



# Intercom

duke university medical center

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 5

JUNE, 1968

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

## DR. SESSOMS NAMED NEW DIRECTOR

Duke Hospital will have a new director August 1. He is Dr. Stuart M. Sessoms, deputy director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Md., for the past six years. In addition to the directorship, Dr. Sessoms also will be a professor of medicine and associate dean for clinical sciences in the School of Medicine. He will succeed Dr. Robert Whalen, director since last year, who has asked to return to his fulltime duties in cardiology.



Dr. Sessoms

Meanwhile, in another administrative change, Ralph E. Jennings has been promoted from assistant administrative director to associate director for administration. In the new post he will be in charge of all hospital operations other than nursing service and medical staff

activities. Mr. Jennings will report to Dr. Sessoms, who in turn will be responsible to Dr. William G. Anlyan, Dean of the Medical School. Mr. Charles H. Frenzel, administrative director of Duke Medical Center since 1964, will continue in that capacity. (A chart outlining the administrative structure for the Medical Center is upcoming in the future.) Dr. Sessoms, 46, grew up in Roseboro, N.C., and earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy at UNC. He received his M.D. at the Medical College of Virginia. In 1954, Dr. Sessoms first went with NIH, serving as a member of the clinical medicine and surgery branch of the National Cancer Institute. Over the next several years he served in a number of capacities with NIH including acting chief, general medicine branch of the National Cancer Institute; assistant director of the NIH Clinical Center; assistant director of the National Cancer Institute; chief of the institute's Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center; and as associate director for collaborative research at the cancer institute.

Dr. Sessoms has been active in PTA work and with Cub Scouts, and he is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He and his wife have two children, Stuart M. Jr., 20, and Christi Kay, 17.

Mr. Jennings, a native of Kingsport, Tenn., received bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees with honors at East Tennessee State University, and received a certificate in hospital administration. Continued on page 6



Mr. Jennings

## Radio-Paging Comes to Duke In July

July 1, 1968 is the date when the radio-paging system will be put into operation at Duke Medical Center. Approximately 70 pocket-clip pagers will be distributed to various members of the house staff. The primary reason for utilizing radio-pagers is that house staff members and certain key personnel in Nursing or Housekeeping often find themselves in places that are inaccessible to conventional corridor paging. Personal radio-pagers carried by house staff members will permit them to communicate instantly with the hospital switchboard operator. The switchboard operator will be the control center for radio-paging, for she will be able to contact all persons with radio-paging units. Further, radio-paging will make communication between Hospital Personnel much faster and more convenient. Radio-paging will supplement but, by no means eliminate, conventional paging in the hospital. The number of pocket size units in service is expected to increase from 70 to approximately 150 in 1970.

Several other benefits will be provided by radio-paging. The hospital will be quieter due to decreased usage of corridor paging; there will be 100% coverage, since radio waves penetrate all sections of the hospital, including elevators and radiology; and in the event of disasters or public emergencies, radio-paging will provide communications when phone service is out. Also, messages will be received within a 10 mile radius of Duke Hospital, in the homes and cars of house staff members.

The plastic pocket size units are manufactured by Motorola, weigh 8 1/2 ounces, are approximately 5" x 2 1/2 x 1" in size, and operate on rechargeable batteries.



Dr. Don Miller, Junior Resident is shown using a Radio-pager.