

AAAS Council Meeting, 1990

The AAAS Council held its annual meeting on 19 February 1990 in the New Orleans Hilton Hotel, New Orleans, with President Richard C. Atkinson presiding and 54 of its 83 members in attendance.

Executive Officer's Report

Richard Nicholson's presentation covered budget results for the year just completed (1989) as well as the Board-approved budget for 1990. Nicholson noted that, as a result of belt-tightening measures he instituted in 1989, the year closed with a slight surplus, the first one in a number of years. Nicholson reviewed the 1990 budget in detail—covering priorities, projected revenues, and expenses—and noted that some funds are included for new initiatives aimed at strengthening *Science* as well as diversifying the Association's sources of revenue.

Nicholson also discussed the recent reorganization of the Association's programs into three directorates: Education and Human Resources, International, and Science Policy. These directorates match the long-term strategy for the major thrust of the Association's activities that resulted from the Board's long-range planning activities early in 1989. Two of the director positions have already been filled and the third is currently being recruited.

Elections and Appointments

The following individuals have been appointed as section secre-

aries by the section steering groups: Section A (Mathematics): Warren Page; Section J (Psychology): William N. Dember; Section K (Social, Economic, and Political Sciences): William R. Freudenburg (reappointment); Section M (Engineering): W. Edward Lear (reappointment); Section N (Medical Sciences): Lewis H. Kuller.

Results of the 1989 general election were published in the

2 February issue of *Science*, page 578. Terms of all new officers began on 21 February 1990.

Approval of New Affiliates

The following organizations were elected as new affiliates by the council: the Computing Research Board, Inc., Crop Science Society of America, National Marine Educators' Asso-

ciation, the New York Academy of Sciences, and the Society for Epidemiologic Research.

Resolution on the Use of Animals

The Council endorsed a joint resolution with the Board of Directors on the use of animals in research, testing, and education. The text of the resolution appears in the box below.

Resolution on the Use of Animals in Research, Testing, and Education

Whereas society as a whole, and the scientific community in particular, supports and encourages research that will improve the well-being of humans and animals, and that will lead to the cure or prevention of disease; and

Whereas the use of animals has been and continues to be essential not only in applied research with direct clinical applications in humans and animals, but also in research that furthers the understanding of biological processes; and

Whereas the American Association for the Advancement of Science supports appropriate regulations and adequate funding to promote the welfare of animals in laboratory or field situations and deplores any violations of those regulations; and

Whereas the American Association for the Advancement of Science deplores harassment of scientists and technical personnel engaged in animal research, as well as destruction of animal laboratory facilities; and

Whereas in order to protect the public, both consumer and medical products must be tested for safety, and such testing may

in some cases require the use of animals; and

Whereas the American Association for the Advancement of Science has long acknowledged the importance and endorsed the use of animal experimentation in promoting human and animal welfare and in advancing scientific knowledge;

BE IT RESOLVED that the American Association for the Advancement of Science continues to support the use of animals in scientific research; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that scientists bear several responsibilities for the conduct of research with animals: (1) to treat their subjects with proper care and sensitivity to their pain and discomfort, consistent with the requirements of the particular study and research objectives; (2) to be informed about and adhere to relevant laws and regulations pertaining to animal research; and (3) to communicate respect for animal subjects to employees, students, and colleagues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the development and use of complementary or alternative research or testing

methodologies, such as computer models, tissue, or cell cultures, be encouraged where applicable and efficacious; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the use of animals by students can be an important component of science education as long as it is supervised by teachers who are properly trained in the welfare and use of animals in laboratory or field settings and is conducted by institutions capable of providing proper oversight; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that scientists support the efforts to improve animal welfare that do not include policies or regulations that would compromise scientific research; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Association for the Advancement of Science encourages its affiliated societies and research institutions to support this resolution.

Joint Resolution Adopted by the AAAS Board and Council, 19 February 1990. Sponsored by the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility.

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