



# Society of Toxicology NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1987

## Sterling-Winthrop Institute Honors Dr. Drobeck

The Sterling-Winthrop Institute has donated \$5,000 to the Society of Toxicology to honor **Dr. Hans Peter Drobeck** upon retirement.

The Society will honor Dr. Drobeck by funding additional Graduate Student Travel Awards for the Society's 1988 Annual Meeting in Dallas.

In a letter to Dr. Drobeck on the occasion of his retirement, SOT President **Jerry Hook** commented on his outstanding contributions to the science of toxicology and to SOT:

"The members of the Society of Toxicology are particularly grateful to you for your leadership in the development and maintenance of our Society. It has been over 25 years since you and a small group of visionary toxicologists recognized the need for a forum for toxicologists to gather together and share their science. In that 25 years you have served in many capacities including four years as Treasurer of the Society. We are absolutely delighted that you are continuing in your leadership role by serving as President of the Carcinogenesis Specialty Section.

"We in the Society of Toxicology honor you at this time of your retirement and extend to you our warmest heartfelt thanks, appreciation and very best wishes. In concert with this thanks from the Society, your company has generously provided a grant of \$5,000 to the Society. I will ask Council to use these funds for travel grants for graduate students to attend the 1988 annual meeting of the Society. I can think of no finer way in which your company can honor you publicly than to associate your name with the encouragement of young scientists in toxicology."

## Reserve Space for Auxiliary Meetings at SOT Annual Meeting

Enclosed with this issue of the Society of Toxicology's Newsletter is a Request for Meeting Space for Related Organizations for the 1988 Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology.

Specialty sections, alumni organizations and others who wish to hold a meeting or social function in meeting space at the Loews Anatole Hotel during the week of the Society meeting, Feb. 15-19, 1988, should return the completed form to the Society headquarters as soon as possible, but no later than Dec. 14, 1987. Space will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, once all of the SOT scientific and social programs have been accompanied.

For additional copies of the form, contact Leslie Dissin at the Society headquarters.

## SOT Ballot Process

The Society of Toxicology has developed a process for the election of officers, councilors and members of the Education and Membership Committees that ensures the confidentiality of members' votes and timely tallying of the results.

Members are provided a photograph and complete bio sketch of each candidate, which are mailed with the ballot to all voting members by January 1, as provided by the By-laws. Preparation of this package is no small task, as it occurs during the preparation of the annual meeting program and *Toxicologist*. The cooperation of the candidates in providing this material to headquarters to meet this tight deadline is appreciated.

Two return envelopes are provided with this mailing: an outer envelope, which is addressed to SOT, and an inner envelope, which ensures the privacy of the members' vote. When the completed ballots are received in the SOT office, the member's name and signature is verified against the list of voting members. On the closing day for receipt of ballots, February 10, the unopened envelopes containing the ballots are sent to the independent accounting firm of Price Waterhouse & Company for tabulation. Price Waterhouse then notifies the President and the Executive Secretary of the voting results, who notify all candidates of the results.

Although several members have questioned the need for two envelopes, the system works well and confidentiality is ensured. Please remember in completing your ballot to vote for the correct number of candidates for each category of candidates and to print and sign your name on the outer envelope. Envelopes that are not so marked will not be forwarded to Price Waterhouse for tabulation.

## Burroughs Wellcome Fund Announces Scholar Award

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund announces a five-year Toxicology Scholar Award of \$300,000 for an individual in a recognized U.S. school in the life sciences.

The program, administered by the Society of Toxicology, is targeted to stimulate teaching, training and research in academic institutions that have a commitment to toxicology as a basic science. Selection is made on the basis of demonstrated ability and potential of the candidate and the strength of commitment of the individual and institution.

Applications must be received by **Dec. 1, 1987**, by the Chairman, Advisory Committee for the Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Award, **Tom S. Miya**, School of Pharmacy, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, 101 Beard Hall 200H, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 966-1121.



