

THE POINT

A newsletter for and about the people of the
U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command



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Col. Ron Poropatich, deputy director of Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center, explains to 10th graders how his job as a scientist is important to military medicine and protects lives on the battlefield.

Scientists from the Medical Research and Materiel Command, Fort Detrick, Md., showed local 10th graders just how “high-tech” medical jobs in the military are during a career conference at the Frederick Community College May 29.

Participating in the Future Link Conference with other educators and companies, the research scientists set up hands-on displays with advanced medical equipment to let kids know science, engineering and math is “cool” as well as used to save lives on the battlefield.

“We need to promote science and engineering to the local community to foster local children’s interest,” said Col. Ron Poropatich, deputy director for MRMC’s Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center.

Educational analysts have long been concerned about lagging student interest in science careers. The 2006 National Academy of Sciences report, “Rising Above the Gathering Storm,” confirmed that maintaining

America’s global and economic leadership demands science, mathematics and technology education as priorities in our schools. These observations have changed national curriculum from paper and pencil modes of teaching to hands on, inquiry based instruction in order to stimulate those critical professionals of tomorrow to explore training and careers in the science arena.

TATRC is the Army’s lead agency for medical research, development, and acquisition, medical information management, information technology, medical logistics management, and health facility planning and as such gave the children a perspective they can’t always get in a classroom.

Other TATRC representatives who participated in the conference were Ashley Glenn and Adam Kisielewski who discussed their careers and opportunities so futuristic that students may think they only exist on the pages of science fiction novels.

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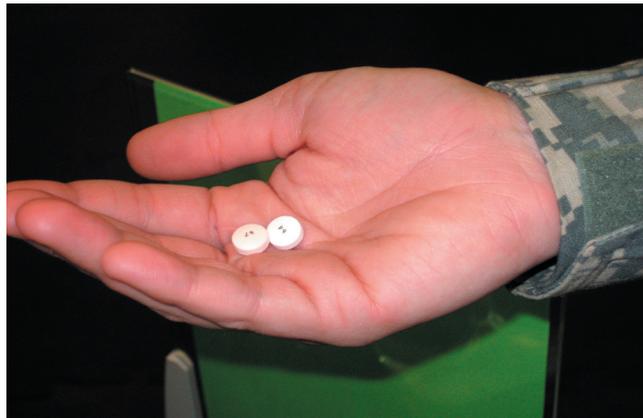
Adenovirus vaccine license being reviewed

A vaccine that will improve the health of military recruits during basic training by preventing the acute respiratory disease caused by the adenovirus is being developed through a joint effort by MRMC's U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, the Naval Health Research Center, as well as commercial industry partners.

Due to the stress and close living situations, basic trainees are at increased risk for a number of infections, illnesses and injuries. Large numbers of military recruits are susceptible to the adenovirus, which spreads easily in this setting via direct contact, airborne transmission and droplet transmission.

Despite hygienic measures taken to prevent transmission, ARD outbreaks occur repeatedly in training bases "because you've got bus loads of new susceptible people coming in, several times a week or everyday, and they are physically stressed, living close together and often not getting enough sleep," explained Col. Arthur Brown, Adenovirus Vaccine Product Manager at USAMMDA.

The adenovirus causes an acute upper-respiratory disease associated with pharyngitis, conjunctivitis, rhi-



The adenovirus vaccine protects Soldiers living in close quarters from the acute respiratory disease caused by the adenovirus.

nitis and, occasionally, pneumonia, said Brown.

Recruits contracting the disease can show a range of symptoms, some of which result in missed training due to bed rest or hospitalization. If too many days of training are missed, then the recruit has to repeat part of the training cycle, delaying or preventing entry into their military jobs.

In the past, another company made an adenovirus vaccine which was used to prevent ARDs. However, in 1995, the manufacturer ceased production of the vaccine. In 1999

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Calling these students and their Generation Y cohorts, the greatest innovators for the future, Glenn explained just how significant their life-long familiarity with technology will be as they enter the workforce in a few short years.

"They have an anything is possible mind set, and unlike many of today's employees, this group has been immersed in gaming, internet access, and daily use of the sophisticated technology of cell phones and computers since they were toddlers," she said.

Dr. Gary Gilbert, also with TATRC, delved into his robotics program with the children. He

started out his time with the teens showing The Bear, a futurist robot in development, when it was feature on the popular comedy news show The Colbert Report last year.

