

Malcom to Head OOS

Shirley Mahaley Malcom has been appointed to head the AAAS Office of Opportunities in Science (OOS) beginning 17 September.

Malcom has, since 1977, been program manager at the National Science Foundation's Minority Institutions Science Improvement Program. Prior to joining the National Science Foundation, she served as research assistant, staff association, and project director in the Office of Opportunities in Science.

Malcom received her Ph.D. degree in ecology from Pennsylvania State University in 1974; her M.A. in zoology and animal behavior from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1968; and her B.S. (with distinction), from the University of Washington in 1967.

Janet Welsh Brown, who had headed the OOS since its inception in 1972, left the Association 1 April to become executive director of the Environmental Defense Fund.

Long Beach to Be Site for Solar Seminar

"Solar Energy: Issues and Priorities," the fourth in the current AAAS Regional Energy Seminar Series, will be held 2-3 November at the Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, California. The seminar will explore various conversions and applications of solar energy for the Southwest, particularly the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

Complex problems involving solar energy have been identified through past experience and in future plans for increased solar use. These problems will be looked at in the context of current and projected technologies. A wide range of solar systems including residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and utility application will be discussed.

Technological, economic, and institutional problems relating to the development of solar energy will be examined from the perspectives of industry, government, the public, and the academic community.

Featured speakers will include William A. Gross, dean of engineering, University of New Mexico; Richard Schoen, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles; and Robert Ladner, manager, solar programs, San Diego Gas and Elec-

tric Company. Among the seminar panelists will be Katie Alvord, solar project coordinator, League of California Cities; and Leonard Grimes, commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission.

The seminar will attempt to identify key impediments to significant commercial penetration of the solar heating/cooling and process heat markets in the Southwest, examine the consensus, or lack thereof, between governments and the public on the nature of these impediments, and determine what approaches might be taken to remove the impediments. The primary issues involving solar electric development and commercialization in the Southwest, and the need for new approaches and policies, will also be assessed.

Cosponsors for the seminar, along with the AAAS, are Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society; California State University, Northridge; and the Energy Fair Foundation. Funding for the AAAS Regional Energy Seminar Series is provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

For further information, contact Patricia S. Curlin, regional energy seminar coordinator, at the AAAS address, telephone 202-467-4310.

AAAS and NAS Issue Joint Appeal to Argentine Government

In a joint statement issued 28 August, the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Committee on Human Rights called upon the government of Argentina to account for scientists, engineers, and students who have disappeared or been subjected to torture, inhumane prison conditions, or the suspension of legal rights since the military government seized power in March 1976.

Inquiries concerning the fate of Argentine scientists, engineers, and students have been made by many groups within the U.S. scientific community, including the American Physical Society, the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The fates of specific scientists whose cases are being followed by the AAAS and the NAS were again asked about in the joint appeal. "The problem," according to the AAAS/NAS statement,

Reviewers Sought

Science Books & Films is a quarterly publication of AAAS that publishes brief (200-word) reviews of new science books and new science films for all audience levels (kindergarten through college). All areas of science are covered, including mathematics and the physical, social, and life sciences, by scientists in the appropriate disciplines.

SB&F is considering expanding its coverage to include reviews of filmstrips and will need additional reviewers for this particular medium. If you would be interested in volunteering your services as a reviewer and have access to filmstrip equipment, please contact the editor, SB&F, at the AAAS address.

"is not solved by the government's assertion that it knows nothing of the fate of these 'disappeared' citizens or that they are the victims of terrorists. We must conclude that the government of Argentina bears ultimate responsibility for permitting the disappearances, tortures, and deaths of many Argentine scientists and others who have not been charged with any crime."

The two organizations expressed the hope that the visit to Argentina by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States (scheduled for 6 to 20 September) would produce information concerning these "disappeared" persons and others.

The AAAS Council, at its meeting on 7 January 1979, passed a resolution calling on scientists and scientific organizations to join it in expressing concern about the situation in Argentina.

The joint statement points out that "Argentina cannot have a respected place in the world of international science until the respect for human rights of all citizens permits honest inquiry and freedom of discussion without fear for personal safety. . . . The systematic repression of scientists—or systematic denial of fundamental human rights—in any society ultimately threatens scientists and scientific freedom everywhere."

For further information, contact Bruce A. Kiernan, human rights coordinator, CSFR, AAAS, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.