

such considerations in much of the discipline. Goins argued that the mainstream psychology associations were "trapped by their own mission statements" into dealing with concerns raised by black professionals.

The small number of black scientists in many fields and at most work sites have led to the formation of other kinds of groups. The American Association of Blacks in Energy, which tries to affect national energy policy, and the Network of Minority Women in Science, which emphasizes precollege science education, are examples of such organizations.

The Office of Opportunities in Science has identified some 40 organizations of minority scientists, engineers, and health professionals. Similarly, separate groups of women and disabled scientists and engineers exist. Since membership means a commitment of money and/or time, scientists from these underrepresented groups make conscious choices about what they will join and what they expect from these different associations.

The message is clear—for individual scientists, what they care about will affect their decision to join and work within an association; and for any association the needs of the times must affect its mission. For example, the current crisis in precollege science and mathematics education has led to broad concern among most of the scientific and engineering societies. But, will associations see past their own reflections to the majority of the population (women, minorities, and disabled persons) when looking at the available pool of talent—to the future doers of science and producers of technology?

SHIRLEY M. MALCOM
Office of Opportunities in Science

Evolution/Creation Book Published

The AAAS Pacific Division has just published *Evolutionists Confront Creationists*.

The book is unusual for including two papers by creationists, one an overview by Duane Gish (Institute for Creation Research), and the other on radioactive haloes and red shifts by Robert Gentry (Columbia Union College).

Evolution science is detailed by Patrick Abbott (San Diego State University, on stratigraphy), Joel Cracraft (University of Illinois, Chicago, on systematics), G. Brent Dalrymple (U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, on the age of the

earth), Russell Doolittle (University of California, San Diego, on the origin of life), John Patterson (Iowa State University, on thermodynamics), Robert Root-Bernstein (Salk Institute, on philosophical issues), and William Thwaites (San Diego State University, on the design argument).

The 200-page softcover book may be purchased at \$9.75 per copy plus \$1.50 postage per order (prepaid orders only; make checks payable to California Academy of Sciences; California residents add tax to price of books) from the AAAS Pacific Division, c/o California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California 94118.

Amendment to AAAS Constitution

Article II, Objectives, of the AAAS Constitution reads as follows: "The objectives of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are to further the work of scientists, to facilitate cooperation among them, to foster scientific freedom and responsibility, to improve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare, and to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress."

In order to bring this Article up to date and, in particular, to recognize that science and engineering are moving closer together at a rapid rate and to provide an environment that will facilitate that trend, the AAAS Board of Directors proposes amending it as follows:

"The objectives of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are to further the work of scientists and engineers; to facilitate cooperation among them; to foster freedom, creativity, and responsibility in the pursuit of science and its applications; to improve the effectiveness of science and engineering in advancing human welfare; to promote quality and opportunity in science, mathematics, and engineering education; to increase public knowledge and understanding of science and its applications in human progress; and to contribute to the formulation of appropriate and effective public and private policies for the advancement of science and engineering."

This notice is published in accordance with Constitution Article IX, which calls for publication of proposed amendments at least 30 days in advance of the Council

meeting at which they are to be presented. If a majority of Council members so votes at the meeting on 28 May, the above amendment will be submitted to the AAAS membership for ratification by mail at the time of the 1984 election. A favorable vote by two-thirds of the members who return ballots is required for adoption.

Interciencia Begins Network of Biotechnology in the Americas

The Interciencia Association (IA) established a new program activity with the creation of a Continuing Committee for Networking in Biotechnology during the annual meeting of the IA Council last October at Caracas, Venezuela.

The Continuing Committee grew out of the extremely successful symposium "Biotechnology in the Americas: Prospects for Developing Countries," held at San Jose, Costa Rica, in May 1983. The symposium, which brought together 42 scientists and engineers from ten countries, was sponsored by IA together with the Central American Industrial Research Council of Costa Rica (CONICIT). The proceedings of the symposium and workshop were published by IA.

Already a number of activities have been set in motion in Latin America to implement recommendations made at the symposium, and still others are beginning. Among the activities suggested for Interciencia are an inventory of biotechnology researchers in the Latin American and Caribbean countries; development of a newsletter or other mechanism for rapid exchange of information; developing consensus panels to help establish national and regional priorities; coordination of training programs; organizing future workshops; and initiation of, or close relations with, a biotechnology network for the developing American nations.

The Interciencia Continuing Committee will examine which of such proposals IA could contribute to most effectively.

Rodrigo Zeledon of Costa Rica has been named chairman of the Continuing Committee for Networks in Biotechnology (NBT). Zeledon, a well-known biologist, is professor at the University of Costa Rica and president of Costa Rica's National Research Council. The staff of CONICIT, which is one of the nine member organizations of IA, will assist in coordination of NBT activities.