

NIDDK: 60 Years of Discovery, 1950-2010



The NIDDK was established as the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases in 1950 by U.S. President Harry S. Truman. Sixty years and four name changes later, one thing has never changed: the Institute's commitment to improving health through high-quality research. In 2010, NIDDK celebrated the rich history of advances made possible through the federal investment in research in our laboratories here in Bethesda, MD, and in Phoenix, AZ, and by grantees around the U.S. and beyond.

NIDDK'S SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM: CELEBRATES PAST, LOOKS TO FUTURE

On Tuesday, September 21, 2010, NIDDK hosted, "Unlocking the Secrets of Science: Building the Foundation for Future Advances," a scientific symposium to highlight research advances made possible, in part, with NIDDK support. NIDDK director, Dr. Griffin Rodgers, welcomed all in attendance to what promised to be an exciting day of cutting-edge scientific presentations. Former NIDDK directors Dr. Lester B. Salans (Mount Sinai Medical School and Forest Laboratories), Dr. Phillip Gordon (NIDDK), and Dr. Allen M. Spiegel (Albert Einstein College of Medicine) chaired scientific sessions on Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Nutrition, Hematology, and Urology; and Endocrinology, Education, Outreach, and the NIDDK Intramural Research Program. Each session featured three presentations from distinguished scientists spanning NIDDK's research mission.



Photo: Ernie Branson

Session 1: Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

C. Ronald Kahn, M.D., *Insulin Resistance and Metabolic Disease: An Integrative Systems Biology Approach*
 Jeffrey Gordon, M.D., *Our Human Gut Microbiome: Dining in with Trillions of Fascinating Friends*
 Eric Neilson, M.D., *The Origin of Fibroblasts During Tissue Fibrogenesis*

Session 2: Nutrition, Hematology, and Urology

Jeffrey Friedman, M.D., *The New Biology of Obesity*
 Nancy Andrews, M.D., *New Roles for the Classical Transferrin Receptor*
 John McConnell, M.D., *Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia: It's Not as Simple as We Thought*

Session 3: Endocrinology, Education, Outreach, and Intramural

Jeffrey Flier, M.D., *Resistance to Action: Hormonal and Decanal*
 James R. Gavin, III, M.D., *Transforming Science into Educational Programs: NIDDK and 60 Years of Outreach*
 Gary Felsenfeld, Ph.D., *Chromatin Boundaries, Insulators, and the Epigenetic Regulation of Gene Expression*

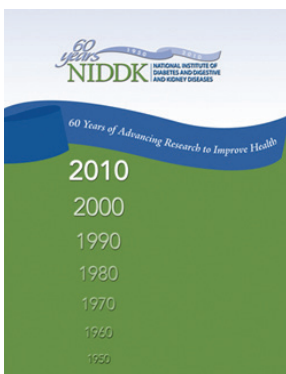
One way the Institute is building on its accomplishments is by nurturing early career scientists, 12 of whom were recognized and selected to receive the NIDDK 60th Anniversary Early Career Investigator/Scholar Awards for 2010. By demonstrating leadership, creativity, and excellence in their pursuit of scientific knowledge, they are building on the foundation of NIDDK research in the past and achieving the progress of medical research in the future. Working on the NIH campus and at grantee institutions throughout the U.S., these men and women represent the promise of a future that will continue to benefit the health and longevity of generations of people throughout our Nation and the world.

One clear message took shape as the day-long symposium came to a close, research has laid the groundwork for today's discoveries, and NIDDK looks forward to building on this progress to propel scientific discovery in the years ahead toward improving the Nation's health.



During the poster session, Dr. Daniel Appella (NIDDK) discusses his research findings with NIDDK Deputy Director Dr. Gregory Germino. Photo: Ernie Branson

NIDDK: 60 YEARS OF ADVANCING RESEARCH TO IMPROVE HEALTH



The publication *NIDDK: 60 Years of Advancing Research to Improve Health* celebrates the Institute's accomplishments over the past 60 years in supporting and conducting research on some of the most common, chronic, and costly diseases affecting people in this country and around the world, as well as on diseases and disorders that are less widespread but nonetheless devastating in their impacts. Additional information on this compendium can be found here: www2.niddk.nih.gov/AboutNIDDK/ReportsAndStrategicPlanning/SixtiethAnniversary/



