A life course approach (Kuh, D. and Ben-Schlomo, 1997) studies the long term biological, social and psychosocial processes that operate across the life span and alter adult chronic disease risk. Growing evidence supports critical periods of growth and development in utero, early infancy and childhood when environmental insults may have lasting effects on disease risk in later life. Early life exposures are not merely additive but also interact with adult life style. For example, the risk of coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, and insulin resistance are particularly strong for overweight adults with low birth weight. Social factors throughout life also affect disease risk via at least two pathways: likely exposure to causal factors which are part of long term biological chains of risk and through social chains which operate via educational and other psychosocial experiences leading to adverse adult socioeconomic circumstances. Risks from social hazards are likely to accumulate gradually although there are sensitive developmental stages when particular cognitive, emotional and social abilities are more easily acquired than at other ages.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the University of Wisconsin-Madison will make every effort to honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Requests can be responded to more effectivelly if received by the institution as far in advance of the lecture as possible, preferably at least a week. Direct accommodation requests to:
Kay Smith, (608) 263-6404, e-mail: smithk@ssc.wisc.edu

**WISCONSIN ALZHEIMER’S INSTITUTE**

by Mark A. Sager, M.D.
Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute Director

The Wisconsin Legislature in 1996 passed Wisconsin Act 464 providing funds to support the development and operations of the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute (WAI). The WAI is a new, academic center within the UW-Madison Medical School which is dedicated to increasing access to quality dementia-related services throughout Wisconsin through research, education, training, technical assistance and public advocacy.

The National Alzheimer’s Association estimates that almost 100,000 persons in Wisconsin currently suffer from Alzheimer’s disease or a related disorder. Across the United States, Alzheimer’s disease affects up to 4 million older adults and is the most frequent cause of institutionalization for long-term care. In Wisconsin alone, the combined federal and state costs for community and institutionally based long-term care for Alzheimer’s patients are well over $500 million annually. The General Accounting Office estimates that the number of persons with Alzheimer’s disease will increase 51% by the year 2015, indicating that Alzheimer’s disease will continue to be a major and costly public health problem for this state and the country.

In spite of the high cost and high prevalence of Alzheimer’s disease, the availability of services and the quality of care provided to its victims have been problematic in many areas. The skills needed to care for persons with cognitive disabilities are often very different from those skills needed to care for persons with physical disabilities. Because of this, dementia caregivers require additional training that is frequently not available or is hard to find. There has been a need for an organization like the WAI to provide leadership in developing standards of care, training of professionals and timely technical assistance and consultation to service providers.
To accomplish these objectives, the WAI will develop partnerships with the Bureau of Aging and Long Term Care Resources, Alzheimer’s Association Chapters, Area Agencies on Aging and other public and private organizations. The goal is to become an institute without walls and to encourage participation from persons and organizations with diverse backgrounds and experiences. The composition of the current WAI Board of Directors reflects this commitment to statewide participation.

The WAI intends to make major contributions in the following areas:

- Prepare teaching materials for dementia care providers in all long-term care settings
- Transform local or regional clinics into Centers of Excellence which will provide hands on training to care providers
- Set up an Alzheimer’s clearinghouse which will provide information about current research, best practices in the field and emerging topics and breakthroughs
- Within health care settings, establish Dementia Diagnostic Centers in areas of the state with limited access to interdisciplinary dementia services and partnerships

The WAI has already been able to attract federal and private funds needed for its planning/developmental phase. This offers Wisconsin an opportunity to take advantage of a public/private partnership that can radically improve the quality of care and treatment of people with Alzheimer’s disease.

For more information contact:
Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute
7818 Big Sky Drive, Suite 215
Madison, WI 53719
(608) 829-3300
or view the Alzheimer’s Institute website at:
http://www.medsch.wisc.edu/wai/

IOA ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, RICHARD WEINDRUCH, RECEIVES GSA’S KLEE MEIER AWARD

Madison, Wis.—The Gerontological Society of America has awarded UW Medical School’s professor of medicine Richard Weindruch its 1998 Kleemeier Award for outstanding research in aging.

