

Call for Nominations: 1983 General Election

The Committee on Nominations will meet this fall to select candidates for the 1983 general election. The Committee invites AAAS members to submit nominations, including self-nominations, for the positions of President-Elect and members of the Board of Directors.

Current Board members are listed on the contents page of *Science*. Candidates for terms to start on 1 June 1983 are listed in the 4 June 1982 issue.

Nominations should be sent to the Executive Officer, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, no later than 8 October 1982. Each nomination must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae of the proposed candidate.

Besides the technical sessions, CHEMRAWN II will include an exhibition and poster presentations of technical papers.

Anyone wishing further information about the Conference should write to: CHEMRAWN II Coordinating Office, The International Food Policy Research Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, or CHEMRAWN II Secretariat, The International Rice Research Institute, P.O. Box 933, Manila, Philippines.

PAMELA A. GREGAS
Office of Communications

AAAS Voices Concern over Human Rights of Scientists

In late June, AAAS Executive Officer William D. Carey wrote to Polish Chairman Wojciech Jaruzelski requesting clarification on the detentions of two Polish scientists involved in international scientific exchanges—Ryszard Herczynski, mathematician, and Ireneusz Ostrokowski, physicist. Previous AAAS executive correspondence was sent to Polish scientists reportedly interned following the imposition of martial law on 13 December 1981. Since no response has been received to the earlier correspondence, the AAAS Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights plans to submit the cases to an appropriate international forum for further action, while awaiting news on Herczynski and Ostrokowski.

The Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights is a part of the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility. It collects information about individual cases and patterns of human rights violations affecting foreign scientists and refers cases to AAAS affiliated societies for further investiga-

tion and assistance where appropriate.

During the first half of 1982, the AAAS has sent correspondence to the Soviet penal authorities asking about the current condition of imprisonment of Sergei Kovalyov, Soviet physiologist; to Uruguayan government authorities with regard to the precarious medical condition of imprisoned Uruguayan mathematician Jose Luis Massera; to Soviet scientific officials with regard to the reported revocation of academic degrees of dissident scientists in the U.S.S.R.; and to U.S. government officials with regard to the reported surveillance of visiting Chinese scientists.

Recent letters of inquiry on behalf of beleaguered scientists and engineers have been sent by various affiliates of the Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights to government authorities and scientific colleagues in Benin, the Central African Republic, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Soviet Union, and Turkey.

Information about specific cases of scientists and engineers who have had their basic human rights violated or their scientific activities restricted can be sent to the Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights, 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005 (202-467-5236). Of particular interest are cases involving the denial of visas to foreign scientists. Clearinghouse staff will review materials received, and when appropriate, refer individual cases to Clearinghouse affiliates.

Creationism Draws Crowds in Santa Barbara

A special 2-day session on the continuing "creationism" controversy attracted a large number of people during the AAAS Pacific Division's annual meeting in June in Santa Barbara, California.

"Evolutionists Confront Creationists" brought several of the better-known spokespersons together.

Duane T. Gish of the Institute for Creation Research and Robert Gentry of Columbia Union College gave presentations on biological and geological evidence supporting the creationists' explanation of past and present life forms.

Speaking mainly on paleontology and geology were G. Brent Dalrymple of the U.S. Geological Survey and Patrick Abbott of San Diego State University. Dalrymple dealt in part with the creationist argument used to explain radioactive haloes in minerals, a point on which Gentry's paper centered. Biological topics were examined by Russell Doolittle (University of California, San Diego—speaking on the origin of life), Joel Cracraft (University of Illinois, Chicago—on systematics and fossils), and Vincent Saritch (University of California, Berkeley—on human evolution). John Patterson (Iowa State University) examined thermodynamic considerations in evolution and creationism, a topic to which Gish had devoted considerable attention. The session was sparked by a number of sharp exchanges between participants.

More than 750 people attended the 63rd annual meeting of the AAAS Pacific Division, which was held on the campus of the University of California, Santa Barbara, from 20 to 24 June. The 1983 annual meeting of the Division, which will be held jointly with the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division, will be in Logan, Utah, 12–17 June.

In addition to the symposium on creationism, several others drew standing-room-only audiences. A session on "Science, Deviance, and Society" led off with a paper by *Science* reporter William Broad. He suggested that we might learn something about how science operates by studying major scientific frauds which have occurred since 1960.

More specialized topics, such as amphibian physiology, risk analysis, phanerozoic extinctions, the medfly, programs for access to science, and biogeography of oaks also attracted considerable attention. Robert I. Bowman's (San Francisco State University) presidential address on Darwin's finches drew a standing ovation from the over 100 persons at the Division banquet.

This year the Division combined the program and abstracts into one volume of *Proceedings*. A limited number of copies are available at \$3 per copy (prepaid orders only) from Alan E. Leviton, AAAS Pacific Division, c/o California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California 94118.