

biologics is not a simple matter. Whether it be for new vaccines, new cytokines, or tests for new diseases, scientific guidance must be established, and safety and efficacy are not easy to evaluate. To do this properly requires scientists knowledgeable and up to date in the rapidly changing world of molecular biology and biologic tests and therapies. It is essential that the evaluators are personally competent and have hands-on experience. It would not be in the best interests of the American people were the FDA and the CBER to be staffed by desk-bound clerks.

I trust that the Clinton Administration and Congress will act quickly and allow CBER to recruit and retain research scientists able to regulate biologics in a scientific and responsible manner.

**Joseph Edward Rall**  
*Scientist Emeritus,  
National Institute for Diabetes and Digestive  
and Kidney Diseases,  
National Institutes of Health,  
Bethesda, MD 20892, USA*

### Doctoral Entitlement?

I was astounded to read the letter by Roger Floyd (11 Apr., p. 183) suggesting that an

institution that grants a doctoral degree has a responsibility to provide employment for the recipient of that degree. The institution that grants the degree fulfills its responsibility by providing an individual with access to the graduate education, guiding a student's research, providing him the opportunity to study, and examining his work to see whether he is qualified to receive the Ph.D.

Graduate education is not a search for money; it is a search for education, for intellectual achievement, for excellence in study. If advanced study in a field results in more remunerative employment, fine; if it does not, one may enjoy the learning for the sake of being more knowledgeable about life. A Ph.D. is not about getting a better job; it is about an internal feeling of accomplishment.

**Norton Savage**  
*1207 Devere Drive,  
Silver Spring, MD 20903, USA*

Floyd's letter is an affront to hard-working people. To suggest that a person should be guaranteed a standard of living because that person's choice of a career was not a wise one is ludicrous. I and many people have put a lot of years into learning and keeping current with proper work practices. We do get a stipend from the government when

times are bad; it is called unemployment.

If someone with a Ph.D. cannot find any work in his chosen field because there is a surplus of talent, then he will have to find a different field of endeavor. That has happened to many Americans in the past 20 years.

**Ronald Torrey**  
*Carpenter,  
1832 Biltmore Street, NW,  
Washington, DC 20009, USA*

### Tenure Tracking

Constance Holden's News & Comment article "Tenure turmoil sparks reforms" (4 Apr., p. 24) summarizes the precarious nature of the institution of tenure at colleges and universities in the United States and describes some of the approaches taken to provide a greater level of accountability for tenured faculty. In spring 1996, the University of New Mexico Faculty Senate drafted and approved a policy of post-tenure review that was ultimately accepted with modification by the Board of Regents. In response to growing concerns over the status of tenure at colleges and universities in New Mexico, we drafted the following resolution, which was approved by the Faculty

## Capture 99% Pure Mouse Cells

New Dynabeads® products for the isolation of mouse cells provide the purity, viability and simplicity required to rapidly isolate phenotypically unaltered cells.

Dynabeads uniform shape and size ensures the purity of FACS. Gentle magnetic separation provides high yields of fully functional cells.

Dynabeads are pre-coated with mouse antibodies to Thy 1.2, B220, L3T4 and Lyt2. Cells are isolated in less than 30 minutes. All sample sizes can be used without pre-purification steps or costly additional columns.

Only Dynabeads coupled with DETACHaBEAD® allow complete detachment of the solid phase resulting in viable antibody free cells.

Call 1 800 638 9416