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AAAS Elections, 1973

In 1972, for the first time in the modern history of the AAAS, the president-elect and new members of the Board of Directors were elected by the membership rather than by the 530-man Council. This year, members of the Committee on Nominations, the group that selects candidates for president-elect and the Board, will also be elected by popular vote.

In addition to this general election, an election of officers within the electorates of the Association will be held in the fall. Each electorate will elect one or more delegates to the Council, the six members of its own nominating committee, the chairman-elect of the section of which it is a part, and one member-at-large of the section committee.

Some clarification of the distinction between sections and electorates of AAAS is essential at this time. The Association now includes 21 sections, each organized around subject matter and managed by a section committee. A list appears at the bottom of the contents page of *Science*. (Section X-General will be added to that list after the fall election.) Each newly established electorate consists of a subset of one of these sections, comprised of those Association members who have selected it for voting purposes. While members may enroll in several sections to accommodate their scientific interests, they may select only one as an electorate.

In November, all members of the AAAS will receive ballots for president-elect, Board of Directors, and members of the Committee on Nominations. Members who have designated an electorate will also receive a ballot for officers of that electorate. Those who have not yet enrolled in an electorate but who wish to participate in one of the electorate elections this fall should let AAAS know immediately the section in which they would like to vote. Such notification should be accompanied by a *Science* mailing label.

The September issue of the *AAAS Bulletin* will list all candidates for all positions to be filled and give biographical information about each. *This information will not be enclosed with the ballot.*

In future years, Council delegates and members of electorate nominating committees will be elected for 3-year terms. The terms of those to be elected this year will vary from 1 to 3 years, in order to establish rotation of membership. The number of Council delegates to be elected in the fall varies from one to five per electorate, depending upon the number of persons enrolled: Each electorate will have one delegate plus an additional one for each 3000 of its members. Thus an electorate's representation on the Council will increase as its roster grows.

By petition submitted to the executive officer not later than 26 October, additional candidates may be nominated for the various offices. Nominations for president-elect, Board of Directors, or members of the Committee on Nominations must bear the signatures of at least 100 Association members. Nominations for an electorate or section position must be signed by at least 50 members of the electorate. A petition to place a name in nomination for any position must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae of the nominee and his or her statement of acceptance of nomination.

Because it will not be feasible to enclose biographical information concerning candidates with the ballots, members are *strongly urged to retain* the September *Bulletin* until they receive ballots. They are also urged to exercise their newly founded right to vote. I shall be personally grateful if they will return ballots promptly. Results of the election will be announced early in 1974.—WILLIAM BEVAN