Although the displays were for most students fun and interactive, sophomore Marissa Gastelle and her classmates didn't take the information provided to them for granted.

"It's fun but students should know it is serious business," said Gastelle.

—Sarah Maxwell, MRMC Public Affairs, Janet Gray, TATRC, and Tiffany Holloway, Standard editor

Collaboration protects Soldiers, nation

What was once a barn for goats is now a place where scientists on the forefront of chemical defense research try and test their theories to help protect and heal the nation's warfighters.



Carol Jacoby, a research scientist for ICD, works in the newly renovated Collaborative Research Facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

A sturdy 6,800 square foot structure made of cement blocks, the barn was transformed into the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense's Collaborative Research Facility at Ab-

erdeen Proving Ground, Md., part of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

The three new labs in the renovated building are within the scope of the ICD's comprehensive Collaborate Research Program, which brings in ideas from scientists outside the institute

that could develop improvements to guard servicemembers from possible chemical weapons attacks.

"The collaborative research here leads to countermeasures to protect the Soldiers and ultimately protects the nation," said Capt. Jeremy Goodin, Research Collaboration Program director.

Many times researchers at institutes like universities, government agencies and other military laboratories will have promising results in a biochemical experiment but will not have the authority to test their theories with chemical agents due to stringent safety requirements. That's where the collaboration program comes in. The other agency will coordinate with the principal investigators at the ICD to safely perform the portion of their experiments that require chemical agent.

"I don't think collaborative research anywhere else in the military is like it is here. It's a really good deal for them and us," said Dr. Jack Baggett, chief of ICD's Program Strategies and Operations Office. "Although the amount of

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the DoD's remaining stockpile was depleted or expired, resulting in an increase in ARD cases and outbreaks among military recruits.

In response to the rising number of ARD cases, development of the Type 4 and 7 adenovirus vaccine was re-established.

Since the military is the only buyer of this vaccine, the DoD provides the funds for research and development.

In July 2004, Barr Pharmaceutical submitted an Investigational New Drug application to the FDA and clinical trials began at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

To receive FDA license, the vaccine must be shown safe and effective in a large, 'phase 3' trial, which required people to volunteer. The

study began in September 2006 at the U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Center of Excellence, Fort Jackson, S.C., and the Naval Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Army and Naval researchers jointly tested the vaccine on 4,000 recruits who volunteered.

The phase 3 clinical trials met their enrollment targets, completed study visits and are being analyzed for inclusion with the FDA license application.

It is estimated that this application will be submitted by the fall of 2008. The FDA then has 10 months to evaluate the application. License is expected in 2009 with the vaccine available later that year.

—Carey Phillips, USAMMDA

ISR invention saves lives of injured servicemembers

A new lifesaving standard of care has garnered the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research here a prestigious recognition: invention of the year.

The innovation, called Damage Control Resuscitation of Severely Injured Soldiers, was named one of the Army's "Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2007."

"The American Association for Trauma Surgeons calls this one of the biggest improvements to trauma care in the last 10 years," said Michael Dubick, senior research pharmacologist for the Institute of Surgical Research. The invention is aimed at saving severely injured soldiers with internal injuries that cannot be compressed using a tourniquet or other device, Dubick said.

The institute focused its attention on severely injured soldiers after analyzing data from an autopsy study that showed 79 percent of servicemembers killed in combat died of hemorrhage, and 70 percent had an injury that couldn't be compressed.

"We needed to find a better way to stop bleeding," Dubick said. "In theater, there was no solution for people with noncompressible injuries."

The innovation involves the fluid resuscitation process, in which IV fluids and blood products are used to stabilize a patient's physiology. The standard method is to administer IV salt solutions in an amount that is three times the patient's blood volume.

If the patient is still bleeding, blood transfusions are given to restore lost blood.

In most cases, this method is effective for wounded troops, but for some severely injured warriors, the massive volume of fluids and blood can create a negative effect, Dubick said.

"The body has only a finite amount of clot-

ting factors," he explained, "and a large volume of fluids can dilute those clotting factors, which reduces their ability to slow down or stop the bleeding."

Under the new standard of care, fluid resuscitation with salt solutions is limited, which keeps the blood pressure from rising too high and "popping" newly formed blood clots. In addition, blood volume is restored using plasma as the primary resuscitation fluid, along with packed red blood cells.

