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Alumni News

Southern Illinois University Alumni Office

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Results Promising in Allergy Study

A promising new technique for detecting sometimes deadly penicillin allergies in humans has been reported by a research team at SIU and the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla, California.

Results indicate the method could be readily adapted not only to determining whether a person is allergic to the drug, but also to predicting how severe an allergic reaction it might produce in a given individual. Thus it could indicate how much penicillin a patient could tolerate before crossing the reaction threshold.

The research team making the breakthrough is composed of Cal Meyers, SIU organic chemist, and W. B. Dandliker and R. Alonso at the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla. Their discovery was reported in the journal, Immunochemistry.

 Basically, their technique involves measuring the intensity of conflict between antigens and antibodies which erupts when certain foreign agents enter the body. One of these antigenic agents is penicillin. When it enters the bloodstream of certain individuals, antibodies are produced. These antibodies may produce allergic reactions ranging from puffed eyelids to sudden death.

The SIU-Scripps researchers found that by tagging the penicillin molecule with a fluorescent chemical they could follow its behavior as it joined with any antibodies present. If antibodies are present in a blood sample, emitted light from the fluorescent tag changes in a way readily measured by a fluorescence polarometer.

It is believed that fluorescence polarization can be superior to any existing methods of testing for allergy because of its relative accuracy and speed of application. Injured or seriously ill persons needing antibiotics could be tested quickly for possible drug reactions, whereas older methods require uncertain and sometimes dangerous skin tests.

Penicillin was used for the experiments because it is a wide-spectrum drug effective against many illnesses but at the same time provokes wide-ranging allergies. Many doctors hesitate to use it, despite its effectiveness, because of possible side effects.

Members of the SIU-Scripps research team believe the technique can be applied to a wide variety of antigens, even those that cause minor allergies. Fluorescent partial antigens could be stocked in hospitals and blood samples could be tested through a complete series, giving physicians a master “reaction chart” to check any patient beforehand with regard to any possible medication.
Medical Plan Scheduled

The SIU plan for medical education in Illinois, prepared at the request of the state Planning Committee for Education in the Health Fields and authored by Vice President Robert W. MacVicar, will be presented in the March issue of Alumnus magazine.

Also scheduled is an article on the SIU student teaching program, along with other special features, campus news, sports news, and news about alumni and the Alumni Association.

Alumnus is published by the Alumni Association and received by Association members. Subscription price is included in dues payments. Beginning with last month’s issue, the magazine was enlarged by four additional pages to help meet increasing needs of the growing Association membership.

Courses Abroad Offered

SIU will offer a number of summer study courses abroad again this year, including work in English literature, history, music, government, and German and Russian language and travel to selected European countries.

The various study course dates are arranged to coincide with a basic ten-week tour beginning June 17 and including air transportation from St. Louis. A number of travel and study options are available.

Costs will vary from $1,000 to $1,500, generally including tuition, air transportation, travel in Europe, and room and board. Additional information is available from the University Extension Services at either Carbondale or Edwardsville.

To Reveal Council Plan

A new action plan for the Educational Council of 100, organized twenty years ago to promote advancement of education in the lower thirty-one counties of Illinois, will be presented to Council members meeting at SIU in Carbondale February 29.

Dr. Warren D. Tuttle, Harrisburg physician and Council president since 1963, has called for “revitalization, stimulation, and perhaps restructuring” of the organization “to meet the changing times.”

Informal presentations at a preliminary meeting in December indicated that foremost projects to be proposed will deal with development of the junior college; the child who is imbedded in both cultural and financial poverty; human relations, and continued efforts toward school reorganization where it is needed.

Successful Year for Press

Publication of its most successful book to date, an increase of nearly forty percent in overall net sales, and inauguration of three new books series were highlights of the past year for the SIU Press.

Including fifty new titles introduced in 1957, the complete list of publications bearing the SIU Press imprint now totals 300. The Press was established in 1953, but its first book was not published until 1956.

The best selling release to date is Save Me the Waltz, a reprint of a 1932 novel by Zelda Fitzgerald, wife of the famed literary figure of the 1920’s, F. Scott Fitzgerald. Published in April, it already has topped the 10,000-copy mark in sales.