Society of Toxicology  
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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**1988 SOT ANNUAL MEETING**  
February 15-19  
Loews Anatole Hotel  
Dallas, Texas

**Deadline for next issues:** November 15, 1987  
January 15, 1988  
March 15, 1988  
May 15, 1988  
June 15, 1988

## President's Message

We are coming down the home stretch for the 1988 Annual Meeting. The abstracts have arrived at the SOT office. In late October, the Program Committee will meet to finalize the program and those of you who have been selected to participate in the plenary session will be notified soon thereafter. In addition to the Program Committee, there is considerable activity on the part of the Awards Committee, chaired by **John Doull**, and the Nominating Committee under **Emil Pfitzer**. We are all quite excited about the 1988 meeting and are looking forward to seeing you all there.

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter, there was considerable activity on the part of the Toxicology Section of IUPHAR in Australia this summer. There were many stimulating papers and several symposia that were well attended; I was delighted to see many of you there. Several SOT members have played important roles in the Toxicology Section of IUPHAR in the past, and I am pleased to report that will continue. Franz Oesch was elected Chairman for 1987-1990, I was elected Co-Chairman, **Erik Dybing** from Norway was elected Treasurer and **Bill Berndt** was elected Councilor. **Karl Netter** was elected Treasurer of IUPHAR.

It is not too early to begin thinking seriously about planning for the next IUTOX meeting in Brighton, England, in 1989. **Perry Gehring** is President of IUTOX and **Jim Gibson** is Secretary-General; under their leadership this will be a strong and dynamic meeting. The Officers and Councilors of SOT would like to see significant participation of SOT members in that 1989 meeting. IUTOX is a young and growing organization, and solid support by SOT will help guarantee its continued growth. It might be appropriate for SOT to provide a limited number of travel awards to encourage attendance at that meeting. This is a subject that needs to be discussed by the membership and will be an important agenda item for discussion at the Annual Business Meeting in Dallas.

Many of you have been active participants in the Gordon Conference on Toxicology. There has been renewed interest in this meeting by SOT members in the last few years, and a great deal of effort has been expended in developing high quality scientific programs, most recently this summer under the leadership of **Steve Aust**. However, there is no guarantee that sponsorship by the Gordon Conference for this meeting will continue; Toxicology does not have the priority it has had in the past. Many SOT members have encouraged the Gordon Conference Management to continue to support the Toxicology Gordon Conference. As President of SOT, I have written to the organizers of the Gordon Conference strongly urging the continuation of this excellent series of meetings. As of this writing, it appears the most we can hope for in the future will be a Gordon Conference on Toxicology presented on alternate years.

Over the last few years we have a significant increase in the participation of women in the affairs of SOT. There are those who feel women are fairly represented in all activities of the SOT and with the significant number of women in training any issue of possible lack of equal opportunity of women in our Society does not exist. There are others, however, who do not agree with this assessment. In an attempt to gain quantitative information regarding the role of women in the activities of SOT, and to gain an assessment of those most personally involved, I have formed a task force to assess the role of women in toxicology and asked the group to provide a report to Council by the 1988 Annual Meeting. The task force is chaired by **Anne Wolven-Garrett** with **Serrine Lau** and **Meryl Karol** and supported by Joan Cassedy. I would encourage those of you with specific comments or suggestions to contact any member of the task force with your thoughts.

Lastly, thanks to **Marshall Steinberg** and his Committee on Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance for their continuing efforts in monitoring legislative activities affecting research animals and for their many activities in informing and educating our legislators. This is an area of obvious importance to all of us and we owe a great deal of thanks to Marshall and his committee for their efforts on our behalf. The activities of the committee in no way absolve us as individual members from corresponding with our legislators, and I encourage you to keep up your efforts on behalf of all of us.

Cheers,

## Member News

**Robert T. Drew**, PhD, Director of Health and Environmental Science Department of the American Petroleum Institute, delivered the 1987 Stockinger Lecture, June 3, 1987, at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference, Montreal, Canada. The lecture is presented in conjunction with the Stockinger Award, which is given by the American Conference of Government Hygienists to an individual who has made significant contributions in the field of industrial toxicology. In his lecture, Dr. Drew reviewed the state of the science of inhalation toxicology.