But rather than using the standard of four times the amount of red blood cells to plasma, "we use a ratio of 1-to-1 of plasma to red blood cells," Dubick said.

Dubick said early use of a clotting factor called "rFVIIa" also has been beneficial. The factor normally is used for hemophiliacs, but it has proven beneficial for severely injured warriors. Other blood products, such as platelets and "cryoprecipitate," are used as needed.

The reduction in fluids not only increases the patient's short-term chances of survival, but also helps long-term treatment, since "there is less fluid built up in organs, and surgeons have a better field of operation," Dubick said.

While the innovation is gaining recognition stateside, it already has had a striking impact in the combat theater, decreasing the mortality rate from 65 to 17 percent.

The impact of this change in the standard of care is so striking, Dubick said, that "some liken this standard of care to the first time someone applied antibiotics."

The invention was the only medical innovation to make the Army's Top Ten cut, and marks the third year of the last four that the ISR has made it to the Top Ten list.

—Elaine Wilson, Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office.



Damage Control Resuscitation of Severely Injured Soldiers was named one of the Army's "Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2007."

Institute improves customer service

The U.S. Army Medical Information Technology Center is taking customer service to a new level by expanding its service desks. The improved service will be accompanying a transformation with service management built on a foundation of high technology standards.

Medical professionals and others in the Army Medical Command are receiving faster service due to the transformation of the command's computer customer support desk, which started in April as the U.S. Army Medical Information Technology Center, Medical Research and Materiel Command began deployment of the Enterprise Service Desk.

The new support boasts a consolidated, standard, stable and secure service desk throughout the entire AMEDD infrastructure. The deployment started in the Southeast Regional Medical Command and is scheduled for completion by 2010. Consolidating Tier 1 support for the AMEDD into the ESD will reduce redundancies and achieve significant efficiency improvements and cost savings for the AMEDD.

"This is an extremely important breakthrough in the way AMEDD does business," said Maj. Gen. George Weightman, Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. "The men and women of USAMITC are leveraging technology to improve the level of customer support provided to the command while enhancing the efficiency and security of our critical information management and information technology environments. Information flow is critical to giving the best possible medical care to the warfighter."

Previously, several help desks provided support to end users within AMEDD. While these help desks handled different types of requests for end users, there were often redundancies and duplication of efforts in servicing the customer.

The ESD project eliminates those redundancies. When users, from the health care provider in the hospital to the medical logistician in theater, are

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time to get a project done is a little on the long end compared to the outside research facilities, it's because we are much more careful. We don't rush anything."

The institute's scientists are part of only a handful in the world certified to handle the strongest chemicals, said Goodin. And their expertise is becoming more and more sought after in research communities around the country. Just five years ago, there were only 23 collaborations, and this year the chemical defense program already has 101 projects in the works from dozens of other groups.

"From 2003 to 2008 the collaboration program skyrocketed," said Goodin. "We stood up the CRF to accommodate the needs and interests of investigators."

The facility new facility is expanding ICD's ability to work with other organizations, insuring a steady flow of scientific ingenuity.

Baggett said the science in the collaboration program as well as all the research conducted in ICD's 10 other buildings and laboratories performed by its investigators is verifiable through rigorous testing and documentation. That way, the scientists who submitted their work will know that it can be published and shared with the broader scientific community.

"Collaboration is the way to go," said Goodin. "As a researcher, I've always worked with people in academia. It increases research exponentially and helps publish more papers."

—Sarah Maxwell, MRMC Public Affairs

Bioscience experts share knowledge

The 16th Medical Defense Bioscience Review of research related to development of medical countermeasures to chemical warfare agents and to botulinum toxin convened in Hunt Valley, Md., June 2-6. During the course of the five days national and international subject-matter experts presented their most recent research findings and explored the future needs of the medical chemical defense program.

The biennial review is co-sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or DTRA and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, and hosted by the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. Dr. Margaret Filbert, USAMRICD's director, Office of Consultative Services, chaired the conference with assistance from co-chair Stephanie Froberg, also of USAMRICD.

The theme for this year's review was "Advancing the World of Medical Chemical Defense." Oral presentations and poster sessions covered the topics of nerve agent bioscavengers and biotechnology; anticonvulsants, neuroprotection, improved reacti-vators/restoration of function; cutaneous and ocular therapeutics/vesicant countermeasures; respiratory and systemic therapeutics; botulinum toxin countermeasures; and forensics/diagnostics. Additionally, sessions were held on the clinical perspectives of chemical exposures and on partnerships, collaborations, and consultations.

