

## New Deadline for Nominations for AAAS-Rosenstiel Award in Oceanographic Science

The deadline for submission of nominations for the \$5000 AAAS-Rosenstiel Award in Oceanographic Science, which the Association will administer for the first time this year, has been changed from 1 July to 1 September. As stated in the 2 May issue of *Science*, the 1975 award will honor outstanding work in the field of geology, physics, and chemistry of the seabed.

Nominations, including adequate justification (one or two pages) and a list of the nominee's relevant publications, should be sent to the Chairman of the Selection Panel, Dr. Joshua I. Tracey, U.S. Geological Survey National Center, MS 915, 12201 Sunrise Valley, Reston, Virginia 22092.

## Notes from Other Offices

*Science and Society:* Dr. Dixon Long of the AAAS Committee on Science and Public Policy testified before the new Subcommittee on Domestic and International Planning and Analysis of the House Science and Technology Committee on observations regarding the reporting of federal R & D program expenditures and steps the subcommittee might take in the near future to carry out its responsibility for "special oversight" of the nonmilitary R & D budget. He was accompanied by Dr. John Logsdon, also of the AAAS committee, and Dr. Richard Scribner of the AAAS staff. Copies of the submitted statement are available on request.

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*Science Education:* Under a grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation the Education Office is working with ten school systems, having large minority group populations, to assist them in implementing the elementary school science program *Science—A Process Approach*. Representatives of the school systems will meet at AAAS from 7 to 18 July.

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*Opportunities in Science:* A "Comprehensive Annotated Bibliography of Science Education Projects for Minority Students, 1960-1975" will be produced by the Office of Opportunities in Science this year. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the project will collect and categorize natural science efforts at all levels to improve science education for minorities. Any information on such projects is welcome.

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*International Science:* A report and summary record of a Research Workshop on the relevance of satellite data for anthropological research will be available in July 1975 through the Office of International Science. The report stresses the importance of anthropologists making feasibility studies utilizing satellite data, the present state of the art in data interpretation, and possible future developments. A series of appendices includes bibliographic materials, examples of different kinds of imagery, how to gain access to satellite data, and several recommendations, including the desirability of a Technology Committee by the American Anthropological Association to evaluate and monitor technological developments in re-

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and on, for the tribes of the Americas are many and their traditional knowledge and experience richly varied. To all the fields of science, engineering and medicine, one or more of these groups has made discoveries of importance and applied their knowledge to the solution of practical problems of existence. Natural and social scientists are just beginning to appreciate the wealth of those traditions and to research and evaluate the Native Americans' contributions.

### **The Need for Interdisciplinary Research**

So segregated are the professional lives of most social and natural scientists that they lack understanding of each other's work. Natural scientists' training provides them with little that prepares them to know about or even be aware that these "primitive" peoples possess sophisticated knowledge and skills. Our scientists in most cases are not even aware of how deeply embedded our own science is in cultural suppositions that are not universal (12). Social scientists, on the other hand, are often so poorly trained in the natural sciences that they are inadequately equipped to recognize the scientifically valuable experience of traditional societies, since they are usually ignorant of natural science and often in awe of it.

It is imperative that the present generation of natural and social scientists recognize the need for interdisciplinary research before it is too late. Peter Raven, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, is seriously concerned that it will soon be too late for scientists to make such studies. As Raven, Berlin, and Breedlove argue in their article on "The origins of taxonomy," we need to study the 10 million species of organisms in the world because 80 percent may well become extinct before they can be inventoried (13). Raven also points out that philosophical differences among tax-

onomies are important, are to be respected, and are useful to scientists in perfecting our own systems and analyses. Rapid worldwide social and cultural change is sweeping away many traditional ways. "As these cultures are lost, the world loses a diversity that can never be recovered. As their languages fall into disuse, we are losing the change to get a handle on this. This is a matter of major scientific concern," says Raven (14). The kind of effort that he, Berlin, and Breedlove have devoted to Highland Maya plant knowledge should be undertaken for all traditional communities where botanical and zoological knowledge is still intact.

—JANET W. BROWN

### **References**

1. This article is the culmination of investigations made by the author at the behest of the Committee on Opportunities in Science, which initiated the AAAS resolution on Native American Contributions to Science, Engineering and Medicine. The author is indebted for advice and assistance to Margaret Mead, William Sturtevant, Alfonso Ortiz, and Michael Dorris.
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