Weindruch is also co-director of the aging-research group at the Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, associate director for biomedical research at the UW-Madison Institute on Aging, and a scientist at the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center at the William S. Middleton Veterans Administration Hospital.

The Robert W. Kleemeier Award is given annually to a member of the Gerontological Society of America to recognize outstanding research in the field of gerontology. Created in 1965, the award commemorates the former president of the society who made exemplary contributions to the quality of life through research in aging.

An expert on dietary restriction and its effect on aging, Weindruch will present the Kleemeier Award Lecture at the society’s annual scientific meeting next spring. The society is the largest professional organization in the United States focused on aging.

Weindruch was the first to show that starting rodents on a controlled diet even as late as midlife produced longer-lived, healthier animals. He is co-author of the first text on dietary restriction, an in-depth review article in Scientific American and several other reports in prestigious journals.

He directs a research and training program totaling $1.3 million per year. His studies are adding to a growing body of evidence supporting significant age-retarding effects of a calorie-restricted yet nutritious diet. The UW scientist theorizes that dietary restriction may influence cellular energy centers called mitochondria by reducing the number of harmful free radicals produced there.

Weindruch also leads a long-term study aimed at learning if a diet that is 30 percent lower in calories than normal can retard aging in adult rhesus monkeys in a manner similar to what’s been observed in mice and rats. He was recently appointed chairperson of the National Institutes of Health’s Geriatrics and Rehabilitative Medicine Study Section.

(Press release issued by the UW Center for Health Sciences Public Affairs, Rm. 758 WARF)
PRIMATE CENTER NEWS

Primate Center construction underway

Construction has begun on the long-awaited addition to the Primate Center’s building. The new building, with three floors and totaling approximately 18,500 sq. ft., will be devoted to animal housing and associated laboratory and support space. The center’s program on aging and its aged rhesus monkey colony will be one of several direct beneficiaries of the expanded space and state-of-the-art housing areas. There will be a new surgical suite and pathology laboratories in the new addition, as well as an imaging suite. Completion is expected in late summer or fall of 1999.

VA GRECC NEWS

Weindruch interviewed for “48 Hours”

Richard Weindruch was interviewed in October by “48 Hours” about his dietary restriction in an animal model research and his aging rodent colony. The interview is scheduled to be aired on November 11.

JoAnne Robbins presiding president of the Dysphagia Research Society

The Seventh Annual International Meeting of the Dysphagia Research Society was held October 15-17, 1998 in New Orleans, LA. This year’s meeting was sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Medical School, Office of Continuing Education and the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC), William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital. JoAnne Robbins, Ph.D. is this year’s presiding president of the DRS and Co-Chairman of the DRS Program Committee. Molly Carnes, M.D., Gail Gunter Hunt, MSW, ACSW, Mark Nicosia, Ph.D., John C. Rosenbek, Ph.D. and JoAnne Robbins, Ph.D. all served as faculty members to the meeting. Scientific papers were also presented by Jacqueline A. Hind, Ph.D. and James Coyle, Ph.D. from the GRECC Swallowing Laboratory.

MOLLY CARNES EARNS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Molly Carnes, Professor of Medicine, Institute on Aging Steering Committee Member, and Director of the Women Veterans Health Program at the Veterans Hospital, received a five-year Women’s Health Academic Leadership Award from the National Institute on Aging. This award will assist Carnes in personal career development as well as curricular restructuring and program development in Women’s Health at UW-Madison.

EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN’S HEALTH AWARD

The UW Medical School and its partner Meriter Hospital were named one of six National Centers of Excellence in Women’s Health. The award of $1.8 million over four years was made by the U.S. Public Health Service and will be shared by the six centers. Dr. Molly Carnes is the director of the new Center of Excellence in Madison and stated the money will be used for the established clinics dedicated to primary health care, research and education for Wisconsin women of all ages, races and incomes. The UW Women’s Health Clinic in Middleton will serve as the primary clinical care site. Six other area clinics located in Fort Atkinson, Belleville, south Madison, northeast Madison, Madison’s Oakwood Village Apartments and the Veterans Hospital’s Women’s Health Clinic, will establish ties with the center.

