

New Project Explores Disability Research

Recent developments in medicine and technology are improving the quality of life and broadening career options for disabled individuals. Newly designed wheelchairs are more maneuverable; infrared systems help hearing-impaired persons participate in group discussions; voice synthesizers make the computer more accessible to blind individuals; and microprocessor technology is allowing voice-disabled people to speak.

But while advances in science and engineering can have tremendous impacts on disabled people, too often technologies are developed with no input from the disabled.

The AAAS' Project on the Handicapped in Science is beginning a new program, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), to bridge the gap between the researchers and developers of technologies and the disabled people who are potential users of the technologies.

When disabled people are not adequately involved in the analysis, design, and evaluation of technologies, the results are often unworkable. For instance, a voice-activated wheelchair was designed to respond to user commands, but when used in the outside world the device responded to environmental and other noises as well as to the user's voice, making it unsafe. When researchers do include handicapped people in the development process, too often they rely on the hospitalized population rather than on independent disabled persons living and working in the community.

In order to create a more useful system of information exchange, during the next 2 years the AAAS Project on the Handicapped in Science will be working closely with the 286 scientific and engineering societies and academies of science that are affiliated with the Association. The Project also will draw heavily on the expertise provided by more than 1000 disabled scientists and engineers who are members of the AAAS Resource Group. In addition, the AAAS project will disseminate information about emerging research to scientists and engineers in a broad range of disci-

plinary fields to encourage collaboration and reduce duplication of effort.

As a first step, the project will review complete and ongoing research and development of science and technology to aid handicapped persons. This will include identifying research projects funded by the NSF and other federal agencies, searching scientific literature to locate other disability related R & D projects, and organizing information from disabled user groups and individuals.

Informing the scientific and engineering community about disability-related research and involving the community in that research is the major component of the project. To encourage awareness of research opportunities in the field and more cross-disciplinary research, the project will form a consortium of associations to address science and technology to aid the handicapped. Included in the consortium will be those groups already formed by area of interest, such as biomedical engineers and computer scientists. Consortium members will share information and successful strategies that they have developed to assist the disabled. In addition, consortium members will identify national, state, and regional scientific and engineering meetings at which groups and individuals can present papers on disability research. Scientists and engineers working in the area of disability research will be encouraged to report their findings at the regular meetings of their scientific societies as well as through scientific and technical journals. Throughout the course of the project, staff will work to increase the public's awareness of research to aid the disabled as well.

By more widely involving the scientific and engineering community in disability research, including disabled individuals in the R & D process, and increasing the public's awareness of these issues, the Project on the Handicapped in Science hopes to energize the field of disability research and expand the benefits it offers to disabled individuals. The project will be directed by Martha Ross Redden and Virginia Stern of the AAAS Project on the Handicapped in Science.

Scientists and engineers whose research might have application to the project, and other interested persons should write or call Redden or Stern at the AAAS address or telephone 202-467-4496 (voice or TTY).

1983 Election Results

The successful candidates in the 1983 elections are listed below. Terms begin 30 May 1984.

President-Elect: Gerard Piel

Members of the Board of Directors: John Brooks Slaughter and Linda S. Wilson

Members of the Committee on Nominations: Eloise E. Clark, Jessica Tuchman Mathews, Robert W. Parry, and Mildred T. Stahlman

Section A—Mathematics

Chairperson-Elect: Daniel Zelinsky

Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Anneli Lax

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Martin Davis and Gene H. Golub

Section B—Physics

Chairperson-Elect: Ralph O. Simmons

Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Ernest M. Henley

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Margaret Galland Kivelson and Andrew M. Sessler

Section C—Chemistry

Chairperson-Elect: Rustom Roy

Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Herman S. Bloch

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Norman A. LeBel and David Allen Shirley

Section D—Astronomy

Chairperson-Elect: David Morrison

Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: George Field

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Art Hoag and Nancy Houk

Section E—Geology and Geography

Chairperson-Elect: William W. Matthews III

Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Melinda S. Meade

Members of the Electorate Nominat-

ing Committee: Dean A. McManus and Lisa A. Rossbacher

Section G—Biological Sciences

Chairperson-Elect: Betty M. Twarog
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Mary E. Rice
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Mary E. Clutter and Michael A. Rex