Eleven countries—Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Israel, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom—were represented among the approximately 470 attendees, who listened to 77 platform speakers and viewed 193 posters.

The guests in attendance included several individuals involved in guid-



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impacted by an IT problem, the ESD will be the single point of contact for anyone needing assistance, said Joe Nystel, ESD operations manager.

The success of the pilot program demonstrated that a single, centralized, remote service help desk can quickly and effectively provide consistent, high-quality IM/IT support services on an enterprise level to all AMEDD end users at or below current funding levels for these services.

As the ESD deployment continues, Lieuten-

ant Colonel Joseph Bentley, USAMITC commander, expects great things from the quality of the IT service support USAMITC provides and the impact that will have on health care providers, patients and the Warfighter.

"Our soldiers and the rest of our military family deserve the best health care available," Bentley said. "As an organization, we are committed to using technology, perfecting our processes and delivering excellent worldwide IT support so they get nothing less than they deserve."

—USAMITC Marketing Office

Biologist Mark Widder evaluates a mammal cell-based sensor that responds to military-relevant chemicals in the U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research's laboratory. The sensor is part of the Environmental Sentinel Biomonitor System under development for rapid identification of drinking water toxicity.



MRMC showcases medical technology

Sgt. Nathan Ledoux, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, provided an active-duty Soldier's prospective while demonstrating the advanced medical



products developed by MRMC to Congressional members and staff on Capital Hill May 13.

The MRMC interactive displays embraced the theme "Empowering Soldiers through High-Technology" to provide a better understanding of the Army's efforts to enhance situational

awareness and survivability of U.S. Forces.

In the field of medical research and development, high-technology includes, but is not limited to products ranging from vaccines to alternate sources of providing oxygen.

The products displayed on the

Hill were developed by the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity and included the Combined Camouflage Face Paint, which incorporates insect repellent, and the Improved First Aid Kit, which is now given to every Soldier on the battlefield.

People in the News

Howell recognized as notable in medical device field

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command's Bill Howell was selected above many of his civilian peers by the Medical Device & Diagnostic Industry as being one of the most notable people in his field.

As MRMC's Principle Assistant for Acquisition since 2005, Howell's leadership impacts more than \$300 million in medical technology development from proof-of-concept through to procurement, according to his nomination letter.

"We are aware that the military, in particular, the U.S. Army, through its U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, is a major contributor of the funds and manpower to medical device development," said Sherrie Conroy, editor-in-chief MD&DI magazine, which is the industry's leader in news and information.

Hemostatic (chitosan) bandages and digitally enhanced imaging are just two examples of equipment developed through Howell's office to meet the Army's needs but are now a part of the greater civilian healthcare industry.

"I was very surprised but pleased by such recognition because it comes from the commercial medical device industry vice the military establishment," said Howell.

Being recognized in his field highlights a major challenge in his job. He is responsible for keeping the Army's needs in the forefront while putting them into the context of the business commodity in which the industry operates, he said.

The pharmaceutical industry, which produces the Army's drugs and vaccines, is dominated by large-scale firms, but innovation is largely driven by small start-up biotech firms.

In the device market, firms range from gi-



ants like Johnson and Johnson to one product line companies such as Hemcon, Inc. It's his job to know how to work with the "menagerie" of firms to forge partnerships that will help give Soldiers the best medical products available, translating to the best care possible.

"If I have any accomplishments to tout, it is my ability to understand the market segments, be flexible in how I approach their potentials, and remember that both sides (industry and the Army) must be satisfied to build a lasting supplier of valuable goods," he said.

Howell added that MRMC has been very successful and in some

areas leads the medical device market with its ability to collaborate with industry to field hundreds of products and search for new innovations that have the potential to save the lives of Soldiers and civilians.

"Not only did we satisfy the Army's need, but we helped an industry market that keeps our partners financially stable and able to continue to provide modernized equipment into the future," he said. "A classic win-win that meets everyone's needs."

Howell is set to retire this fall after 34 years in government service, working for the U.S. Army Medical Command for the last 25. His expertise and leadership in MRMC will be missed tremendously, said Maj. Gen. George Weightman MRMC commander.

"Bill Howell is a godsend and has single handedly had the greatest impact on MRMC of anyone who has ever worked here," said Weightman.

