The theme of the 2012 AAAS Annual Meeting, 16 to 20 February in Vancouver, Canada, is Flattening the World: Building a Global Knowledge Society. This theme focuses the program on the complex, interconnected challenges of the 21st century and on pathways to global solutions through international, multidisciplinary efforts. Speakers come from more than half of the world's top research universities and institutes. The preliminary program begins on page 834.

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