**Perry J. Gehring**, PhD, DVM, Vice President of Global Agricultural Products Research and Development of the Dow Chemical Company and past President of the Society of Toxicology, is the 1987 recipient of the Toxicology Forum's George Scott Memorial Award, presented to an individual "whose career exemplifies the aims of the Toxicology Forum." Dr. Gehring received a plaque from **Dr. Philippe Shubik**, President of The Toxicology Forum.



**Dr. Perry J. Gehring of Dow Chemical Company, Past President of the Society of Toxicology, receives The Toxicology Forum's Annual George Scott Award from Dr. Philippe Shubik, President of The Toxicology Forum.**

**Robert A. Goyer**, MD, formerly Deputy Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, has returned to his previous position as Professor and Chairman, Department of Pathology, Health Sciences Centre, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada.

**Gary L. Lage**, PhD, formerly Professor of Toxicology and, recently, Chairman, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, has joined Roy F. Weston, Inc., as Project Director in the econENVIRONomics Division, focusing on environmental toxicology projects relating to risk assessment and product liability.

**Mildred S. Christian**, PhD, ATS, President and Director of Research, Argus Research Laboratories, Inc., has been named President-Elect of the Teratology Society.

**Carl R. Morris**, PhD, formerly Senior Toxicologist/Oncologist and Manager with the Environmental Protection Agency, will now be devoting full time to his new business venture, International Chemical Consultants, Alexandria, VA.

**Charles F. Chesney**, DVM, PhD, has joined the management team at ProtaTek International, Inc., a bio-processing genetic engineering firm based in St. Paul, MN. As Vice-President, Dr. Chesney will direct ProtaTek's scientific and regulatory affairs group engaged in producing new biotechnology based products for human and animal health applications.

## SOT Toxicology Resources Information Service (TRIS)

The SOT Committee on Public Communications (CPC) is evaluating the feasibility of establishing a *Toxicology Resource Information Service (TRIS)* to provide SOT members and interested others with direct and rapid information about the availability and location of teaching and public information materials on toxicology and related topics.

The TRIS would contain information about the following types of materials and/or activities: 1. Audiovisuals (filmstrips, slide/tape productions, movies, videotapes); 2. Publications (books, monographs, brochures, leaflets, fliers); 3. Computer software (computer assisted instruction, teaching, data analysis, risk analysis, and utility programs); 4. Teaching materials (syllabi, course/curricula outlines).

The CPC is assessing the feasibility of accessing information in the TRIS by calling a telephone number at the SOT Headquarters, where the TRIS would be stored on computer. The TRIS also will be transformed into a directory for distribution to members and other interested parties and eventually would be directly accessible over the telephone via modem.

The CPC will construct the TRIS directly from information provided by the membership. All SOT members who have developed teaching and/or public informational materials on toxicology in any of the forms described above, are strongly encouraged to provide a description of those materials to the CPC using the attached form. If copies of the actual materials (e.g., brochures, syllabi, etc.) are readily available, please include these as well.

Please mail completed forms to: SOT Toxicology Resource Information service, % **Arthur L. Craigmill**, PhD, Environmental Toxicology Extension, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; (916) 752-2936.

## Organization of Toxicology Consultants

The Roundtable of Toxicology Consultants (RTC) is a newly organized discussion group of toxicology consultants. RTC is not officially sanctioned by SOT or any organization but has met annually at SOT meetings.

RTC currently has standing committees on Finance, Organization, Ethics and Nominations and is about to undertake activities involving a newsletter to members, symposia on pertinent topics, educational programs for the legal profession and insurance programs for consultants.

The RTC has available a list of toxicologists who are willing to do either full- or part-time consulting work. Its purpose is to aid those seeking help with toxicology problems. The list summarizes each consultant's background, experience and specialties and will be supplied without charge to all who request it. Send requests to RTC Referral Service, c/o Toxicon Associates, 34 Everett Street, Natick, MA 01760.

Those who would like to add their names to the list are invited to join the Roundtable. Write or call RTC, PO Box 14082, Baton Rouge, LA 70898; (504) 929-7400.

## Scientists Center for Animal Welfare Publishes Book on Review of Animal Experimentation

The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare has announced a new publication, *Effective Animal Care and Use Committees*, which deals with procedures for the review of animal experimentation at the institutional level by Animal Care and Use Committees.

