## Lefkowitz to receive Young Scientist Award

The Passano Foundation Inc. of Baltimore, Md., has selected a Duke physician as the recipient of its prestigious Young Scientist Award for 1978.

Dr. Robert J. Lefkowitz, professor of medicine and assistant professor of biochemistry, was chosen from among outstanding faculty members aged 35 years or younger at all American



DR: LEFKOWITZ

medical schools and other health-related institutions.

In a letter to Lefkowitz, Susan Passano Macfarlane, president of the foundation, wrote:

"The award is made in recognition of your major contributions to the field of hormone and drug receptor research, your ability to inspire students, house officers and fellows with your teachings, and your acumen in correlating basic sciences and clinical practice."

Set forth new approach at 27 The award, including a tax-free honorarium of \$6,000, will be presented

at a dinner in Baltimore on April 17. Lefkowitz was 27 when he published his first paper in 1970. In it, he set forth a new approach to the study of hormone and drug receptors — groups of chemicals usually located on cell surfaces that can combine specifically with hormones, drugs, viruses and other substances.

Prior to his work, which involved labelling receptors radioactively, essentially all such studies were indirect because they were based on observations of physiological responses to various hormones and drugs.

Since then he has written or coauthored approximately 120 papers and 70 abstracts in leading scientific journals. The Passano Foundation was formed in 1943 to encourage scientific research in medicine, particularly research having clinical applications.

Its founder was the late Edward B. Passano, chairman of the board of the Williams and Wilkins Co., one of the nation's largest medical publishing houses.

Eight recipients of the foundation's Senior Award, first presented in 1945, have gone on to win Nobel prizes. The Young Scientist Award was established in 1975.

# Government studies radiation exposure

The federal government is attempting to locate people who were at the scene of nuclear weapons testing in Nevada and at the proving grounds in the Pacific.

Conrad Knight, the university's radiological safety officer, said the effort is part of an epidemiological study of long-term effects of exposure to radiation.

The toll-free number for people to call is 1-800-638-8300.

### Goldsmith named Macy Scholar

Dr. Lowell Goldsmith, associate professor of medicine has been selected to receive a Macy Foundation Scholar Award for 1978-79.

Goldsmith, a dermatologist, will use the \$27,500 grant accompanying the award to finance a year's study leave at the University of Oxford in England.

The annual awards were established in 1972 by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation to allow medical scholars to spend six months to a year in concentrated research at laboratories in

this country and abroad.

DR. GOLDSMITH

Goldsmith is one of 25 recipients chosen from medical schools and schools of public health in the United States and Canada for the next academic year. Twenty of the scientists have elected to take their sabbaticals abroad.

The dermatologist will be investigating how certain epidermal proteins are controlled at the genetic level.

"There are many diseases where there is too much, too little or none of a particular protein or enzyme in the epidermis," he said. "When we learn to control the expression of these proteins and enzymes, we will have gone a long way toward curing the illnesses."

### **Students volunteer in med center**

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The program includes a two-way evaluation. Students are evaluated by personnel in their work area and offer evaluations of their experience.

Participants in the fall program generally said that they felt accepted. Many expressed relief at being able to "stomach the 'blood and guts' aspects of medicine."

Some noted that they became more

### On tour today

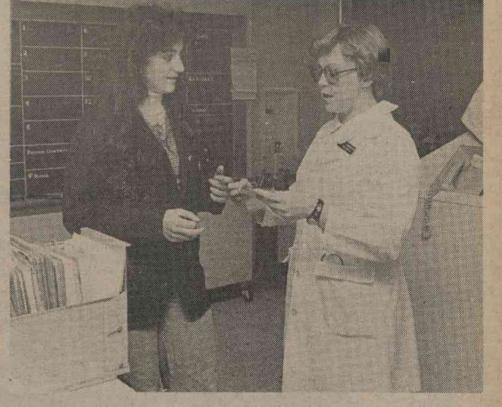
Fifteen students from a medical explorers group at Chapel Hill High School are touring the medical center today. The students are accompanied by their teacher, Barbara Thornton.

### DEC was there, too

A report in Intercom, 3/3/78, concerning the Human Services Expo at South Square Mall inadvertently failed to mention that the Developmental Evaluation Center's display also represented the medical center during the aware of the variety of positions in the health field. And one comment, which echoed the sentiments of several others, expressed the wish to be able to "change the seemingly inherent notion that some health career occupations are more valuable than others."

The hospital experience is designed to provide students with training and experience that should help them qualify for summer hospital jobs, Hanks said. And it can be an important asset should they decide to pursue a career in the health field, she added.

"It gives them a better feel for the total function of a hospital," Hanks said. "They find out there's more to it than what they have seen on 'Marcus Welby.""



EMERGENCY ROOM VOLUNTEERS—Above, staff nurse Janice Roberson explains emergency room (ER) procedures to Mary Contogiannis. At left, Kent Davis transports a patient being admitted through the ER. Contogiannis and Davis are Duke students participating in the Health



exhibit.

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