

## Communications Department Plans Seminars

Four regional seminars, on topics ranging from energy, water, and the West to food and nutrition, are planned by the Communications Department for the fall. This is the third season of the department's regional seminars program, whose chief objective is to stimulate informed discussion between scientists and engineers on one hand and representatives of local civic and professional groups on the other. Individuals in the latter group, many of whom are in decision-making positions, are thus better able to comprehend complex issues related to science and technology. Reports on past seminars have appeared in this section on 15 November and 6 December 1974 and on 7 February, 2 May, and 1 August 1975.

Supported in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation, and with some additional aid from the Ford Foundation's Energy Policy Project, the seminars will be cosponsored by the AAAS and one or more local institutions. Each will accommodate between 50 and 150 carefully selected participants from state and county governments, the media, industry, libraries, and schools, depending on the seminar. Summary reports of each seminar will be available within a few weeks after each takes place. The new schedule is as follows:

**Minnesota:** "Energy End-Use Regulation: Beginning the Debate," 14 October, University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chanhassen, Minnesota. This 1-day seminar will be held in cooperation with the Minnesota Energy Agency. Philip Getts, its deputy director, has been working with the AAAS on the seminar. The morning segment will focus on the desirability of end-use regulation for Minnesota, and the relation between national energy conservation and end-use regulation. In the afternoon, an address and subsequent workshops will deal with what regulatory mechanisms should be. Approximately 60 participants are anticipated, including state legislators, state and county government officials, energy suppliers, and media representatives.

**New Mexico:** "Energy, Water, and the West," 2 to 5 November, Albuquerque,

New Mexico. Cosponsored with the National Legislative Council at the request of the New Mexico State Legislature, this seminar will deal with the same general issues as the Minnesota seminar, but participants will include 150 state legislators from the 13-state Southwest and Rocky Mountain region. In addition, the seminar is open to other interested individuals and groups who wish to register. The first day will lay out and explore the connections between energy development and water needs as they are applicable to the West. The second day, arranged by Los Alamos Scientific Laboratories, will focus on alternate energy sources. The final day will explore present and projected state and regional programs for water utilization. Considerable use will be made of the Ford Foundation's Energy Policy Project reports during the lectures and workshops. Following the seminar, and before the end of 1975, three or four follow-up seminars will be held in different localities. Emphasis will be on how the results of the Albuquerque meeting directly affect the localities involved. Plans are being made to involve the

Southwest and Rocky Mountain Division (SWARM) of AAAS in the organization of both the Albuquerque seminar and the follow-ups.

**Massachusetts:** "The Food Dilemma: It's No Picnic," 24-25 November, Boston Museum of Science and Boston Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts. The seminar will be preceded by the Washburn Award Symposium in honor of Dr. Jean Mayer on Sunday, 23 November, at the Museum of Science. The primary objective of this conference is to improve Boston's delivery system of nutrition education. Approximately 100 persons, including community health personnel, consumer activists, government officials, librarians, media representatives, nutritionists, school curriculum personnel, and supermarket representatives, are expected to attend. The conference will open with an analysis of the need for a national nutrition policy. Following this, the problems resulting from the lack of such a policy, including nutrition illiteracy and malnutrition, will be addressed. On the second day a series of demonstration and discussion sessions will be offered to acquaint participants with some of the most recent developments in nutrition education which they can currently utilize while the more long-range technical and policy issues are under consideration.

**California:** "Regional Energy Planning," late November or early December, San Diego, California. This seminar will be the third that AAAS has organized in San Diego, with the cooperation of the Science Office of Public Broadcasting Station KPBS. Dr. Jeffrey Kirsch and Ms. Susan Pollock of KPBS will again serve as co-hosts. In the manner of the New Mexico seminar, this one will concern itself with several aspects of the Ford Foundation's Energy Policy Project reports which are relevant to the San Diego area. In particular, participants at the three half-day forums will be dealing with San Diego's energy consumption patterns as compared with those of the rest of the nation, the exploration of alternate energy sources, the role local government can play in influencing current energy policy, and what type of conservation program is feasible. Participants will be drawn from San Diego area government and utilities, state and federal agencies, academia, and public consumer and environmental groups.

The success of past regional seminars has led not only to the program's expan-

### AAAS Annual Meeting Boston 18 to 24 February 1976

The theme of the forthcoming 142nd Annual Meeting of the AAAS is: *Science and Our Expectations: Bicentennial and Beyond*. The preliminary program and registration forms will be found in the 14 November issue of *Science*.

Every effort is being made to make the Annual Meeting fully accessible to physically disabled persons who wish to attend. For information and suggestions about this aspect of the Meeting, please contact: AAAS Office of Opportunities in Science, Project on the Handicapped in Science, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.