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Interciencia Focuses on Plant Resources and Latin Biotechnology Network

This spring, the Interciencia Association (IA), assisted in a program aimed at encouraging the utilization of underexploited plant resources in the Americas while continuing to cooperate with a new Latin American Network of Biotechnology Centers.

• At Ríonegro, Colombia, in March, botanists, phytochemists, and other experts from the nine countries whose scientific organizations constitute IA (Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, the United States, and Venezuela) led a seminar ranking the merits of plant species which are potential new sources of food, energy, or industrial raw materials. Together with delegates from the member associations, they drafted a report recommending establishment of the Interciencia Bioresources Program (PIRB) and indicated some eight species as prime candidates deserving the research, development, or commercialization efforts of more than one country. The report is to be presented to the Inter-American Development Bank which supported a 2-year study leading to the PIRB recommendations, and to other potential funding agencies.

AAAS was represented at the meeting by Richard Evans Schultes, director of the Harvard University Botanical Museum, who has chaired an AAAS advisory panel on PIRB since 1982, and by Philip H. Abelson, editor of *Science*.

Participating scientists were enthused at the prospect of fresh approaches and increased resources for cooperative research in tropical America on useful plants, whether typified by the jessenia and peach palms, or leguminous shrubs such as calliandra and prosopis. As IA president Michel Bergeron remarked to leaders of the Colombian Association for Advancement of Science, who hosted the seminar, "Three years of work have led to eight projects, which should launch a great endeavor—the essential objective of Interciencia."

• Several thousand miles south, scientists from the principal biotechnology centers of Latin America gathered at La Plata, Argentina, to plan for stronger Latin American participation in world biotechnology through regional technical cooperation. With the encourgement of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Unesco, and other groups, organizing scientists from seven countries, together with delegates from the governments of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela reached agreement during the week of 19 March to establish the Latin American Network of Biotechnology Centers. (Brazil was represented at the meeting by individual scientists; governmental endorsement is expected soon.)

Presentations at La Plata conveyed a sense of urgency regarding the needs of Latin America and developing countries for training and investment if the benefits of biotechnology—in agriculture and human and animal health—are to be available on acceptable terms, and if the gap between developing and industrial countries is not to widen indefinitely. Objectives of the Network include strengthening the basic science related to biotechnology, especially microbiology, molecular biology, genetics, and immunology; creating industrial pilot projects; sharing data systems; and addressing problems of a multinational character.

Several core activities are planned for an initial 3-year period, with a budget of some $500,000, provided primarily by United Nations–related agencies. "We give this a very high priority," said a senior UNDP representative, referring to the problem areas to be addressed by the Network, including nitrogen fixation, biofuels, monoclonal antibodies, and vaccines for tropical diseases.

Planners of the Network were aware of the formation last October of the Interciencia Continuing Committee for Networking in Biotechnology (NBI), whose chairman, Rodrigo Zeledon, attended the La Plata meeting (see *Science*, 6 April, page 49). Network organizers asked for the continuing collaboration of IA in the implementation of the Network's plans of action, specifically in organizing a series of workshops and in circulating a newsletter about biotechnology in Latin America.

Chilean biologist Jorge Allende saluted the role IA has played in the inception of the Network, through the pioneer symposium, "Biotechnology in the Americas: Prospects for Developing Countries," held in San Jose, Costa Rica, in 1983.

JAMES W. ROWE
Interciencia Association

Truman and Science

A four-page bibliography on Harry Truman and science has been prepared in connection with the special exhibit, on display at the 1984 AAAS Annual Meeting in New York City, commemorating the centennial of Truman's birth.

The bibliography is available, free, from AAAS Archivist Michele Aldrich, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

New Data Guide Available

The Scientific Manpower Commission, with a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), has published a "roadmap" to data on scientists and engineers. Designed to enhance the available data from all sources, and particularly from NSF reports, this new guide will assist both the regular researcher and the occasional user of data on scientists and engineers.

The 288-page *Guide to Data on Scientists and Engineers* consists of three indexes (bibliographic, by field, and by year) to data collected since 1973 by 49 organizations and published in about 170 reports or series of reports.

The bibliographic index is organized alphabetically by publisher. It includes

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the function of each publishing organization together with a detailed description of its manpower surveys and publications since 1973. A condensed listing of all tables in each publication is also included. To speed the search process, Field and Year of Data indexes are provided in the form of a matrix. The *Guide* contains walk-through examples for using these indexes.

