cooperated with LEAA in a council on matters outside the realm of organized crime.

In addition to setting priorities, the institute and LEAA face all the other problems of creating a new research establishment, plus a few problems which are peculiar to the local agencies with which the federal officials have to work. One question, of course, is that of how funds should be distributed, and to whom. In their manner of distribution, LEAA's Office of Law Enforcement Programs and the institute differ sharply. When LEAA was created, there was a bitter fight in Congress about whether it should dispense its money through block grants to the states or (as big-city personnel preferred) give it out at the discretion of LEAA, presumably where it was most needed—in the big cities. A compromise was reached: 85 percent of LEAA's project grants are block grants to states, and 15 percent are discretionary. Rogovin admits that urban criminal justice people are dissatisfied with discretionary funding of only 15 percent, "but they seem prepared to work with that figure." He adds that the states, on the average, are giving 25 to 40 percent of their block funds to local governments for their use, "so it's being done in a spirit of fair play."

Institute Budget $2.9 Million

The institute has a much smaller budget than the Office of Law Enforcement Programs—$2.9 million, as compared with $48 million for action and planning grants in fiscal 1969—but the institute dispenses this smaller amount entirely through discretionary funding. Recognizing the newness of the research field, it devoted part of its limited first-year resources to encouraging new people into the field. In a project known as Exercise Acorn it gave out "starter" grants of up to $5000 to 50 of 500 applicants, including several in universities which will work directly with criminal justice agencies.

Getting university researchers and local criminal justice agencies, especially police, to work together is one of the institute's major problems. Such cooperation was notably lacking in the smattering of university research done before the institute was created. It is a two-sided difficulty: police forces do not have a good image in many university communities, and university scholars are not always well received in police departments. Rogovin feels that the problem of the police's image almost dissolves when contact is made. "When the 'outsider' gets in and starts to deal with police, there is a development of mutual respect," he says. "The outsider learns that the police are not inflexible about learning from outsiders." Even if police departments are willing to cooperate, most of them are not equipped to participate in meaningful research efforts. James Q. Wilson, professor of government at Harvard and a police-work expert, says that some of the larger police forces have research departments, but that "many of them are misused—downgraded to the point of simply preparing lists of numbers for the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports." Wilson believes that, if police departments want to increase their research capability so that they can utilize federal research funds in concert with universities, "they will definitely have to go outside for civilian personnel."

The shortage of truly professional people—not only in police work but in corrections and, to a smaller extent, in courts—creates another problem for LEAA and the institute: technology transfer. Assuming that some successful techniques are derived from all this research, how do you get the hundreds of local and state organizations to use them? Rogovin claims that the discretionary funds give the LEAA some power of persuasion, and he believes that, "simply through our daily contact with state planning people, we can disseminate ideas. As communities to be affected become more sophisticated," he concludes, "technology transfer is improved."

Simmons Named Chief Scientist

Gene Simmons, professor of geophysics at M.I.T., has been named chief scientist at NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center (MSC). Simmons, who will retain his professorship at M.I.T. and work part time in Houston, will assume the scientific responsibilities formerly held by Wilmot Hess, who resigned last summer as full-time science director. Administrative responsibilities formerly held by Hess will be assumed by Anthony Calio, a full-time NASA administrator. Simmons' chief duty will be to plan space experiments and to oversee the Center's science program.

—M.M.

Except for the emphasis on police work, it is difficult to find patterns in the institute's research projects; the institute people know they are dealing with a wide-open field, and their choice of projects to support indicates an attempt to reach out in many directions. Some of the more exotic ones last year included an analysis of the occurrence of the XYY chromosome configuration in man and its relation to criminality, and a study of law enforcement on the Indian reservation of the Mississippi Choctaws. It does seem that a considerable amount of attention is paid to the possibility of using scientific management techniques to improve the efficiency of crime prevention programs, police operations, and especially the courts, with their tremendous backlog of pending cases. Among the first-year projects there was also a sprinkling of sponsored conferences, held in an effort to bring people together and to disseminate information in a field where scholarly communication has been dreadfully inadequate.

Institute Horizons Limited

Wide-ranging as the institute's present and projected program is, it almost completely avoids the area which the Crime Commission recognized as the root of the crime problem. "A community's most enduring protection against crime," the report said, "is to right the wrongs and cure the illnesses that tempt men to harm their neighbors." This sweeping solution, Slott confesses, is outside the new agency's purview. "It is not within our scope to change the social characteristics that make a man a criminal," Slott says. "We *can* do something about police, courtroom operation, and corrections institutions."

If the interest of researchers during the first year is any indication, the institute will have no trouble finding research personnel to pursue this end—in a few private institutions for urban studies, in many university sociology departments and law schools, and especially in a small but growing number of university-related centers for the study of criminology. How good the research will be, what will be done with it, and whether the emphasis on police studies is a good idea remain to be seen. Only a year old, the institute has not yet begun significant in-house evaluation. As Slott says, with the tone of a man apprehensive about the fate of his budget, "We had nothing finished to show Congress."

—JOEL R. KRAMER