

Future Directions Committee

Reports to Council

An increased commitment to international science and technology activities, analysis of problems in science education, public outreach at the local level, and examination of the state of basic research are four tentative recommendations made in the Progress Report of the AAAS Committee on Future Directions, presented to the Council on 16 February 1978.

The Committee was created by the Board of Directors in 1975 "to discover and examine possible projects, programs, organizational structures, and activities which will help the AAAS to better carry out its declared objectives and to be of greater service to its members and others in the scientific and engineering communities." In an earlier Interim Report (January 1977), the Committee urged the Association to make greater use of its potential convenor and collaborator roles, to become more involved in areas of scientific controversy, and to extend its public outreach efforts.

In the area of international activities, the Committee's 1978 Progress Report concluded that AAAS objectives should not be restricted to a national framework. It recommended, among other projects, initiating "one or more major long-range science policy efforts of international consequence;" increasing initiatives in the area of scientific freedom and responsibility; and taking the role of critic and counselor on governmental policies and programs involving science and technology on an international scale.

Regarding science education, the Committee asserted that AAAS has an important role to play, both in terms of professional education and public information. Specific tasks of the Association should include the identification and analysis of fundamental problems in science education; initiatives to increase educational opportunities for minorities, women, and the handicapped; projects aimed at charting new directions for government and private organizations capable of impacting on these problems;

and expanded activities to better define ways to inform the general population about issues in science and technology.

To increase the effectiveness of AAAS public outreach activities, the Committee recommended the establishment of cooperative or collaborative arrangements with affiliates which already have localized activities and with other local science-oriented organizations.

Finally, the report recommended that AAAS examine the state of basic research, promote awareness of its importance and its problems, and formulate improved policies. The Committee is awaiting additional discussion of this issue by the Board of Directors before making more specific suggestions about a AAAS role in this area.

The Committee expects to submit its final report and recommendations to the Board in the fall of 1978. For a copy of its Progress Report and earlier reports, write to Richard Scribner, Office of Special Programs, at the AAAS address.

CSFR Clearinghouse on Foreign Scientists

—A Review

The AAAS Clearinghouse on Persecuted Foreign Scientists of the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility (CSFR) has been in operation for 7 months. During this time, the Clearinghouse has worked to establish, in response to a charge in the CSFR charter, working liaisons with AAAS affiliate organizations to whom cases of alleged violations can be referred. Thus far, 34 such official contacts have been named, and 33 dossiers on cases of alleged violation of the scientific freedom and/or human rights of scientists, occurring in nine countries, have been compiled and referred to these affiliate contacts.

The Clearinghouse staff also has estab-

lished an extensive working file on issues related to scientists' rights, which has been a source of regular exchange of information with refugee and exiled scientists, individual U.S. scientists, congresspeople, staffs of U.S. government agencies, media representatives, and a variety of professional and human rights-oriented organizations.

Other activities undertaken by the Clearinghouse over the past 7 months include organizing a series of meetings in Washington for Mark Azbel, the Soviet refusenik physicist and former leader of the Moscow Seminar on Collective Phenomena; assisting in the preparation for an on-site visit to Argentina by then-president and current Board chairman of AAAS Emilio Q. Daddario, during which Daddario met with government officials, leading scientists, and the families of a number of scientists who have been arrested or have disappeared (*Science*, 3 February 1978, p. 520); and writing two background papers, one on the conditions in Argentina and one focusing on the situation of refuseniks in the Soviet Union. The Clearinghouse also has produced several articles on its goals and activities and on questions regarding the relationship between science and politics, for example, the issue of scientists being denied, on political grounds, their right to practice science.

On several occasions, Clearinghouse staff have met with recent emigrants and relatives of persecuted scientists from Argentina and the Soviet Union to discuss the situation in those countries and the types of advocacy which might be most effective in attempting to alleviate the conditions under which many of these scientists must live.

CSFR activities at the February AAAS Annual Meeting included a symposium entitled "Human Rights and Scientific Freedom: Are Scientists Special?," and a meeting of Clearinghouse contact people and other AAAS members. The latter meeting featured discussion of a question central to Clearinghouse efforts: Can scientific societies legitimately undertake advocacy on behalf of scientists whose professional freedom and human rights have been violated, and if so, on what basis?

Anyone interested in receiving copies of the background papers described above, papers presented at the CSFR symposium during the Annual Meeting,

Science Heart Research Book

Combating the #1 Killer: The Science Report on Heart Research, by Jean L. Marx and Gina Bari Kolata, will be available for sale early this month.