"Bill is a master of the acquisition process; however, his true value is in making a seamless transition from our advanced development concepts to acquiring real products that we can provide to the warfighter."

—Sarah Maxwell, MRMC Public Affairs

People in the News

USAARL Researchers Receive Award

Lt. Col. Ian P. Curry and Maj. Richard A. Roller, both of the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory, were awarded the U.S. Army Aviation Medical Association's Joseph L. Haley Award for their September 2007 technical report entitled "A Physiological and Human Factors Evaluation of a Novel Personal Helicopter Oxygen Delivery System (PHODS), USAARL Technical Report 2007-14."

The award was founded in recognition of Joseph L. Haley's contributions to the aeromedical safety literature and is given each year to the best publication in the area of rotary wing aviation medicine.

After learning he received the award Roller said, "Receiving this award is such an honor. It gives me great satisfaction that our research has helped to field essential physiological equipment to our aviation community in direct support of OIF/OEF."

Following a rigorous two-ballot voting process, the USAARL report was judged superior to the other nominees. The paper's detailed physiological and human factors evaluation of the PHODS for potential use by U.S. Army helicopter air crew exposed to moderately high altitudes was identified as excelling in information, science, methods and appearance.

"I am honored to receive this award from



USAARL's Joseph L. Haley Award recipients Lt. Col. Ian Curry (left) and Maj. Richard Roller.

such an eminent organization," said Curry, the primary author on the paper. "I only hope that our efforts will make the operational role of air crew safer."

Curry is a British Army physician and helicopter pilot currently serving at USAARL as an exchange officer.

The award was presented to Curry by the USAAvMA President and Acting Chair of the Awards Committee, Col. John Campbell, at USAAvMA's annual luncheon in May 2008 in Boston, Mass. The USAAvMA is a constituent member of the Aerospace Medical Association.

—Lorraine StOnge, USAARL



MRCM Commander Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman visited USARIEM in Natick, Mass. in March.

Hosted by Col. Beau Freund, commander, USARIEM, Weightman received a USARIEM overview and a tour of key research facilities and current studies.

Pictured left to right: Col. Gaston Batholon, Deputy Commander, USARIEM; Maj. Gen. George Weightman; Col. Beau Freund and Maj. William Latzka, executive officer.

People in the News

Elected to Sports Medicine Board

Dr. Scott Montain, a research physiologist, in the Military Nutrition Division at USARIEM has been elected to the American College of Sports Medicine Board of Trustees. He will be serving a three-year term that started in June 2008.

ACSM is an international scientific organization with more than 20,000 members devoted to promoting healthy lifestyles through sports medicine and exercise science. The Board of Trustees serves as a decision making panel for the ACSM.

Promoted to general

Col. Timothy K. Adams was selected to be the chief of the Army Veterinary Corps and also to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. He was the commander of the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Appointed section chair

In May 2007 U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine's Michael N. Swaka took over as Chair of the environmental and Exercise Physiology Section of American Physiological Society.

Swaka currently holds the position of chief,

Thermal and Mountain Medicine Division at the USARIEM in Natick, Ma. His research interests include adaptation and maladaptation to environmental extremes, thermoregulation, fluid/electrolyte balance and blood volume control, according to the article in *The Physiologist*, Vol. 50, No.5, 2007.

His laboratory not only conducts basics and applied research in these areas, but translated scientific information into medical doctrine for military operations at environmental extremes. As chair Swaka said he hopes to continue and build on the EEP Section's tradition of being responsive to its members, providing high-quality programming and numerous award opportunities.

New leadership position

Leonard A. Smith, Ph.D., a world renowned scientist at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, has been selected to fill one of just 42 elite positions in the U.S. Army.

He is the Institute's newest "ST," a designation given to scientists and engineers who combine world-class technical expertise with demonstrated scientific leadership. Smith currently heads the Department of Molecular Biology in the Division of Integrated Toxicology.



Col. James S. McGhee presents USAARL's Dr. Valeta Carol Chancey the Medallion of Excellence and Certificate of Recognition from the U.S. Army Medical Command Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs, Fort Sam Houston, Texas .

Chancey was recognized for her nomination as a finalist competing for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Role Model Award at the MEDCOM level during National Women's History Month. Her outstanding performance as a research biomedical engineer, principal investigator, a role model to junior researchers, and her contributions to the Army contributed to the award.

