

AAAS Members Share Their Experience with Local Science Museums

During the past year AAAS members around the country have been working with local science museums. Scientist-volunteers have given lectures, helped design exhibits, and met with young people to talk about science careers. They are part of a project which aims to improve the science education programs of science/technology centers and museums.

The AAAS began pursuing the idea of working with science centers and museums when, in 1980, then AAAS Board Chairman Frederick Mosteller suggested that the Association might help these museums in their science education efforts. The AAAS, through its Committee on the Public Understanding of Science, worked with the Association of Science/Technology Centers (ASTC) to identify ways in which members might best become involved.

Among the suggestions were that the AAAS provide lists of distinguished speakers who could address lay audiences; identify area scientists and engineers who could act as consultants, speakers, exhibit designers, and museum members; specify AAAS members who could participate in children's science workshops or update workshops for museum staff; and suggest scientists and engineers who could edit written material for distribution to museum audiences.

AAAS and ASTC set up a steering committee and asked for proposals from science museums interested in working with Association members. In July 1981 five science centers were selected to participate in the pilot project. They are the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago; North Carolina Museum of Life and Science, Durham; Capital Children's Museum, Washington, D.C.;

Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield, Michigan; and New York Hall of Science, Flushing.

The AAAS then (October 1981) sent letters to individual members in the areas around those five centers. The letter listed some possible projects in which members might want to become involved, and included a questionnaire where members could indicate their areas of expertise and their interest in volunteering. The Association sent the completed questionnaires to the local science museums and their work began.

At the Cranbrook Institute of Science, AAAS volunteers helped put on a 10-day "Up With Science" program in April 1982. The week included programs on lasers, mineral identification, reptiles, plants, astronomy, and dinosaurs. "Up With Science" proved to be a great success and work for a second "Up With Science" program is under way. AAAS scientist-volunteers in the Detroit area also worked with the Cranbrook Institute of Science on a summer program on computers and participated in a fall science lecture series. One volunteer, a structural engineer, served as an adviser as the Institute built an ice castle for its annual "Winterscape."

In North Carolina, AAAS members became "Scientists-in-Residence" for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classes. Working with the Durham County School System, the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science matched AAAS scientist-volunteers to individual 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classes throughout the county. Each class had its own "scientist-in-residence." Scientist-volunteers visited in the classrooms several times, discussed their work, set up experiments, and answered questions from students. Among the AAAS members participating in this program were physicians, engineers, physicists, computer scientists, biochemists, geologists, and botanists. Responses from students, teachers, scientist-volunteers, and museum officials have been enthusiastic.

Both the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago and the Capital Children's Museum in Washington, D.C., are putting together directories of AAAS resource people and planning a range of activities in which scientist-volunteers will be involved.



Scientist-volunteer Paul D. Stein shows museum visitors how the heart works during 1982 "Up With Science" program at Cranbrook Institute of Science.

The New York Hall of Science (Flushing, New York) is closed for renovation—but AAAS scientist-volunteers are helping here, too. Members are working with museum officials to design exhibits and disabled scientists are assisting in making the Hall of Science accessible to the physically impaired.

Projects involving AAAS members at all of these centers are continuing and the Association hopes to expand the program to other science centers around the country.

AAAS Socio-Psychological Prize

Submission of entries in the 1983 competition for the AAAS Socio-Psychological Prize is invited. Established in 1952 with funds donated by Arthur F. Bentley, the \$1000 prize is awarded annually for a meritorious paper that furthers understanding of human psychological-social-cultural behavior. The prize is intended to encourage in social inquiry the development and application of the kind of dependable methodology that has proved to be fruitful in the natural sciences.

Entries should present a completed analysis of a problem, the relevant data, and the interpretation of the data in terms of the postulates with which the study began. Purely empirical studies, no matter how important, and purely theoretical formulations, no matter how thoughtful, are not eligible.

The winning entry will be selected by a committee of judges appointed by the Executive Officer in consultation with officers of the AAAS Sections on Anthropology (H), Psychology (J), and Social, Economic, and Political Sciences (K). The prize will be presented at the 1984 Annual Meeting in New York City, 24–29 May.

Unpublished manuscripts and manuscripts published after 1 January 1982 are eligible. The deadline for receipt of entries is 15 September 1983. For entry blank and instructions, write to the AAAS Executive Officer at the AAAS address.

Membership Dues Increase Announced

In its review of the Association's budget for 1983, the Board of Directors determined that member dues must be

raised. An across-the-board increase of \$5 will be made to help meet the rising postage and printing costs incurred by *Science* and to meet Association operating expenses.

For their annual dues of \$53, members receive 51 weekly issues of *Science*, voting privileges in Association elections, discounts on registration at the AAAS Annual Meeting and on the purchase of AAAS publications, and an offer of low-cost term life insurance. Members are also encouraged to participate in a broad range of activities sponsored by the Association.

Increased dues of \$53 (regular, United States), \$35 (student or emeritus, United States), and \$17 (spouse, without *Science*) will become effective 1 April 1983. (Dues for Canadian and other foreign members will also increase by \$5 on 1 April.)

Grants Offered to Foreign Graduate Students to Attend AAAS Meeting

AAAS expects a limited number of grants of up to \$250 to be available to assist self-sponsored foreign graduate students currently studying in the United States to attend the 1983 AAAS Annual Meeting to be held in Detroit, Michigan, 26–31 May. Registration for successful applicants will be paid by AAAS.

Applicants should submit (i) a curriculum vitae (including telephone number); (ii) a budget (round trip to Detroit and living expenses); and (iii) a short statement (250 to 300 words) describing the focus of current research, career plans, how training is expected to be applied on return to home country, and interest in attending the Annual Meeting. Material should be sent to Denise Weiner, Office of International Science, at the AAAS address. Applications must be received *no later than 1 April 1983*.

For the Library

• The *Proceedings* of the Seventh Annual AAAS Colloquium on R & D Policy, held in Washington, D.C., 23–24 June 1982, were published in October. Entitled "R & D in the FY 1983 Budget: Impact and Challenge," the Colloquium included presentations by Presidential Science Adviser George A. Keyworth, II; Senator Harrison H. Schmitt (R-N.M.); Senator Paul E. Tsongas (D-

Mass.); Frank Press, president, National Academy of Sciences; David Shirley, director, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory; David Ragone, president, Case Western Reserve University; George White, vice president, Xerox Corporation; and many other leading figures in the areas of science, technology, and public policy.

Copies of the *Proceedings* are available from the AAAS Sales Office, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, at \$8 per copy.

• "Human Rights and the Medical Profession in Uruguay Since 1972" reports on the status of physicians and medical facilities in Uruguay. The report charges that physicians in Uruguay are often the targets of repression, that the doctor-patient relationship is frequently abused, and that physicians have been directly or indirectly involved in acts of torture.

Authors Richard Goldstein, M.D., and Alfred Gellhorn, M.D., conducted their study of the medical profession in Uruguay with the assistance of the AAAS, New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS), American College of Physicians, and the National Academy of Sciences.

Copies of the report are available from the NYAS or the Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights at the AAAS address.

Western Divisions Will Meet Together in 1983

The Pacific Division and the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division of the AAAS will meet jointly 19–24 June in Logan, Utah.

AAAS members living in states covered by the Divisions will receive a copy of the preliminary announcement for the meeting. Others who might wish to present papers or attend the sessions should request a copy of the preliminary announcement from Alan E. Leviton, Pacific Division AAAS, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California 94881.

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.