

# PACE EARNS PLACE IN SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

On March 2, Lorraine Pace, MS, our nationally renowned breast cancer education specialist, was inducted into the Suffolk County Women's Hall of Fame. Honored for her many contributions and achievements as a leading breast cancer activist and educator, Pace was the sole recipient of the 1995 Hall of Fame Award. County Executive Robert J. Gaffney personally presented the award to her at the induction ceremony which attracted more than 300 people.

The ceremony included the recitation of official praises from the Town of Huntington's Office of the Supervisor, the New York State Legislature, and the State's Executive Chamber, honoring Pace for her vital work.

Governor George E. Pataki's citation stated that Pace's "induction into the Suffolk County Women's Hall of Fame appropriately highlights her notable contributions as a tireless leader in today's breast cancer awareness movement."

The State's joint Legislative Resolution, honoring Pace on the occasion of her induction, was adopted in the Senate on February 28 and in the Assembly on March 1. "It is the sense of this Assembled Body," the document says, "that Lorraine Pace has so unselfishly advanced that spirit of united purpose and shared concern which is the unalterable manifestation of our American experience."

## *Richly Deserved Recognition*

Pace's professional and private activities dedicated to breast cancer awareness have inspired women throughout Long Island to form their own community-based breast cancer coalitions, to conduct their own surveys for mapping breast cancer in their home communities, to join her in rais-



Lorraine Pace with Senator Alfonse D'Amato in Washington, DC, in April, during her trip to the Capital to lobby for continued federal support of breast cancer research.

ing awareness about the problem of breast cancer on the Island, and to promote the need for more research to find its cause and cure.

Because Pace has shown that women need not be passively resigned to a diagnosis of the disease, thousands of breast cancer patients have become informed, active and demanding health care consumers.

The Suffolk County Women's Hall of Fame, a project developed by Women's Services with the support of County Executive Robert J. Gaffney, was established in 1994 as a tribute to outstanding women who have unselfishly devoted their energies and talents to the advancement of women in Suffolk. Only one woman is selected each year. The first honoree, chosen last year, was the Honorable Ann Meade.

The screening process of the nomination submitted was done by the Suffolk County Women's Advisory Board. The names of the finalists were not disclosed, and the selection of the winner was based solely on the contributions and achievements listed for each finalist.

## *Busy as Ever*

Pace continues to maintain a busy schedule. Not only is she active in the Department's comprehensive breast care program, she spends a considerable amount of personal time and energy in the community, where she speaks to numerous groups about breast cancer issues.

“*For now, the early detection of breast cancer remains the best way to ensure the greatest chance for cure—women with suspected breast disease or abnormalities can be seen within 24 hours by one of Stony Brook's breast specialists.*”

Pace is also busy lobbying for pesticide policy reform, such as a pesticide registry. This proposed registry would play an important role in efforts to identify the possible environmental links to the high incidence of breast cancer on Long Island.

*(Continued on page 20)*


# NIH FUNDS AIDS GRANT FOR NEW RESEARCH

**D**rs. Margaret McNurlan, Peter Garlick and Charles Lang, all research faculty in the Department of Surgery, along with Drs. Marie Gelato, Jack Fuhrer and Roy Steigbigel of the Department of Medicine, have been awarded a 4-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to examine the alterations in muscle protein synthesis and the insulin-like growth factor (IGF)/growth hormone (GH) system in patients with HIV infection and AIDS.

Despite the aggressive use of anti-retroviral agents, antibiotics to control secondary infections, and nutritional support, wasting remains a major cause of the morbidity and mortality in patients with AIDS. However, the underlying metabolic disturbances that accompany this syndrome are poorly defined. The general goal of the HIV/AIDS research that our faculty have initiated is to shed light on these metabolic processes.

Commenting on the potential applicability of this research, Dr. Lang says, "We believe that our study will provide novel information in the understanding of the pathophysiology of this disease, and will provide a rationale for therapeutic interventions in terms of when to intervene and which agents may be most beneficial in this patient population."

---

 *Bringing problems from the bedside to the laboratory and returning laboratory advances to the bedside.*

Specifically, the study will test the hypothesis that alterations in the IGF/GH axis resulting from HIV infection impairs IGF stimulation of anabolic processes, the most important of which are the stimulation of muscle protein synthesis and the inhibition of muscle proteolysis.

This will be the first study to examine longitudinally the HIV- and AIDS-induced changes in muscle protein balance. The study will also be the first to make direct determinations of the rate of muscle protein synthesis in the body itself in HIV-infected individuals.

Drs. McNurlan and Garlick have developed and validated the "flooding" technique for the direct determination of protein synthesis in muscle and other tissues. This technique involves the intravenous injection of a stable nonradioactive isotope and the subsequent determination of that compound in muscle protein.



**For the successful completion of this study, it will be necessary to enroll ten to fifteen normal volunteers as well as individuals with HIV infection and/or AIDS in various stages of the disease. The investigators are seeking adult men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 to participate in this study. Anyone interested in participating should contact Drs. Marie Gelato (444-1175) or Charles Lang (444-2011).**

All subjects will be compensated for their participation in the study.

## LORRAINE PACE

*(Continued from Page 17)*

Her ongoing efforts to lobby for better government policies and programs related to breast cancer continue to take Pace to the capitals of both the state and the nation.

Recently in Washington, DC, she met with New York State Senator Alfonse D'Amato to encourage his support for continued breast cancer research funds. Subsequently, in a letter to the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, D'Amato urged his colleagues to support an appropriation of \$100 million for Fiscal Year 1996 to continue funding the Defense Department's breast cancer research program, calling the program one of America's "most important weapons in the war against breast cancer."

Pace also continues to be an active participant in fund-raisers for breast cancer research. In May, for instance, she traveled to Syracuse to help with the "Race for the Cure" marathon program there. This two-day event was sponsored by the Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation, the nation's largest private funder of research dedicated solely to breast cancer.

In addition, in collaboration with Dr. Roger Grimson, research associate professor of preventive medicine (epidemiology), Pace is currently directing mapping projects on Long Island, as well as assisting other breast cancer activists in their efforts to do similar maps of their communities here on the Island, as well as around the nation and abroad.

The breast cancer mapping project that Pace initiated in 1992 in West Islip, where she lives, first brought her to the public's attention.