

## The Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights

The Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights is a project of the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility. The Clearinghouse collects information on foreign scientists whose human rights and scientific freedoms have been violated. This information in turn is disseminated to individual scientists or designated representatives of the professional societies affiliated with AAAS for appropriate institutional or individual responses. The Clearinghouse also puts out a quarterly *Clearinghouse Report* on international science and human rights issues. Recent features have included the student and faculty deaths attributed to security forces in Guatemala, a protest by South African doctors over the death of Steve Biko while in official custody, and reports on the proceedings of the Helsinki Review Conference and the recent AAAS Workshop on Scientific Cooperation and Human Rights in the Americas. Case studies of imprisoned or detained Liberian, Uruguayan, Soviet, and Iraqi scientists and engineers have also been included in the report. To receive more information on the Clearinghouse or to be put on the mailing list for the *Clearinghouse Report*, please write to Eric Stover, project director, Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights, at the AAAS address or 202-467-5236. (The *Clearinghouse Report* is distributed free of charge.)

During their 3-week stay, the group visited Washington, D.C., New York, Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Their major interest was in the field of science writing. The group met with colleagues to discuss the methodology, incentives, training, and social ramifications of science journalism. In addition, NASW hosted receptions in Washington, New York, and San Francisco. Site visits to television and radio stations, newspapers, and magazines were also arranged. A panel discussion on science writing was held at the AAAS office in Washington as well.

Public understanding of science was an important and related concern of the delegation. They were particularly interested in the communication of science and technology to a lay audience: Where and how do people learn about science? What role does the media play in science education? How do museums complement the formal education that takes place in school? What is the function of the elementary, secondary, and university educational system? In addition to media sites, the delegation also visited a number of museums and schools.

Research, financed both by government and industrial sources, was another significant part of the group's itinerary. An effort was made not only to demonstrate innovations but also to draw parallels with similar work being conducted in China. The delegation met with repre-

sentatives and researchers from government agencies, research hospitals, universities, and industry.

Agriculture was clearly of great interest to the delegation. They saw the progression of research being conducted at the university to the technology transfer through the county agent system directly to the farmer. In many cases, the delegation was able to meet with senior Chinese scholars conducting research projects in the United States.

LISBETH A. LEVEY  
*Executive Office*

## Division Meeting at Greeley Highlights the Unusual

Would you expect to find cities beneath the Mediterranean in Greeley, Colorado? Yes, if you were attending the recent meeting of the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division (SWARM) of AAAS. This spring, the University of Northern Colorado was the host for the annual conclave of the SWARM division, and the meeting sparkled with unusual and interesting presentations and symposia.

A recitation of highlights can hardly do justice to the meeting, but a few impressions may serve to give a flavor of what went on in Greeley.

Speaking to a modest-size crowd on the opening night of the 4-day meeting, AAAS Board Member Anna J. Harrison detailed the scope of AAAS ventures and new programs. Harrison's presentation left an impression of a vital organization bursting with activities, growing better every year, and of many new programs bridging the gap between science and other professional and public service areas.

Several other AAAS "national headquarters" people attended the meeting, including F. James Rutherford, former assistant secretary of the Department of Education, and currently special adviser to the AAAS Board on science education, who attended for consultations with SWARM leaders on science education issues, and Phyllis N. Windle, one of the AAAS Science, Engineering, and Diplomacy Fellows for 1981, who gave an invited paper on science and technology in the U.S. Department of State.

Robert L. Hohlfelder of the University of Colorado gave the John Wesley Powell Memorial Lecture. Speaking on "Cities Beneath the Mediterranean: An Introduction to the Underwater Exploration of Coastal Sites," Hohlfelder informed and entertained a large audience that included many local residents.

At one point, showing a slide of an ancient coin retrieved from the ocean floor, which the unsuspecting viewer might guess came from some mysterious culture which thrived briefly along the Mediterranean, he led the audience through the steps that exposed the piece as a fake constructed by a long-dead and hopelessly illiterate forger. A mixture of science, exploration, history, and culture, Hohlfelder's lecture was for many the high point of the meeting.

Other outstanding sessions, too numerous to mention in detail, dotted the program. These included sessions in desertification, energy development, and science education, as well as those that are the bedrock of any SWARM meeting: the many technical presentations in aquatic biology, botanical sciences, microbiology, physical sciences, and history and philosophy of science.

A general poster session included ten presentations ranging from Navajo uranium operations to a Chinese brass water-spouting bowl.

Sam Shushan (University of Colorado) gave the SWARM presidential address on "The Hyphal Connection: The Fungi in Our Lives." Despite the fascinating color and variety of the fungi shown and Shushan's obvious enthusiasm for his subject, the evening's show was stolen

## AAAS Alaska Division Announces Its 32nd Annual Meeting

The 1981 Alaska Science Conference sponsored by the Alaska Division of AAAS will be held in Fairbanks, 25-27 August, on the University of Alaska campus. The conference theme is "Life Sciences in the Service of Alaska."