The U.S. Public Health Service’s Office on Women’s Health funds the program to establish model centers providing the following:

- Integrated delivery of health care services with an emphasis on prevention and early detection.
- A multidisciplinary research agenda.
- Coordination between clinical services in academia and the surrounding community.
- Educational programs for the general public and health care professionals.
- The integration of a women’s health focus into medical school curriculums.
- A leadership plan to foster the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in academic medicine.
- An evaluation plan to assess project outcomes and effectiveness.

(Excerpted from an article by Gwen Carleton in The Capital Times, October 1, 1998)
HospiceCare Inc. begins a volunteer training session beginning Saturday, January 16, 1999 from 9 a.m. to noon at the HospiceCare Office, 2802 Coho Street, Madison. Anyone interested in assisting HospiceCare in providing care to terminally ill patients and their families in Dane County is invited to attend. Sessions continue on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for 3 weeks. A second volunteer training session will begin Saturday, March 13, 1999 from 9:00 to noon continuing for the following 3 weeks on Monday and Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Hospice volunteers typically provide respite for caregivers and companionship for patients. They may also help with occasional yard or housework, child care, patient transportation or other jobs to enable HospiceCare patients to remain at home. Some volunteers offer bereavement support to families following a patient’s death.

HospiceCare’s training is designed to prepare volunteers to be part of the HospiceCare team. Training will cover communication skills, patient care, spiritual issues and provide a background on the hospice philosophy.

Volunteers also assist with office work, fund development and special events. Attendance at volunteer training is not required to help in these areas.

HospiceCare is a non profit, state licensed Medicare-certified agency dedicated to the care and comfort of terminally ill patients and their families. For more information, or to register, call Kadie Labadie at (608) 276-4660.

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**Subjects Needed for Studies**

The following Swallowing Studies are led by JoAnne Robbins, Ph.D., UW Medical School Associate Professor of Medicine, Director of Swallowing Service at UW Hospital and Clinics, Associate Director for Research for the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center of the Wm. S. Middleton VA Hospital, Affiliate and Steering Committee Member of the UW Institute on Aging, and president of the Dysphagia Research Society:

**Study One: Effects of Aging and Age Related Disease on Swallowing**

Most people take swallowing for granted, but up to 22 percent over age 55 have problems swallowing. University of Wisconsin and Veterans Administration researchers are studying the effects of aging on the swallowing mechanism. Their goal is to develop treatments to help those with swallowing difficulties. The research team is recruiting healthy volunteers between the ages of 55 and 95 who, among other things, do not smoke and are free of speech, swallowing or nervous system problems. Subjects will receive free, painless medical testing (MRI of brain and tongue and an x-ray while swallowing). There are two visits with each taking two to three hours. Subjects will be paid $100. For more information, contact Jackie Hind at 256-1901, ext. 1125.

**Study Two: Randomized Study of Two Interventions for Liquid Aspiration**

Subjects are needed for participation in a nationwide multi-site clinical trial evaluating the effects of treatment techniques on swallowing disorders. Swallowing problems, called dysphagia, affect up to 22% of individuals over 55 years of age. It is believed that swallowing problems may lead to pneumonia and other potentially life threatening illnesses.

The study will compare two common therapeutic techniques, thickened liquids and chin down posturing, to see how they effect swallowing problems and medical outcomes, particularly pneumonia. Participants must have a diagnosis of Parkinson’s Disease and/or Dementia and a suspected swallowing problem. The individuals in the study will be monitored for any change in health status. Approximately 900 subjects from 100 sites will participate over a 3 year period.

For further information contact Jim Coyle, Swallowing Service at 265-8588.

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**Volunteers Needed to Aid HospiceCare Families**

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**IOA AFFILIATES RECOGNIZED**

Emily Auerbach (English) received the 1998 Award for Excellence from the Robert E. Gard Wisconsin Idea Foundation.

Barbara Bowers (Nursing-Academic Affairs) was promoted from associate professor to professor.

Karen Cruikshanks (Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences) was appointed tenured associate professor.