Other SIU Press publications which have reached that level are Illinois: Know Your State, by Mabel Lane Bartlett and John E. Grinnell, published in 1962 and now in third printing, and Contemporary American Novelists, edited by Harry T. Moore, published in 1964 and now in its fourth printing.

The three new series introduced during the year are Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Illustrated Fauna of Illinois, and The Early Works of John Dewey. The Grant series is expected to run to fifteen volumes, the Dewey series to five.

Student Wages Increased

Student workers at SIU have been granted a new pay scale calling for a $1.15 hourly minimum wage—up from a dollar an hour—and a ten-cent hike across the board.

The new scale, affecting approximately 5,000 students, also increases the maximum pay for undergraduate students from $1.75 to $1.85. For graduate students the top is $2.50 an hour.

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Membership is effective for one year from date of payment.

☐ $4.00 1 YEAR  ☐ $100 LIFE MEMBERSHIP  ☐ $100 LIFE MEMBERSHIP (Minimum annual installment payment $10.00)

☐ $5.00 1 YEAR FAMILY (Husband and wife both alumni)  ☐ $125 FAMILY LIFE MEMBERSHIP (Husband and wife both alumni—Minimum annual installment payment $12.50)

Name __________________________________________
(Married alumnae please give maiden and married name)
Address __________________________________________
City and State ____________________________ (ZIP)
Make checks payable to SIU Alumni Association
Students from every county in Illinois were included in SIU's record fall quarter enrollment of 27,788. Again, Cook County led all others with 4,533 students enrolled. Map indicates number of SIU students from each county, figures including both Carbondale and Edwardsville campus enrollment.

**Basketball Book Available**

Saluki basketball fans still can purchase copies of the 1968 *SIU Basketball Yearbook*, which features extensive material on last year's National Invitation Tournament champions.

The 128-page publication, edited by SIU Sports Publicist Fred Huff, contains eighty-four pages of sample clippings from newspapers around the nation reporting Saluki triumphs throughout the 1966-67 season.

Also included are such things as season and all-time SIU records, a run-down on this year's squad, facts about the Arena, and a story on the University's history as it nears its 100th anniversary.

The book is available by mail for $1.50, including postage and handling. Orders should be sent to Basketball Yearbook, SIU Arena, Carbondale, Illinois 62901. Make checks payable to "Basketball Yearbook."

**Saluki Sports**

**BY FRED HUFF**

It's far from being over for members of SIU's basketball, gymnastics, wrestling, and swimming squads as they still have another month—and in some instances much longer—to distinguish themselves in 1968.

The fact, however, that Coach Lew Hartzog's indoor track team opened its season February 1 at Kansas points out the nearness of spring and baseball, tennis, golf, and outdoor track and field.

Never known to be pessimistic, Hartzog is almost wild with his enthusiasm over the 1968 season.

Four freshmen—Steve Thomas, Peoria; Melvin Ryan, New York City; Glenn Ujiye, Burlington, Ontario, Canada, and Bobby Morrow, East St. Louis—lit the fuse last December while competing in an early indoor meet.

The quartet turned in a remarkable 7:43.6 time—third best ever recorded indoors by a freshmen group—to initiate thoughts of a possible record. Villanova currently holds the mark of 7:39.2 with Loyola (Chicago) having the second best effort of 7:40.6. Southern's freshmen will have two more opportunities to better their record as they are scheduled to compete in the Mason-Dixon Games at Louisville February 17 and an invitational meet at Kansas State March 23.

While Hartzog's present plans call for the freshmen group to run together at most of the major outdoor relays this season (despite the fact all are now eligible for varsity action following recent NCAA legislation), there will be plenty of talent available at the varsity level.

It's another relay event, the mile relay, which is causing most excitement around the Saluki camp.

Barring injury, Hartzog feels the present school record of 3:09.2 will be topped in the Salukis' first outing of the season. That will be March 30 at the Arkansas Relays. Principal figures in the mile relay quartet are Chuck Benson, currently star forward on Coach Jack Hartman's basketball team, and Ross MacKenzie.

Benson's track career has been somewhat unbelievable. He spent most of 1967 high jumping, but by mid-season had worked into a spot on the mile relay team and qualified for the NCAA championship meet in the open 440 late in the season. He was sensational in the blue ribbon classic, turning in a :46.2 which was good for a fourth-place finish.

