

complex structure in the known universe. Steve used his expertise as a scientist, along with his remarkable ability to make science readily understandable to lay persons, to convey a simple but profound message to us and to the American public, that there is no scientific or medical justification for treating mental illnesses differently than any other illness.

Dr. Hyman has been at the helm of NIMH with a commitment to encouraging and supporting the basic research that will enable us to develop exciting new treatments, based on an understanding of the disease process itself. Although our current treatments get increasingly better, they are not perfect, they need to be more targeted and rational because as good as these treatments are, those with mental illness desperately need treatments that are more effective. We need to know how these medications are going to work in patients living in the real world, with real work problems because people suffering from severe mental illness often have very complex complicating factors that contribute to the mental illness.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for Steve Hyman's forceful voice of reason, explaining patiently and constantly that, while we don't understand mental illness completely, thanks to magnificent new technology and scientific knowledge, the brain is unlocking its secrets, and the future is bright. This, in turn, I believe has helped convince our colleagues, and the American public—that there must be parity for mental health now.

Steve will be missed, but he has accomplished much during his tenure at the National Institute of Mental Health; his success in bringing research on mental disorders to the forefront of public consciousness will be a strong foundation that his successor must build upon. Nancy and I wish Steve and his family great success and happiness as he begins his new duties as Provost at Harvard University.●

A TRANSITION FOR ONE OF OUR NATION'S  
FOREMOST MENTAL HEALTH LEADERS

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Dr. Steve Hyman as Director of the National Institute of Mental Health at the National Institutes of Health, and to acknowledge his departure as he moves forward to become Provost of his alma mater, Harvard University. As we strive to maintain the recent Senate victory passing mental health parity legislation, I am reminded again about how fortunate it was to have Steve's leadership during these critical years. His expertise and remarkable ability to convey complex scientific information to the public and to Congress have brought us so much further in the struggle to reduce stigma and to recognize as a society that mental illnesses

are real and treatable. The basic scientific facts of mental illness are straightforward, but the difficulties encountered by those who want to eliminate the cruel and unjust stigma that surrounds diseases like schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder and others have been monumental. Mental illnesses represent a major portion of the disease burden in the United States and worldwide; depression is the leading cause of disability in the U.S. and throughout the developed world. And yet, our efforts to reduce stigma and provide fair treatment for people with mental illness are still needed. Parity for mental health treatment is a civil rights issue, and the fight for the rights of those with mental illness will not be stopped.

When Steve first came to NIMH, he immediately stated unequivocally that there is no scientific basis for treating mental disorders any differently than other illnesses with respect to insurance coverage. That was his objective and straightforward view as a distinguished neuroscientist. I have watched Steve for these last 5½ years at the helm of NIMH, and he has clearly taken the scientific study of mental illness very far. His leadership and his extraordinary talents as a scientist, communicator, and teacher have made him a major force in advancing the public's awareness of the brain and its dysfunctions. Although stigma still exists, these are very few who dare to challenge the scientific record that mental illnesses are very real disorders of the brain, often disrupting that which makes us most human, our behavior.

I am particularly pleased that Steve has been at the forefront of the efforts to include the voices of patients and families in the overall planning process at the NIMH. He has sponsored public, participatory meetings in various areas of the country, not only to bring information about the latest scientific breakthroughs, but also to seek input from people who live in diverse cultures. To his credit, Steve understood that this process was necessary so that we ensure that the NIMH addressed questions that are relevant and important to all Americans, and to include this information in planning the future of NIMH's research agenda. Steve also enthusiastically supported the effort to include public members as part of the scientific peer review panels that review grant applications. Steve believes, as I do, that the views of patients and family members are crucial because they offer a unique view of research. They ask, Steve often said, the "so what" questions that are critical to the real lives of people: Will this research help those who are suffering? Will it make a difference?

As he departs, I know that many of my colleagues join me in wishing him well and thanking him for all he has

done to further scientific research and treatment of mental illness. I am confident that Steve has placed the NIMH on a course that promises to build on the remarkable achievements already achieved, one that will take full advantage of scientific opportunities and the extraordinarily challenging public health needs that we as a country are now facing. Dr. Steve Hyman will be sorely missed, but I know he will continue to be a major force for the improvement of mental health care worldwide.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. McCathran, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:40 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3210. An act to ensure the continued financial capacity of insurers to provide coverage for risks from terrorism.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 717) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Duchenne, Becker, limb girdle, congenital, facioscapulohumeral, myotonic, oculopharyngeal, distal, and Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophies.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2299) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:53 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1459. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 550 West Fort Street in Boise, Idaho,