Three former directors of NIDDK joined current NIDDK Director Dr. Griffin Rodgers (second from left) at the Institute's 60th anniversary symposium. At left, former directors Dr. Lester B. Salans; second from right, Dr. Phillip Gorden; at right, Dr. Allen M. Spiegel. Photo: Ernie Branson



NIDDK 60th Anniversary Early Career Investigator/Scholar Awards. Seated left to right: Ajay Chawla, M.D., Ph.D., Stanford School of Medicine; Martin T. Zanni, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin; Clara Abraham, M.D., Yale University; Karen Guillemin, Ph.D., University of Oregon; Matthias H. Tschöp, M.D., University of Cincinnati; Laura M. Calvi, M.D., University of Rochester Medical Center. Standing left to right: Jeremy S. Duffield, M.D., Ph.D., University of Washington, Seattle; Daniel Appella, Ph.D., NIDDK; Susan Buchanan, Ph.D., NIDDK; Orna Cohen-Fix, Ph.D., NIDDK; Alexandra C. McPherron, Ph.D., NIDDK; Kristin V. Tarbell, Ph.D., NIDDK. Standing right: Dr. Griffin Rodgers presented the awards. Photo: Ernie Branson

CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST

Members of Congress, congressional staffers, and representatives of many scientific and patient advocacy organizations celebrated the 60th anniversary with a congressional breakfast on Capitol Hill. The coalition presented NIDDK Distinguished Scientist Awards to two NIDDK grantees and a former NIDDK director. Dr. David Nathan (Massachusetts General Hospital) was recognized for his leadership and vision in NIDDK-supported diabetes research. Dr. Jeffrey Gordon (Washington University in St. Louis) was cited for his groundbreaking work on the role of bacteria residing in the human digestive tract in health and disease. Dr. Phillip Gordon, a former NIDDK director, was honored for both his leadership as NIDDK director and for his research on insulin action and insulin resistance in diabetes. In addition, the current NIDDK director, Dr. Griffin Rodgers, presented the NIDDK Early Career Investigator Award to Dr. Theo Heller (NIDDK Liver Diseases Branch) for his research on basic and clinical aspects of viral hepatitis.



Dr. Griffin Rodgers (*l*) chats with (*from l*) Ms. Kim Hollander and Mr. Brett Rosen of the Oxalosis and Hyperoxaluria Foundation and U.S. House Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY). Photo: Bill Branson



From left: Drs. David Nathan, Jeffrey Gordon, Theo Heller, and Phillip Gordon
Photo: Bill Branson

111th Congress
2nd Session

H. RES. 1444

*Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JUNE 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. SHIMKUS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Whereas the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) leads the Nation's Federal commitment to research, research training, and science-based education and health information dissemination with respect to diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic diseases, digestive and liver diseases, nutritional disorders, obesity, kidney diseases, urologic diseases, and hematologic diseases;

Whereas the Institute was originally established in 1950 through the Omnibus Medical Research Act as the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, was renamed several times during the ensuing decades, and was renamed in 1986 as the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases;

Whereas the chronic and costly diseases and disorders within the Institute's mission together affect millions of Americans, and range from some of the Nation's most common diseases and disorders to those which are more rare;

Whereas the Institute supports research by extramural scientists at academic and other medical research institutions across the Nation, as well as research by scientists in the Institute's intramural program;

Whereas the Institute supports basic, clinical, population, and translational research in laboratory, clinic, and community settings throughout the country;

Whereas the NIDDK pursues research efforts to benefit all individuals burdened by diseases and disorders within the Institute's mission, including both men and women, older and younger adults, children, minority populations who are disproportionately affected by many of these diseases, and people from economically disadvantaged backgrounds;

Whereas NIDDK-supported research discoveries have dramatically increased vital understanding of the biologic mechanisms and behavioral and environmental factors that contribute to health and disease—knowledge which has propelled the development of intervention strategies;

Whereas research conducted and supported by the NIDDK has been instrumental in revolutionizing prevention, diagnosis, and treatment strategies for individuals who have, or are at risk for, diseases and disorders within the Institute's mission, leading to remarkable improvements in health and quality of life;

Whereas the NIDDK has been a leader in research training and mentoring efforts, from summer programs for high school and college students with special opportunities for underrepresented minorities, to fellowships for graduate and medical students and postdoctoral researchers, to support for early-career and established investigators, in order to ensure that critical biomedical research will continue into the future;

Whereas the Institute additionally sponsors education and outreach programs, with materials tailored for diverse audiences, to improve health by disseminating science-based information to patients and their families, those at risk for disease, health care professionals, and the general public;