MacKenzie, a veteran performer, is at his all-time best and figures to be a key member of the unit which will also include Thel Jefferies and another from a trio of Herman Gary, Willie Richardson, and Jim Stewart.

Other outstanding performers on this year's squad include Stewart in the 100-yard dash, MacKenzie in the 220, MacKenzie and Benson in the 440, Oscar Moore in the distance events, Jimmy Thomas and Gary in the high hurdles, Mitchell Livingston in the high jump, Dan Tindall in the javelin, John Vernon and Ivery Lewis in the triple jump, and Mark Cox in the hammer throw.
Honorary Citizens

The city of Carbondale has made 775 international students at SIU "international honorary citizens" and issued to them identification cards signed personally by Mayor David Keene.

Since the laws of one land often are strange to citizens of another, Mayor Keene explained, he hopes the students will show their honorary citizen cards if they should have difficulties because of misunderstandings.

Alumni Activities
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

New York Area Alumni Club meeting, SIU vs. Duke in Madison Square Garden.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

San Francisco Area Alumni Club meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Los Angeles Area Alumni Club meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Washington, D.C., Area Alumni Club meeting.

Tampa Area Alumni Club meeting.

FEBRUARY 17–21

AASA Convention, Atlantic City, N.J. SIU Alumni Breakfast 8 a.m. Monday and open house 5–7 p.m. Tuesday, Traymore Hotel.

FEBRUARY 20–21

Chicago Area Telefund Campaign.

MARCH 4–7 and 11

St. Clair County Telefund Campaign.

MARCH 5–6

Springfield Area Telefund Campaign.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Detroit Area Alumni Club meeting.

MARCH 12–13

Champaign Area Telefund Campaign.

MARCH 18–21 and 25

Madison County Telefund Campaign.

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Southern Sketches

Two motion picture films produced by the SIU Film Production Unit have been presented Golden Eagle Awards by CINE, a national committee which selects top American-made films to represent the United States in international film festivals. Selected for international showing were "World Population," an animated film depicting world population growth over the past two centuries, and "Vergette Making a Pot," which shows the work of SIU ceramic artist Nicholas Vergette. . . . "Aztec Idol," a painting by Umberto Romano valued at $4,500, has been added to SIU's permanent art collection as a gift from Henry W. Berne of Warrenton, Virginia.

Author History Articles

Three SIU faculty members are authors of a total of a dozen articles in the new Handbook of World History published by the Philosophical Library, Inc., New York. Kurt Glaser and George Maier of the Social Sciences Division faculty at Edwardsville and Roland N. Stromberg of the Carbondale campus history department each wrote four articles appearing in the volume. The book was edited by Joseph Dunner, chairman of the political science department at Yeshiva University. . . . Nathan H. Azrin of the Rehabilitation Institute's behavior modification program faculty has taken office for a three-year term as president of the 800-member Division 25, American Psychological Association.

Directs Religious Studies

Theologian John Frank Hayward has assumed duties as director of religious studies in the SIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dr. Hayward previously was professor of theology at Meadville Theological School and the University of Chicago. President of the American Theological Society's midwest division, he is the author of Existentialism and Religious Liberalism. At SIU he will direct religious studies previously offered through various off-campus religious foundations. Consolidation of such studies under the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences this year followed a survey by Milton McLean, coordinator of religious affairs at Ohio State University who came to SIU as visiting professor. The new program offers students a subject minor consisting of thirty hours of Western and non-Western religions taught through the departments of English, sociology, psychology, philosophy, and history.

Seek Edwardsville Station

Application has been made for a Federal Communications Commission license for an FM radio station on the Edwardsville campus. . . . Kendrick A. Wilson, for twenty-one years director of the Omaha, Nebraska, Playhouse, is a visiting professor of theater at SIU this year. . . . George S. Counts, distinguished visiting professor of education, will receive the American Association of School Administrators' Award for Distinguished Service at the national AASA convention February 20. . . . A memorial award in zoology in honor of the late Prof. Richard R. Kudo has been established by the SIU Foundation, perpetuated by income from a fund established by the Kudo family and friends. Contributions are being accepted.