Section H—Anthropology

Chairperson-Elect: Albert C. Spaulding
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Mary W. Helms
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Ruthann Knudson and Fred Plog

Section J—Psychology

Chairperson-Elect: John I. Lacey
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Elliot S. Valenstein
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Kay Deaux and James G. Greeno

Section K—Social, Economic, and Political Sciences

Chairperson-Elect: David Mechanic
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Claire Nader
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Iyar Berg and Carol H. Weiss

Section L—History and Philosophy of Science

Chairperson-Elect: Edward Grant
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Roger H. Stuewer
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Stephen G. Brush and Michael Ruse

Section M—Engineering

Chairperson-Elect: F. Karl Willenbrock
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Sheila Widnall
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Holt Ashley and Bruce B. Barrow

Section N—Medical Sciences

Chairperson-Elect: Alfred P. Fishman
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Jules Hirsch
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Richard F. Leighton and Robert L. Van Citters

Section O—Agriculture

Chairperson-Elect: Roy G. Creech
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Kenneth J. Frey

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: D. G. Hanway and Paul W. Santelmann

Section P—Industrial Science

Chairperson-Elect: Robert H. Prys
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Donald W. Collier
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Mary Ellen Mogee and John W. Scott

Section Q—Education

Council Delegate: David H. Ost
Chairperson-Elect: John F. Schaff
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Mary Budd Rowe
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Walter L. Gillespie and Victor J. Mayer

Section R—Dentistry

Council Delegate: Samuel Pruzansky
Chairperson-Elect: Gordon H. Rovellstad
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Richard E. Bradley
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Barnet M. Levy and Irwin D. Mandel

Section S—Pharmaceutical Sciences

Council Delegate: Martin I. Blake
Chairperson-Elect: Edward G. Rippie
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: William J. Jusko
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: William O. Foye and Joseph V. Swintosky

Section T—Information, Computing, and Communication

Council Delegate: Roger K. Summit
Chairperson-Elect: Karen B. Levitan
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Joseph Weizenbaum
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Madeleine Bates and Jerome A. Feldman

Section U—Statistics

Council Delegate: Paul Meier
Chairperson-Elect: J. Stuart Hunter
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: S. James Press
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Walter T. Federer and Roy E. Welsch

Section W—Atmospheric and Hydro-spheric Sciences

Council Delegate: Margaret A. LeMone
Chairperson-Elect: F. Kenneth Hare
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Claes G. H. Rooth

Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Ralph J. Cicerone and Christopher N. K. Mooers

Section X—General

Council Delegate: Frederick Seitz
Chairperson-Elect: Harold P. Green
Member-at-Large of the Section Committee: Rae Goodell
Members of the Electorate Nominating Committee: Robert W. Hanson and Amory B. Lovins

SWARM to Meet at Texas Tech

The Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division (SWARM) will hold its 60th Annual Meeting at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, 27–31 March 1984. Sessions and lectures will cover a wide range of the sciences from biochemistry to arid lands research and early humans.

Planned symposia include "Small Water Impoundments for Dry Regions" sponsored by the Committee on Desert and Arid Zones Research, "Hormone Receptors and Their Mechanisms of Action" sponsored by the Biomedical Sciences Section of SWARM, and "The Last 2000 Years of Aborigine Occupation on the Southern Plains" sponsored by the Division's Social Sciences Section.

Mary K. Seeley, director of the Desert Ecological Research Unit in Gobabeb, Southwest Africa/Nambia, will present the John Wesley Powell Memorial Lecture. Seeley will speak on "New Science in an Old Desert: Research in the Namib." Other speakers will include James R. Gosz, University of New Mexico, speaking on "Applying Ecosystem Perspectives to Environmental Problems" and Erik Trinkaus, Harvard University, speaking on "The Neanderthal Legacy." Lauro F. Cavazos, president of Texas Tech University, will welcome the group at its opening session.

This will be the first SWARM meeting to include the new members residing in the states of Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas east of the 100th meridian. Other states in the SWARM Division are Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana east of the Continental Divide, Texas and Oklahoma west of the 100th meridian, and Sonora and Chihuahua, Mexico.

In addition to sponsored symposia, each Section invites submission of reports and discussions of research. Further information is available from SWARM executive officer M. Michelle