Whereas the Institute has been a leader in collaborative and coordinated research efforts and science-based education programs, in order to maximize the Federal investment in research and synergize expertise across the National Institutes of Health, with other Federal agencies, and with public and private organizations;

Whereas the burden of diabetes, endocrine and metabolic diseases, digestive diseases, nutritional disorders, obesity, and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases remains a public health challenge for the Nation; and

Whereas NIDDK-supported investigators continue to make strides in research toward understanding, preventing, and treating type 1 diabetes; type 2 diabetes; gestational, monogenic, and other forms of diabetes, and diabetic complications; other endocrine and metabolic diseases, including cystic fibrosis, osteoporosis, and lysosomal storage disorders; digestive diseases, including those affecting the gastrointestinal tract, pancreas, liver, and biliary system; inflammatory bowel disease; nutritional disorders, including Celiac disease; obesity; kidney diseases, including chronic kidney disease and acute kidney injury, polycystic kidney disease, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, end-stage renal disease, and other kidney diseases; urologic diseases and disorders, such as urinary incontinence, urinary tract infections, interstitial cystitis/painful bladder syndrome, chronic prostatitis/chronic pelvic pain syndrome, and kidney stones; and hematologic diseases, including anemias and other blood disorders: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commemorates the 60th anniversary of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), and commends the Institute for its leadership in research, research training, and science-based education programs; (2) recognizes—(A) the Institute-supported extramural and intramural scientists whose studies have improved human health, and whose research continues to yield promising discoveries; (B) the volunteers who participate in clinical studies; and (C) the patient and professional health organizations who contribute to the shared research goals of preventing, treating, and curing the diseases and disorders within the Institute's mission; and (3) reaffirms support for the NIDDK and its continued commitment to research to improve health.

EVENTS HELD IN 2010

Several professional research societies partnered with NIDDK to celebrate the 60th anniversary by holding special events during their annual meetings.

May 1	American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
May 2	American Gastroenterological Association
May 31	American Urological Association
June 19-22	The Endocrine Society
June 26	American Diabetes Association
July 9-10	International Society on Hypertension in Blacks
July 14	Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior
Aug. 2	National Medical Association
Aug. 7	Association of American Indian Physicians
Aug. 22	American Chemical Society
Sept. 21	NIDDK's Research Symposia
Oct. 8 & 10	The Obesity Society
Oct. 15-19	American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
Oct. 29-Nov. 2	American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
Nov. 2-6	American Society of Human Genetics
Nov. 16-21	American Society of Nephrology
Dec. 4-7	American Society of Hematology



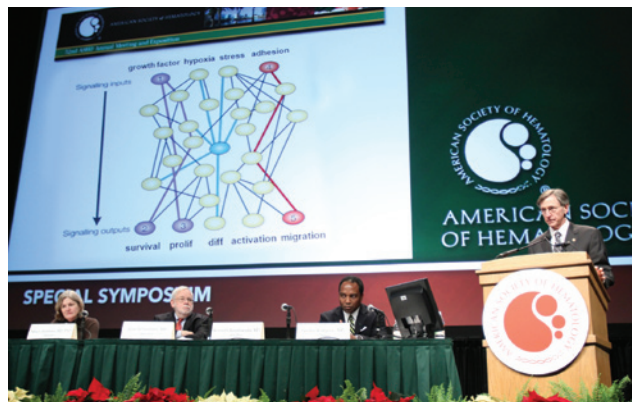
An NIDDK symposium on diabetes and obesity, held on June 26 at the American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions in Orlando, FL.

Photo: Lagniappe Photography, courtesy of the American Diabetes Association



From left: Dr. Charles N. Rotimi, National Human Genome Research Institute; Dr. Suzanne Nicholas, University of California Los Angeles; Dr. Lawrence Agodoa, NIDDK; Dr. Griffin Rodgers, NIDDK; and Dr. Shawna Nesbitt, president of the International Society on Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB); at the July 9-10 annual ISHIB meeting in Arlington, VA.

Photo: Courtesy of the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks



A special NIDDK 60th anniversary symposium held during the 52nd annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology in Orlando, FL. From left: Dr. Nancy Andrews, Duke University; Dr. Alan Schechter, NIDDK; Dr. Griffin Rodgers, NIDDK; and Dr. Kenneth Kaushansky, Stony Brook University.

Photo: Armando Solares, courtesy of the American Society of Hematology