Theodore Garland (Zoology) was named Vilas Associate in the biological sciences. Vilas Associates receive Vilas Trustees funding for further research and scholarly efforts.

Betty Hasselkus (Kinesiology) has been appointed editor of the American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

Nellie Laughlin (Psychology-Psychobiology) received a 1998 Academic Staff Excellence Award for her outstanding work and contributions in research to better understand and prevent childhood lead exposure. Laughlin has also been elected to a three year term as a council member of the Midwestern Psychological Association and to a three year term on the editorial board of the Journal of Neurobehavioral Toxicology and Teratology.

Julie Mares-Perlman (Ophthalmology & Visual Science) was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor.

Mark Markel (Veterinary Medicine-Medical Sciences) was promoted from associate professor to professor.

Joy P. Newmann (Social Work) was promoted from associate professor to professor.

Stephanie Robert (Social Work) is a new UW-Madison assistant professor.

Doris Slesinger (Rural Sociology) was named emeritus faculty.

Bonnie Svarstad (Sociology/Pharmacy) was named the William S. Apple Professor of Pharmacy. Professor Svarstad is a pioneer in social and behavioral pharmacy who has studied psychotropic drugs, factors affecting patient compliance with medication regimens, and attitudes and behavior of pharmacists in patient consultation. Apple, a UW-Madison alumnus and former professor, was chief executive officer of the American Pharmaceutical Association from 1959-1983.

Richard Weindruch (Medicine), IOA Associate Director, has received two awards. One is the Kleemeier Award for research in aging given by the Gerontological Society of America. The second is the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Health Communication given by the UW School of Medicine for best fulfilling the school’s education mission by communicating important health information through the mass media. Professor Weindruch has also been appointed to the editorial board for the new Journal of Anti Aging Medicine.

**IOA AFFILIATES FEATURED IN THE NEWS**

UW-Extension program specialist in aging, Mary Brintnall-Peterson was recently interviewed for an article published in the Wisconsin State Journal regarding the growing number of grandparents that provide childcare for their grandchildren, on a regular basis, when both parents are working. Speculation is that the percentage of relatives providing child care services is increasing.

In a related article, Brintnall-Peterson points out that there is much to be gained from grandparent/grandchild involvement with the following rewards for grandparents: self-worth, pride, caring, contact, laughter, bridging, completion and renewal, and activity. The rewards for children are similar: self worth, example, caring, teaching children how to grow old gracefully, knowledge, change, heritage, hope, happy memories, love and acceptance.

IOA Affiliate Richard Davidson (Psychology) and Ned Kalin (Psychiatry) were featured in the Science article, “Probing the Biology of Emotion” for their methods of exploring the anatomy and chemistry of emotion. Both were also featured in The Scientist article, “Investigators Pinpointing Fear’s Activity in the Brain.” Studies of fear in animals and children are solidifying knowledge about fear and may help with treatment for individuals who are abnormally afraid.

Professor Betty Hasselkus, coordinator of the UW-Madison Occupational Therapy Program, was a Visiting Professor in the School of Occupation and Leisure Sciences in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney-Australia for seven weeks this past summer. During that time, Hasselkus also lectured at Latrobe University in Melbourne.

Professor Hasselkus’ main focus in Australia was working with teaching staff and graduate students on research design and research issues related to geriatric care. Her work in the U.S. has centered on seeking to understand the nature of professional and family caregiving experiences in geriatric care. Additional areas of research include the nature of relative well-being in people with dementia and the relationship of meaningful daily activity to well-being and the everyday ethics of dementia care. Her research has been supported by the Alzheimer’s Association.

Professor Hasselkus was also recently appointed as editor of Occupational Therapy Journal of Research (OTJR). Prior to this appointment she was associate editor of OTJR (5 years) and co-editor of Physical & Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics (3 years).
ELOQUENCE AND EMINENCE LECTURE SERIES

Eloquence and Eminence is a lecture series presented by UW-Madison emeritus faculty from diverse departments across campus. The series is sponsored by the Division of Continuing Studies and the Institute on Aging in cooperation with UW Extension. Lectures presented during the fall semester of this year include “Bacteria Move in Response to the Environment, Just As We Do” by Julius Adler, Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry/Genetics; “Presidential Legal Woes” by Stanley Kutler, Emeritus Professor of History; and “The Viola” by Emeritus Professors Richard Blum and Martha Blum of the School of Music.