People in the News

Project representatives

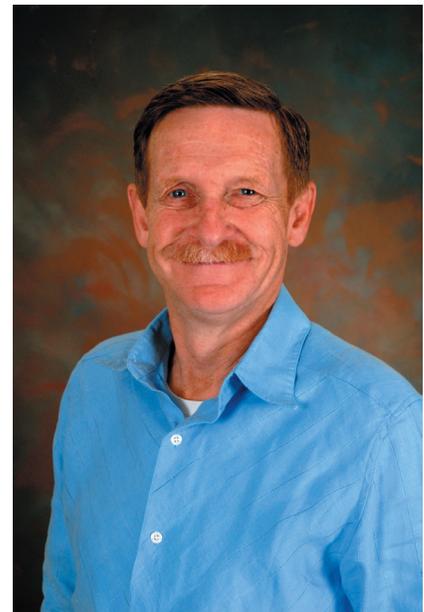
Dr. Arthur Estrada and Dr. Angus Rupert of the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Fort Rucker, Ala., were recently asked to serve as team members on the National Space Biomedical Research Institute, Sensorimotor Adaptation Research Team's project entitled "Sensorimotor displays and controls to enhance the safety of human/machine cooperation during lunar landing."

The multi-institutional team includes experts in aerospace human factors, manual and supervisory control, display design, human spatial disorientation, simulation, statistical data analysis, and design of human experiments.

The proposed research will focus on designing and testing display and control systems for the space environment to optimize performance and spaceflight human system



Dr. Arthur Estrada



Dr. Angus Rupert

standards. The project will also address questions related to sensorimotor capability to perform operational tasks and pairing the cognitive ability of crewmembers to task demands.

The project's kick off meeting was held at Massachusetts

Institute of Technology in May 2008.

In addition, USAARL's research flight simulator will play an important part in validating lunar landing displays and control parameters."

—Lorraine StOnge, USAARL

USAMRICD hosts DTRA visit

About 30 individuals from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or DTRA, visited the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., in April 2008, for a closer look at many of the institute's research programs and capabilities.

After being welcomed by Col Harry Slife, the institute deputy commander at the time, the visitors began their tour of the USAMRICD with the lab in which inhalation studies are done.

These studies are focusing on the pulmonary effects of inhaled sulfur mustard and investigating possible ways of preventing or ameliorating these effects.

Next, in the Analytical Instrumentation Lab, they learned how biological tissue samples are collected and evaluated for confirmation of exposure to chemical agents.

They also visited the Bioscavenger Lab for a presentation on the bioscavenger concept and current status of the research to develop this revolutionary medical countermeasure that so far appears to be an effective chemical agent prophylactic without adverse side effects. A live demonstration of the institute's molecular modeling capabilities followed, as did an overview of USAMRICD's newest state-of-the-art equipment, the multiphoton microscope, which was funded through DTRA.

The visitors were well received by the USAMRICD and said they were impressed by the medical defense research being done at the institute in support of the warfighter and the nation's civilian population.

—Joanne Holloway and Cindy Kronman, USAMRICD

People in the News

USAMRICD highlights

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense congratulates its 2008 Baltimore Federal Executive Board award winners:

Donald L. Mathis received the gold award for Rookie of the Year, Trades and Crafts.

Silver award winners from the institute are Charles Hurst in the Outstanding Supervisor - GS13 and Above category, Christina Tompkins in the Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support category, and Patricia West, Outstanding Administrative Assistant/Management.

Bronze winners are Douglas Cerasoli, Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Pro-

gram Support, Rosalie Holland, Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative/Management Analyst, Kevin Webb, Outstanding Trades & Crafts (Non-Supervisory), Offie Clark,

Volunteer Service - Individual Award, and Lloyd Wallace, Rookie of the Year Technical Scientific & Program Support.

USAMRICD Promotions

Lt. Col. Maurice Sipos
Maj. Patrick McNutt
1st Lt. Shuqunta Davis (Direct Commission)
Warrant Officer Ontonnio Banks
Staff Sgt. Jeromy Moorhead
Staff Sgt. Bountieng Somsamayvong
Sgt. Nicholas Rogers

Reenlistment

Staff Sgt. Bountieng Somsamayvong

Awards

Lt. Col. Jaime Anderson Meritorious Service Medal
Lt. Col. Kevin Armstrong Meritorious Service Medal
Capt. Jeremy Goodin Army Commendation Medal
Sgt. 1st Class John Evans Army Commendation Medal and Army Achievement Medal
Sgt. 1st Class Willie Thorne Army Commendation Medal
Staff Sgt. James Barclay Army Achievement Medal
Spc, David Holohan Army Commendation Medal

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the nation's chemical and biological defense efforts, and the conference opened with addresses from each of them, following welcome remarks from Col. Timothy Adams, USAMRICD's commander at the time.