The committees were established to provide institutions with a means of overseeing laboratories' use and care of experimental animals as mandated by the Public Health Service and now required under recent Federal laws.

The cost is \$45, with discounts available.

To order or for information, contact the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare, 4805 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814; (301) 654-6390.

## Foundation Publishes Guide for Care of Laboratory Animals

The Foundation for Biomedical Research has published *The New Research Environment*, a training package designed for use by research institutions "to promote the highest standards of laboratory animal care and treatment."

According to the Foundation, "The 1986 amendments to the Federal Animal Welfare Act and the revised National Institutes of Health 'Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals' reflect the research scientist's concern for the humane care and treatment of laboratory animals."

The two videotapes examine "timely research concerns, both sociological and practical, ranging from an overview of the animal rights movement—and its impact on research—to practical instruction on how to achieve minimum discomfort to animals in research projects."

Tape one provides a historical perspective of the animal rights movement and its agenda for the future of biomedical research. Tape two consists of three 10-minute segments that outline appropriate laboratory techniques for persons involved in animal research.

The tapes are available in one-half-inch VHS for \$50 and three-fourth-inch U-Matic for \$55. Additional copies of the instructional technique tape (tape two) are available for \$40 each.

To order, send a check or money order to The Foundation for Biomedical Research, 818 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20006.

For further information, contact Mary L. Tobias, Director of Programs.

### FAAT & TAP Fees Increased

The manuscript handling fees for *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology* and *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* have been increased to \$50 per manuscript effective September 1987. Proper payment or purchase orders must accompany all manuscripts.

## Publications of Interest

*AIDS Bibliography*, a 200-page bibliography prepared by the National Library of Medicine for the Third Annual International Conference on AIDS, June 1-5, 1987, Washington, DC, with approximately 2,700 citations, \$24.95 (plus \$3.00 handling charges per order), National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.

*The Biomedical Investigator's Handbook*, reviews major ideas, techniques and procedures related to the use of animals in the laboratory. Prepared in cooperation with the Association of American Medical Colleges, \$10. Contact Foundation for Biomedical Research, 818 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20006; (202) 457-0654.

*Cell Biochemistry and Function*, a journal on cellular biochemistry and its modulation by active agents or disease, Volume 5, 1987, \$120 U.S., 65 £ U.K. Contact Department JSL, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Baffins Lane, Chichester, West Sussex, PO 19 1UD, England.

*Hazardous Waste Regulation: The New Era*, a guide to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act program, \$55 (quantity discount). Contact Hazardous Waste Treatment Council, 1919 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 300, Washington DC 20006; (202) 296-0778.

**Government Publications** listed below are available from the Government Printing Office, Department SSMC, Washington, DC 20402. Payments may be made by check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents or by VISA or MasterCard, furnishing expiration date.

*New Development in Biotechnology—Public Perceptions of Biotechnology* (052-003-01068-2), \$5.50, Office of Technology Assessment.

*Occupational Respiratory Diseases* (17-033-00425-1), \$41, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

*Manual of Microbiologic Monitoring of Laboratory Animals* (017-040-00500-8), \$3.50, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

*From Pollution to Prevention* (052-003-01071-2), \$2.75, Office of Technology Assessment.

**Publications Catalogs** available include:

*Publications of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America*, 677 South Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53711; (608) 273-8080.

*Environmental Books* covering aquatic toxicology, atmospheric analysis, pest control, solid waste management and geotechnical testing from ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103; (215) 299-5585.

*Physical and Engineering and Social Sciences* and other publications of Hemisphere Publishing Corporation, 1010 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20005-4993; or 79 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016-7892.

*Occupational Safety and Health Publications*, International Labor Office, 1750 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20006.

*Task Force on Environmental Cancer and Heart and Lung Disease Publications*, Technical Resources, Inc., 3202 Monroe Street, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852.

## Coming Events

**ISSX/SOT North American Symposium on Endogenous Factors in Toxicology**, Nov. 8–13, 1987, Belleview Biltmore, Clearwater, FL. Contact Nancy Holahan, ISSX, 8113 Coach Street, Potomac, MD 20854; (301) 983-0725.

