

AAAS Travelers. . .

AAAS has been requested to send representatives to the following international scientific meetings: Indian Science Congress Association, 65th Annual Session, on the theme "Science Education and Rural Development," Ahmedabad, 3-7 January 1978; and Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, 33rd Annual Session, on the theme "Science and the Citizen," Colombo, 6-10 December 1977. AAAS members who expect to be in either area and are interested in representing AAAS at these meetings and/or who know of colleagues who might be able to participate are requested to contact AAAS, Office of International Science, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

tific work to evaluate and control desertification and for close cooperation between scientists and planning and management personnel.

More information about the Science Associations' Nairobi Seminar on Desertification is available from the AAAS Office of International Science, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Women in Scientific Research Topic of AAAS Conference

A conference on women in scientific research is scheduled for 17-20 October 1977 in Washington, D.C., as part of a AAAS study of the topic supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The meeting will feature several plenary sessions at which major figures in academe, government, and industry will speak with the 60 women scientists chosen for the conference, all of whom have received doctorates in science since June 1971. There also will be intensive working sessions on topics such as research opportunities in different sectors, minority women in science, and the differences in experiences of women in the social sciences as compared to the natural sciences. Among the products expected from the study will be a summary of the conference and of data gathered preparatory to it, a set of policy and pro-

gram recommendations for NSF, and a book-length manuscript on the participation of women in scientific research.

The project is designed to achieve several ends. NSF has asked for suggestions of ways to ensure that its programs give men and women equal access to research and educational opportunities in science. The project will provide data and analysis of interest to scholars dealing with questions of role modeling, varying rates of productivity between women and men scientists, and similar controversies. It will suggest further topics for research and may suggest strategies for overcoming remaining barriers to equal opportunity. Universities and congressional committees have expressed interest in using the findings of the study to formulate programs and to guide legislation.

\$185,000 in Grants for Project on Handicapped

New projects and new people are in the works for the AAAS Project on the Handicapped in Science (a part of the Office of Opportunities in Science), thanks to the recent receipt of grants totaling \$185,000.

The funds, from the National Science Foundation, the W. T. Grant Foundation, the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, and the Xerox and Exxon Corporations, have enabled the Project to expand its staff and undertake some new efforts involving education and career opportunities for the handicapped.

Cheryl A. Davis, a planner and specialist in design of housing and other environments for handicapped persons, joined the Project in August as a program associate. Davis, who uses a wheelchair, has worked for the Massachusetts Department of Community Affairs Handicapped Housing Program and has served as an expert consultant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Chicago, the Tufts-New England Medical Center, and various other organizations across the country. In 1977, she completed a year as a Loeb Fellow in Advanced Environmental Studies at Harvard University. She has spoken nationally and published widely on such topics as facilitating employment of the handicapped, the role of housing in rehabilitation, and the 1973 Rehabilitation Act.

Davis will be assisting in the development of a variety of new AAAS projects, including an inventory of teachers and school administrators who have successfully taught science to handicapped

students; a newsletter, *Access to Science*, which will form a communications network among college and university administrators and science departments, guidance counselors, and handicapped students, giving technical assistance to widen opportunities in science education; a study of the coping strategies of handicapped scientists who have successfully obtained an education and a job in science; an exploratory study of the barriers limiting the participation of college-level handicapped students in science courses; a lecture tour covering approximately 20 states by Robert Menchel, a physicist who is deaf (see AAAS News, *Science*, 5 August 1977, page 548); and a directory of handicapped scientists throughout the country.

JEAN KAPLAN
Office of Opportunities in Science

Affiliate News

Several years ago it was called to the attention of the American Chemical Society (ACS) that many people who are teaching chemistry in secondary schools in the United States have themselves had very little formal training in chemistry. In order to help alleviate this problem, ACS is preparing a set of "Guidelines and Recommendations for the Preparation and Continuing Education of Secondary School Teachers of Chemistry."

The guidelines will be distributed in the fall of 1977. Single copies of the document will be available free of charge (as long as the supply lasts) from M. Passer, director, Education Office, American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Marine Science Session Highlights Annual Interiencia Meeting

A 4-day symposium on marine sciences in the Americas and admission of a new member nation were highlights of the 3rd annual meeting of the Interiencia Association (IA) in San Jose, Costa Rica, 3-7 July.

Canada became the eighth nation represented in the Interiencia Association with the entry of SCITEC (Association of the Scientific, Engineering, and Technological Community of Canada). Affiliation of SCITEC was approved at a meeting of its council during the so-

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