Among the notable speakers were Dr. Darrell Galloway, director of the Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense at DTRA, Maj. Gen. George Weightman, commander of USAMRMC, Jean Reed, special assistant, Chemical and Biological Defense and Chemical Demilitarization Programs, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs), and Maj. Gen. Stephen Reeves, the joint program executive officer for chemical and biological defense.

At the Thursday evening working dinner,

Galloway presented the JSTO-CBM annual medical awards. Dr. Irwin Koplovitz and Dr. Douglas Cerasoli, both of USAMRICD, received the Chemical/Biological Defense Program 2008 Research Scientist of the Year award. The 2008 Joint Research Coordinator of the Year award was presented to Mr. Donald Maxwell of USAMRICD.

The Bioscience Review is the largest international meeting devoted exclusively to research and development against chemical warfare agents and serves to maintain Department of Defense relationships with academic and international laboratories and to establish research corporate collaborations critical to the program.

—Cindy Kronman, USAMRICD

People in the News

USAARL awards ceremony

Spc. Nikkeyla Barbee, Sgt. Robert MacNeill, and Department of the Army Civilians, Diana Hemphill and Elmaree Gordon were awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for an exceptional job organizing and hosting the Black History Month Blood Drive and Health Fair held at USAARL in February 2008.

Over 64 personnel with no deficiencies were processed, making this blood drive one of the largest ever held on Fort Rucker.

Victoria Knighton was also awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for an exceptional job while striving to eliminate the health risks associated with tobacco products.

Knighton voluntarily provided counseling to assist 13 USAARL Soldiers and Civilians to begin the training to stop smoking.

Greatest inventions program

Col. James S. McGhee, USAARL commander, presented Dr. William A. Ahroon the U.S. Army Greatest Inventions Program Award for the noise-immune stethoscope for use in noisy environments.

The award was “presented in recognition of team commitment to improving Army readiness through innovation and developing new technologies that positively impact soldiers,” signed Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, U.S. Army.

Superior civilian award

John G. Ramiccio was presented the Superior Civilian

Service Award for outstanding civil service as Flight Standardization and Operations Officer to USAARL from October 2006 to June 2008.

During this time, Ramiccio has established himself as a key leader responsible for providing USAARL and the U.S. Army Aviation Warfighting Center with unsurpassed aviation support experience and sustaining USAARL as a world-class aviation research facility.



Mr. Ramiccio (left) is presented the Superior Civilian Service Award by Col. James McGhee. Photo by Scott Childress.

Silver anniversary

Rosemary M. Jackson and Alexander R. Haygens were recognized for 25 years of service in the Government of the United States of America.

Patent inventor

Dr. Arthur Estrada, III was officially commended for his significant and creative achievement of co-inventing the Airborne Visibility Indicator System and Method, U.S. Patent Application #11/547,683, filed April 5, 2005.

Col. James S. McGhee,

USAARL Commander, recognized Estrada as a premier example of a researcher who develops innovative concepts to solve problems, persists in transforming those concepts into products, and follows through with applying for a U.S. patent. This is Estrada's second patent application.



Dr. Arthur Estrada (left) is congratulated by Col. James McGhee for his invention.

Equipment Opportunity

USAARL's B. Joseph McEntire was officially commended for his meritorious civilian service and initiative in acquiring biodynamics research platforms and equipment at essentially no cost to the U.S. Government.

McEntire recognized a unique opportunity to acquire serviceable equipment from the dismantling of the National Biodynamics Research Laboratory for the USAARL growth plan. He visited the site, surveyed the equipment and formulated a plan for the acquisition of over \$1.5M worth of equipment for the USAARL.

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People in the News

"Awards," from page 13

His hard work, flexibility, and innovative thinking and brings great credit upon himself, the Injury Biomechanics Branch, the USAARL, and the U.S. Army.