**Clinical Interpretation of Investigational Drug Data**, Nov. 9–11, 1987, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact The Center for Professional Advancement, P.O. Box H, New Brunswick, NJ 08816-0257; (201) 238-1600.

**Compliance with TSCA Regulations**, Nov. 12–13, 1987, Washington, DC. Contact the Governments Institutes, Inc., 966 Hungerford Drive, #24, Rockville, MD 20850; (301) 251-9250.

**Thirty-Eighth Annual Applied Seminar: Clinical and Analytical Toxicology**, Nov. 12–15, 1987, Tampa, FL. Contact the Institute for Clinical Science, Association of Clinical Scientists, 1833 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103; (215) 568-6866.

**Good Laboratory Practices**, covering compliance with the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency, Nov. 17–19, 1987, Somerset, NJ; Jan. 20–22, 1988, San Francisco Bay Area. Contact The Center for Professional Advancement, P.O. Box H, New Brunswick, NJ 08816-0257; (201) 238-1600.

**Federal High Tech '88**: Nov. 18–19, 1987, Salt Lake City, UT. The National Science Foundation/Department of Defense Interagency Conference on Federal R&D for high technology firms with 500 or fewer employees. Contact Foresight Science & Technology Inc., 2000 P Street, NW, Suite 305, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 833-8844.

**20th Annual Symposium of Society of Toxicology of Canada**, Dec. 1–2, 1987, on Current Concepts in Carcinogenesis; The Role of *In Vitro* Assays in Assessing Carcinogenicity; and Clinical Toxicology in the Elderly. Contact Gordon Krip, PhD, Executive Director, Society of Toxicology of Canada, C.P./P.O. Box 517, Beaconsfield, Quebec H9W 5V1 Canada.

**AIHC Annual Meeting**, Dec. 2, 1987, Washington, DC. Contact American Industrial Health Council, 1330 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 659-0060.

**International Symposium: Immunotoxicity and Carcinogenicity**, Malaga, Spain, Dec. 3–5, 1987, I.P.R. international, 12, rue des Halles, 75001 Paris, (1) 42 33 75 51.

**American College of Toxicology**, 1987 Annual Meeting, Dec. 7–9, 1987, Baltimore, MD. Contact Alexandra Ventura, American College of Toxicology, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814; (301) 571-1840.

**International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology's Third Annual Meeting**, Dec. 10–11, 1987, Arlington, VA.

Program topic is "De Minimis: The Foundation of Sound Safety Regulation Policies." Contact **C. Jelleff Carr**, PhD, Secretary, 6546 Belleview Drive, Columbia, MD 21046; (301) 992-9083.

**Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals Workshop**, Jan. 28–29, 1988, Albuquerque, NM. Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's Office for Protection from Research Risks. Contact Rynda Gibbs, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Office of Continuing Medical Education, 815 Vassar NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131; (505) 277-3942.

**Fifth International Congress of Toxicology**, July 16–21, 1989, Brighton, United Kingdom. Contact IUTOX '89, Congress House, 65 West Drive, Sutton, Surrey SM27NB, UK.

## 1988 Continuing Education

Be sure to reserve Monday, Feb. 15, 1988, for participation in the Continuing Education Courses at the Annual SOT Meeting. The Continuing Education Committee has organized the following six courses with an outstanding slate of speakers. The courses are:

### MORNING:

- 1) Respiratory Tract Toxicology by Classes of Agents
- 2) Methods in Male Reproductive Toxicity: The Evaluation of Spermatogenic Impairment
- 3) Genetic Toxicology

### AFTERNOON:

- 4) Immunotoxicology
- 5) Gastrointestinal Toxicology
- 6) Endocrine Toxicology

Registration materials for the Continuing Education Courses will be included in the Preliminary Program you will be receiving in late November.

These Continuing Education Courses provide a great opportunity for you to improve your understanding of these specialty areas of toxicology! Be sure to register early.