Spring lectures will be held the following Sundays at 2 p.m:

February 14, 1998-Elizabeth Fennema, Women’s Studies/Curriculum & Instruction, “Gender and Mathematics: Old and New Perspectives.”


April 11, 1998-John Ross, Environmental Studies/Ag Journalism, “Prairie Time: The Aldo Leopold Reserve Revisited.”

All lectures are held in the Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street, Madison, on Sunday afternoons monthly, with one exception: the November 15 lecture is in Morphy Hall, Humanities Building.

NEWS ON GRANTS

Robert Auerbach, Professor, Zoology, “Differentiation of Mouse Yolk Sac Endothelial Cells” (competitive renewal), NIH.


Kelli Koltyn, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology, “The Influence of Age and Gender on Pain Perception and Selected Psychobiological Responses,” Retirement Research Foundation.

Gayle Love, Assistant Researcher, Institute on Aging, Dynamics of Self Care: Pathways to Resilience,” NIH.

Daniel Muller, Associate Professor, Medicine, “Obesity and fibromyalgia: symptom expression and physiology,” NIH.

GRANTS RECEIVED

Neil C. Binkley, Assistant Professor, Medicine, has received a clinical investigator award from the National Institutes of Health for his project, “Vitamin K and Skeletal Health.” The 3-year award in the amount of $321,408, began September 1.

Neil C. Binkley has also received a supplement from Eli Lilly and Company to continue his study, “H3S-MC-GGGK - Comparison of Raloxifene HCI and Placebo in the Treatment of Postmenopausal Women with Osteoporosis.”

Carol Ryff, Professor, Psychology, was awarded $22,000 by Life Trends, Inc., to prepare a summary edited volume, Midlife in the U.S., which is based on findings emerging from the MIDUS national survey and related studies.

Carol Ryff, Professor, Psychology, received funding from the MacArthur Foundation in the amount of $67,649 for the study, “Resilience and Life Challenges Predicts Responses to Vaccination.” The project began September 1.

Millend Gupta, Assistant Professor, Environment, Textiles, and Design, was awarded $30,000 by the Helen Bader Foundation for his study, “Professional Environmental Assessment Protocol for Assisted Living” (PEAPAL). This is a one-year study which began July 1, 1998.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

11th Annual Colloquium on Aging:
April 22 & 23, 1999
Dinner: Thursday evening, April 22,
Pyle Center (formerly the Wisconsin Center)
Colloquium: Friday, April 23,
Pyle Center (formerly the Wisconsin Center)

12th Annual Colloquium on Aging:
April 27 & 28, 2000
Dinner: Thursday evening, April 27,
Pyle Center (formerly the Wisconsin Center)
Colloquium: Friday, April 28,
Pyle Center (formerly the Wisconsin Center)

INSTITUTE ON AGING WEB SITE
To access the IOA home page:
HTTP://WWW.SSC.WISC.EDU/AGING

INSTITUTE ON AGING DIRECTORS
Interim Director: Carol Ryff, Ph.D., Department of Psychology
Associate Director for Education: Michael Hunt, Arch.D., Department of Environment, Textiles & Design
Associate Director for Biomedical Research: Richard Weindruch, Ph.D., Department of Medicine
Associate Director for Community Relations: James Sykes, M.A., Medical School, International Programs

VA GRECC DIRECTORS
Acting GRECC Director; Acting Associate Director for Clinical Programs; Fellowship Director: Steven Barczi, M.D., Department of Medicine
Associate Director for Research: JoAnne Robbins, Ph.D., Department of Medicine

Aging Notes
IOA Editor: Michael Hunt
IOA Assistant Editor: Kay Smith
IOA Program Assistant: Kathy Page
GRECC Editor: Brian Goodman

Institute on Aging
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Room 2245, 1300 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53706