Although emphasizing the role of basic and applied life sciences, the conference will follow the long-established tradition of scheduling sessions for physical and social sciences and other current research.

The conference will consist of technical sessions, panel discussions, and special lectures by internationally recognized scientists in the areas of biology, agriculture, and anthropology.

For additional information, contact John Bligh, Institute of Arctic Biology, 902 Koyukuk Avenue, North, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701, 907-479-7640.

by the young people who received awards during the banquet from the Colorado-Wyoming Junior Academy of Science.

During the meeting, Klaus Timmerhaus, assistant dean of engineering, University of Colorado, was named SWARM president-elect. Joining him and the other members of the executive committee will be new member-at-large Larry Sveum (New Mexico Highlands University).

The active and essential cooperation of the Colorado-Wyoming Academy of Science was evident throughout the meeting and in the various arrangements.

Some 300 people registered for the meeting. Some sessions attracted an overflow crowd, such as the energetic and amusing presentation on science education by weatherman Sam Allred, and other sessions, many equally good, were not well attended.

Science writers from Colorado and surrounding states covered the sessions. News clippings coming to the AAAS suggest that the information impact of the meeting may last for some time.

RICHARD A. SCRIBNER  
*Office of Public Sector Programs*

### AAAS Travelers

AAAS has been invited to send a representative to the 37th annual session of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science to be held in Colombo, 11-16 December 1981. The theme will be "Blueprint for Development." The AAAS delegate has been invited to deliver both a specialized and a popular lecture.

AAAS members who plan to be in the area at that time and/or who know of

colleagues on sabbatical in the region who might be able to attend should contact Denise Weiner, Office of International Science, at the AAAS address. Please include a curriculum vitae. No travel funds are available; however, partial support (per diem only) will be provided.

### Arms Control Committee Established

At its April meeting, the AAAS Board of Directors created a new Committee on Science, Arms Control, and National Security. Its assignment follows the Association's objective, "to improve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare." Arising from an earlier steering group on arms control, the new Board Committee will develop and focus the scientific, technical, and organizational resources of AAAS for exploring and fostering effective approaches to conflict resolution, control of nuclear weapons, and improvement of national security assets.

George W. Rathjens, professor of political science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was named chair of the group which will number 15 when the Board completes its appointment of members.

In the course of its work, the Committee may arrange symposia, convene ad hoc groups of experts, conduct workshops, develop educational materials, cooperate with affiliates and committees of AAAS and other organizations, and respond to government requests for advice and consultation. In general, the Committee will work to expand the interests and involvement of scientists, engi-

neers, and the public in the matters before it.

In the fall, when the Committee is fully formed and has had sufficient time to consider thoroughly specific courses of action, a more detailed account of its membership and plans will appear in this AAAS News Section.

For further information, write to Richard A. Scribner, at the AAAS address.

### Obituaries

**Allen M. Baker** of Westmont, Illinois, member since 1973, 28 March 1981.

**Ronald A. Baker** of Stamford, Connecticut, member of Section M (Engineering) since 1954, 11 May 1981.

**Catherine Bridgham** of North Jackson, Ohio, member of Section C (Chemistry) since 1939, 3 March 1981.

**James E. Gill** of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, member of Section E (Geology and Geography) since 1928, 26 January 1981.

**Garford G. Gordon** of Santa Rosa, California, member of Section Q (Education) since 1947, 17 March 1981.

**William D. Inlow** of Shelbyville, Indiana, member of Section N (Medical Sciences) since 1924, 11 February 1981.

**W. D. McClellan** of Fresno, California, member of Section O (Agriculture) since 1942, 3 April 1981.

**Norman Plummer** of Lawrence, Kansas, member of Section E (Geology and Geography) since 1966, 19 March 1981.

**Robert F. Selden** of Susan, Virginia, member of Section C (Chemistry) since 1950, 18 March 1981.

**Tracy M. Sonneborn** of Bloomington, Indiana, member of Section G (Biological Sciences) since 1927, 26 January 1981.

**C. Y. Thomas** of Shawnee Mission, Kansas, member of Section M (Engineering) since 1962, 28 March 1981.

**Sidney A. Trandee** of Deming, New Mexico, member of Section K (Social, Economic, and Political Sciences) since 1957, 9 March 1981.

**Paul B. Wollschlaeger** member of Section B (Physics) since 1966, 27 March 1981.

For more information about the activities and publications described in "AAAS News," write to the appropriate office, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, unless otherwise indicated.