## Missing Journals?

Academic Press is mailing back issues to members who did not receive recent issues of FAAT and TAP. If you are still missing issues, please contact:

Eleanor Berner  
Academic Press, Inc.  
1250 Sixth Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 699-6567

## Watching Washington

### Congressman Waxman Calls for Changes in Product Liability Bill

Rep. Henry Waxman (D.-CA) is calling for a number of changes in House legislation on product liability reform (H.R. 1115), including the provision that would allow compliance with government standards as a defense against general liability and punitive damages.

According to the congressman, the provision "ignores the fact that many government standards provide only minimal protection to the public or are long since outdated by changes in technology."

He also pointed out that, under current law, companies may argue that compliance with government standards constitutes "due care" and claimed that "this is adequate protection for the companies."

In a hearing before the House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Competition, the Congressman suggested changes in the bill, including a reconsideration of the limitations on joint and several liability.

Noting that the bill limits joint and several liability to economic damages only, Waxman said that he does not believe there is sufficient documentation of the need for this limitation.

The main impetus of the drive for product liability reform has shifted to the House during this session of Congress with the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee John Dingell (D.-MI) and the ranking Republican Congressman Norman Lent (R.-NY) supporting the bill, with 74 other House cosponsors.

Waxman, however, has considerable influence on the Committee and his recommendations are likely to receive a great deal of attention.

### Legislation Would Establish National Center for Biotechnology

Legislation pending in the House (H.R. 393) would establish a National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Library of Sciences. Hearings have been held by the House Subcommittee on Health and Long-Term Care, and a companion bill has been introduced in the Senate. Proponents are calling for the public to urge action on the legislation this year.

In a related item, the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council Committee has said, in a report to the Department of Agriculture, that a national strategy that would provide for better coordination of agricultural biotechnology is needed.

The report, "Agriculture Biotechnology: Strategies for National Competitiveness," emphasizes the need for stable funding of biotechnology research and more interaction between private industries and public research institutions.

### USDA Receiving Large Number of Comments on Animal Welfare Act

In mid-August, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service had received approximately 7,000 comments on its proposal for implementing amendments to the Animal Welfare Act, with about 1,200 of the comments from research facilities, about 1,000 from dealers and exhibitors, and the remainder from "the public."

The agency extended the comment period until Aug. 27, 1987. The comment deadline was originally set for the end of May but was extended twice in order to accommodate the large number of com-

ments being received. Marshall Steinberg responded on behalf of the Society of Toxicology, as chairperson of the Committee on Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance.

### Animal Welfare Group Steals Research Animals

A group calling itself the "Band of Mercy" has claimed responsibility for stealing seven pigs and 27 cats (including 11 with toxoplasmosis) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's research facility in Beltsville, MD. The USDA said that toxoplasmosis poses special risk for pregnant women and people with diseases that depress the immune system, such as cancer and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

### NIH Grants Available for Animal Care Programs

The Division of Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health expects to award grants totalling almost \$10 million in fiscal year 1988 for programs upgrading animal facilities and for the development of centralized programs of animal care.

## State Activity

### Proposition 65 Continues To Stir Controversy

Proposition 65, the California law that prohibits the discharge of chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity into waters and calls for warning labels on products, is continuing to cause controversy over whether federal laws and regulations, including Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations, preempt the law. The FDA has called on the California governor to exempt those products that have been approved by the agency, but the state has not yet responded.

The provision on warning labels becomes effective early next year, and those affected are being advised to prepare for implementation, pending any challenge of the law in court.

Meanwhile, a number of other states, including Massachusetts, Louisiana and New York, are considering similar laws.

### State Legislatures Conference Supports Animal Research

Despite the fact that 11 states now have laws prohibiting the release of pound animals for research, the National Conference of State Legislatures recently issued an official policy statement in support of the use of animals in scientific research.

Although the Conference policy noted "firm support" in the use of federal, state and local authority "to ensure the humane treatment of all animals," it pointed out that the Conference "recognizes the vital contribution made by animals to medical and scientific research."

Therefore, the policy said, "We urge the Congress and the Administration . . . to exercise extreme caution in adopting any additional laws or regulations which would prohibit the use of animals in scientific or medical research or would impose such conditions as to make the cost of utilization prohibitive."