Based on a series of articles by Research News writers Marx and Kolata in *Science*, the new AAAS book focuses on key research currently in progress, the epidemiology of heart disease, its diagnosis, its relationship to an individual's life-style and age, and the most promising present and projected treatment strategies. Copies of the book (\$7.50 paperbound, \$17 clothbound, with a 10 percent discount for AAAS members) may be ordered from the AAAS Sales Department, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

or further information about the Clearinghouse on Persecuted Foreign Scientists may write to Thomas Johnston, Human Rights Coordinator, at the AAAS address.

THOMAS JOHNSTON
Human Rights Coordinator

June Meetings

The third annual AAAS Colloquium on R&D Policy, with sessions on "R&D in the Federal Budget" and "R&D in Industry and the Economy," will be held on 20-21 June 1978, at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. The Colloquium will bring together key policy-makers in government and members of the science and engineering community to discuss current R&D policy issues. Program and registration materials will appear in *Science* or may be obtained from Pat Curlin, R&D Colloquium, at the AAAS address.

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The next meeting of the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility will be held in Washington, D.C., 2-4 June 1978. The meetings of the Committee are open to the public. Anyone interested in attending the meeting should contact Rosemary Chalk, the Committee's staff officer, for further details.

For the Library

The AAAS *Science Book List Supplement*, compiled and edited by Kathryn Wolff and Jill Storey, extends the coverage of the AAAS *Science Book List* (third edition) from 1969 through 1977. In more than 500 pages, the *Supplement* includes citations and annotations of some 2800 trade and text books in mathematics and the pure and applied sciences for secondary school students, college undergraduates, teachers, and nonspecial-

ist readers. Copies of the *Supplement* may be ordered directly from the AAAS Sales Department (1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005) at \$16.50 per copy (\$15 for AAAS members).

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A survey of academic efforts in the area of ethics and values in science and technology (EVIST) has been published by the AAAS Office of Science Education, with support from the National Science Foundation.

The *EVIST Resource Directory* contains descriptions of hundreds of courses and programs in over 500 educational institutions according to five categories: science/technology and human values, environmental concerns, biomedical concerns, industry and society, and public policy-making.

The *Directory* is available free of charge from the AAAS Office of Science Education at the AAAS address.

Annual Meeting Survey Results

Those of you who have attended the four most recent AAAS Annual Meetings were asked to fill out a survey form along with your registrations. The results of this survey, averaged over the 1975-1978 meetings,* reveal the following:

The average age of the registrants was 41.5 years; the average registrant traveled 575 miles to the meeting, stayed about 2.6 days, and spent about \$350.

About 59 percent had doctorates, 22.5 percent masters, and 18.5 percent other degrees. Some 21 percent had interests in the physical and mathematical sciences, 36.5 percent in the biological and medical sciences, 19 percent in the social and behavioral sciences, and 23.5 per-

*Registrations for these meetings numbered 4260 (New York, 1975); 4725 (Boston, 1976); 3750 (Denver, 1977); and 5050 (Washington, 1978).

cent in other areas of science and technology.

About 41 percent engaged in teaching and education as a principal activity, 28 percent in research and development, 11.5 percent in administration, and 19.5 percent in other activities (including private practice). Some 61 percent were employed by educational institutions, 16.5 percent by the government, and 22.5 percent by other employers (including industry).

The meetings had an average of 135 symposia, encompassing about 190 sessions (of 3 hours each) with about 19 sessions running simultaneously. Each session had an average attendance of about 75 people.

ARTHUR HERSCHMAN
Head, Meetings and Publications

IA Symposium on Energy and Development

Over a hundred scientists, technical experts, and government representatives from 16 nations gathered in Guarujá, Brazil, in mid-March, for a symposium on "Energy and Development in the Americas," sponsored by the Inter-ciencia Association (IA) and the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (SBPC).

The 5-day meeting, the sixth in IA's symposium series, focused on energy needs, use, and supplies in the countries of the Western Hemisphere (eight of whose scientific organizations formed the Inter-ciencia Association in 1975). In addition to representatives of North, South, and Central American nations, speakers from France and India provided contributions on matters as different as nuclear fuel cycles and production of methane gas from animal wastes.

Despite diversity of background, perspective, and language, symposium participants agreed on at least one point—that the era of cheap oil is over. Most felt that each country must examine its own potential energy resources thoroughly and move toward greater reliance on local supplies and mixes of technological and natural resources.

Beginning with surveys of major energy resources, the symposium program included papers and discussions on oil, coal, hydropower, oil shale, windmills, synthetic fuels, solar energy, biomass, nuclear energy, and small installations capable of providing energy for rural peoples. Many topics lent themselves to

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