

Congressional Subcommittees to Hold Hearing at AAAS Annual Meeting . . .

Congressional subcommittees in the U.S. Senate and House with principal jurisdiction over national science and technology policy will move downtown on 14 February to conduct a day-long joint hearing at the AAAS Annual Meeting.

The Senate Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, chaired by Adlai E. Stevenson (D–III.), and the House Subcommittee on Science, Research, and Technology, chaired by Ray Thornton (D–Ark.), will convene on Tuesday, 14 February, at 9:30 a.m., in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton-Park Hotel. The joint hearing is part of the subcommittees' oversight hearings on national science and technology policy.

The morning session of the hearing, chaired by Stevenson, will address the issue of "Industrial Innovation, R & D Spending, and the Economy." Testimony from invited witnesses will address these questions: Is there a problem? Does it matter? What can and should the federal government do about it? More specifically, the subcommittees will examine the relationship between research and development expenditure, both public and private, and industrial innovation. They also will examine the degree of reported shifts in R & D priorities (e.g., from basic research to product development).

"The AAAS meeting in Washington, D.C., provides Congress with an excellent opportunity to hear directly from scientists, engineers, and other experts," Stevenson said in announcing the joint hearing, which will be open to all Annual Meeting attendees.

The afternoon session, chaired by Representative George Brown (D-Cal.), will convene at 1:30 p.m. in the Sheraton-Park's Grand Ballroom to examine the topic "The Science and Technology Policy Agenda for 1983 and Beyond." Witnesses will offer their opinions about emerging science and technology issues that are likely to require action by Congress and the federal government during the 1980's.

The afternoon hearing represents the initial step by Congress to develop a capability to forecast science and technology issues on a continuing basis. The Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress and the Office of Technology Assessment will assist in this effort. The Science and Technology Policy Act of 1976 mandated a similar

Nominations of AAAS Fellows Invited

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is defined as one "who has produced a body of work on behalf of the advancement of science that is scientifically distinguished or socially highly significant, or both." Fellows are elected annually by the AAAS Council upon recommendation by the Council Committee on Fellows. Nominations for consideration at the Committee's fall 1978 meeting are now invited. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Executive Office, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Completed forms should be sent no later than 1 May to the secretary of the nominee's voting section for possible inclusion in the slate of nominees to be submitted by the section committee to the Council Committee on Fellows. Alternatively, nomination may be made by any three AAAS Fellows and the form sent directly to the Executive Office for receipt no later than 1 August. The Committee will give equal consideration to nominations from the section committees and from groups of three Fellows.

Names and addresses of the section secretaries will be supplied by the Executive Office upon request.

initiative by the Office of Science and Technology Policy; responsibility was transferred to the National Science Foundation after the reorganization of the Executive Office of the President. NSF, in turn, is considering asking the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a 5-year forecast of science and technology issues.

Both sessions of the hearing will be opened to questions and comments from the audience after testimony of witnesses is heard. It will be "an accessible forum for the Annual Meeting participants," according to Stevenson. "We look forward to an informative and lively exchange of views."

... And Other Meeting Notes

The new Working Group on Science, Technology, and Public Policy Networking of the AAAS Committee on Science and Public Policy will hold an open business meeting during the Annual Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 14 February, in the Board Room of the Shoreham Americana Hotel. The working group was formed with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to consider ways of fostering training, research, and utilization in the science and technology public policy field. AAAS is particularly interested in assisting university-based science, technology, and society programs in their efforts to give the field a greater measure of coherence, utility, and recognition, and in helping to establish networks of scholars and practitioners. The subcommittees of the Senate and the House of Representatives with science responsibilities have expressed their support of these objectives and their interest in AAAS initiatives.

The business meeting on 14 February will provide the opportunity for charting a course of action for the new group. A basis for discussion will be the results of a survey of the science/technology/public policy community in universities, industry, and government to determine their views on the needs of the field and how best AAAS could assist in meeting them. Respondents to the survey ranked a variety of activities they would like to see AAAS initiate in the next year or two. Among those receiving high priority were workshops, training courses, work-