B. Joseph McEntire is congratulated by Col. James McGhee.

Re-enlistments

With the help of Maj. Richard Roller, Sgt. Catherine

Emery re-enlisted during a ceremony in USAARL's JUH-60A research helicopter while hovering over the laboratory in April 2008.

The ceremony was made possible by riding along during a scheduled Air Worthiness flight for testing medical equipment. Emery, an ENT Technician in the Acoustics Branch at USAARL, dedicated an additional six years.

"What other job in the world can you get a three year trip to Hawaii, including spending money, and be able to share your MGIB with your child to help pay for college?" she said after her re-enlistment. "The Army has changed my life in so many ways and I hope to be able to give back as much to the Army as it has given me."

Other recent USAARL re-enlistments include: Staff Sgt. Victoria Reeves in October 2007, Staff Sgt. Jose Palacio

in November 2007, Sgt. William Schober and Spc. Michael Christie in November 2007, Sgt. Don Stirneman in December 2007, and Spc. Phoutthasone Inthalangsy in January 2008.



Sgt. Catherine Emery (left) is with Maj. Richard Roller during a re-enlistment ceremony in USAARL's JUH-60A research helicopter.

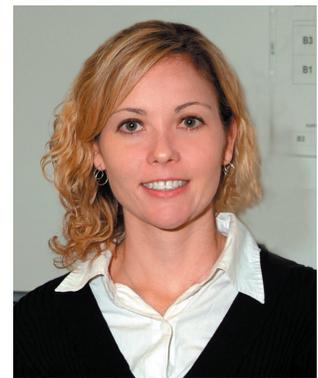
Sleep research lands scientist award

Dr. Tracy Rupp from the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research recently beat out more than 100 other budding scientists to win the National Sleep Foundation Young Investigator Award.

The competition for the award was daunting, she said, and a total of 106 abstracts from young sleep researchers within five years of having obtained the doctoral degree were submitted to the foundation.

Rupp's winning entry was entitled "Sleep Extension Improves Performance and Facilitates Task Acquisition During and Following 7 Nights of Subsequent Sleep Restriction." In her work, Rupp showed that, contrary to current thinking, the recuperative value of extended sleep is "banked" until needed during subsequent sleep restriction.

Each submission was rated by a team of three established sleep researchers. From among the abstracts, the top 16 were chosen, and the authors received an all-expenses-paid trip to the Young Investigators Conference held earlier by the National Sleep Foundation in Washington, DC, where the investigators made oral presentations panels of experts and an audience.



News to Use

ICD establishes consultative services office

As the Department of Defense lead laboratory for the development of medical countermeasures against chemical threat agents, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense is increasingly called upon to provide expert analytical and consultative services related to medical chemical defense research and to the medical management of chemical casualties.

The institute's growing national and international customer base includes other government agencies, academia, pharmaceutical companies and commercial enterprises.

To fulfill this expanding mission, the USAMRICD has established an Office of Consultative Services.

The OCS represents a core capability of the institute and formalizes the consultative process

by integrating the service into our business operations.

Fees for services are necessary to reimburse the institute for the time and effort required to research and answer queries.

A request for consultative services can be initiated by sending an e-mail to mrictaskerPOC@amedd.army.mil or by accessing the USAMRICD webpage, <http://usamricd.apgea.army.mil/>, and clicking on the link to Consultations. This link has a template for the preparation and submission of a statement of work. Upon receipt of a request, the OCS will prepare an estimate of the cost to respond. Once the customer accepts the estimate, a subject-matter expert is assigned to prepare the response. USAMRICD's OCS can be contacted at 410-436-3628 for more information.

—*Dr. Margaret Filbert, USAMRICD*

USAMRAA begins new customer service for funding

The U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity is pleased to announce the formation of its newest Customer Service Center, the CSC Green. Initially, the new CSC will support one of USAMRAA's largest customers, the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs office.

In fiscal year 2007, Congress appropriated \$301 million for research to advance the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury, research that will have the potential to make a significant impact on improving the function, wellness, and overall quality of life for service members as well as their caregivers, families, and the American public.

The CDMRP was given the task of managing the funding.

In support of the CDMRP and the large PTSD/TBI program, USAMRAA stood up a new Customer Service Center — the Green Team, staffed with the chief, Kathryn Dunn, two Account Managers, Susan Dellinger and Kathy Robinson, and 11 other staff members.

—*Vicki Yontz, USAMRAA*