In addition to its quick-reference field and year indexes, this new *Guide to Data on Scientists and Engineers* includes a "Guide for the Perplexed Data User" and a number of additional aids to rapid location and understanding of particular kinds of data.

Because of the unique nature of the *Guide*, the Division of Science Resources Studies of the National Science Foundation has provided funds for printing and distributing a limited number of copies of this new reference work. Research groups and libraries may request a copy of the *Guide to Data on Scientists and Engineers* from the Scientific Manpower Commission, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

COSEPP Study Under Way

The AAAS Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPP) is conducting a study of the relationship between graduate study and professional practice in the area of science, engineering, and public policy (SEPP).

The study, which is supported in part by the National Science Foundation, is collecting information on academic programs, primarily at the graduate level, which seek to prepare students for careers in the area. The study will result in a "guide to study in science, engineering, and public policy," and an analytic report assessing the state of education in this area.

Information is being collected from directors and faculty of academic SEPP programs, graduates and students who have completed at least 1 year in such programs, and professionals in the field who are familiar with the academic programs and their graduates.

Persons interested in taking part in the study who have not yet been contacted should write to Albert H. Teich, Project Director, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

BOOKS RECEIVED

(Continued from page 984)

1983. xxvi, 470 pp., illus. $61.95. SCOPE 19. From a workshop, Pushchino, U.S.S.R., Oct. 1979.

Gold '82. The Geology, Geochemistry and Genesis of Gold Deposits. R. P. Foster, Ed. Published on behalf of the Geological Society of Zimbabwe by Balkema, Rotterdam, 1984 (U.S. distributor, Balkema, Accord, Mass.). xii, 753 pp., illus. $45. From a symposium, Harare, Zimbabwe, May 1982.

Handbook of Measurement Science. Vol. 2, Practical Fundamentals. P. H. Sydenham, Ed. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1983. xxii pp. + pp. 655–1413, illus. $97.95.

Head and Neck Cancer. P. H. Rhys Evans, P. E. Robin, and J. W. L. Fielding, Eds. Liss, New York, 1983. x, 261 pp., illus. $48. From a symposium, Birmingham, England, Sept. 1982.

Introduction to Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion. Vol. 1, Plasma Physics. Francis F. Chen. 2nd ed. Plenum, New York, 1984. xviii, 421 pp., illus. $24.50.

An Introduction to the Physical Chemistry of Biological Organization. A. R. Peacocke. Clarendon (Oxford University Press), New York, 1983. xii, 302 pp., illus. $65.

The Jahn-Teller Effect. A Bibliographic Review. I. B. Bersuker. IFI/Plenum, New York, 1984. x, 589 pp., $85.

The Jahn-Teller Effect and Vibronic Interactions in Modern Chemistry. I. B. Bersuker. Plenum, New York, 1984. xiv, 319 pp., illus. $45. Modern Inorganic Chemistry.

Multimodal Torus in the Weakly Electric Fish Eigenmannia. Henning Scheich and Sven O. E. Ebbesson. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1983. viii, 69 pp., illus. Paper, $18.70. Advances in Anatomy, Embryology and Cell Biology, 82.

Mutagenicity, Carcinogenicity, and Teratogenicity of Industrial Pollutants. Micheline Kirsch-Volders, Ed. Plenum, New York, 1984. xiv, 336 pp. $45.

Natural Selection, Heredity, and Eugenics. Including Selected Correspondence of R. A. Fisher with Leonard Darwin and Others. J. H. Bennett, Ed. Clarendon (Oxford University Press), New York, 1983. x, 306 pp. $47.50.

Natural Systems for Development. What Planners Need to Know. Richard A. Carpenter, Ed. Macmillan, New York, and Collier Macmillan, London, 1983. xxxii, 485 pp., illus. $37.50.

Optical and Acoustic Waves in Solids—Modern Topics. M. Borissov, Ed. World Scientific, Singapore. 1983 (U.S. distributor, Heyden, Philadelphia). viii, 483 pp., illus. $67. From a school, Varna, Bulgaria, Sept. 1982.

Organic Molecular Aggregates. Electronic Excitation and Interaction Processes. P. Reineker, H. Haken, and H. C. Wolf, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1983. x, 285 pp., illus. $29. Springer Series in Solid-State Sciences, vol. 49. From a symposium, Schloss Elmau, Bavaria, Germany, June 1983.

Pain in the Cancer Patient. Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Therapy. M. Zimmermann, P. Drings, and G. Wagner, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1984. x, 240 pp., illus. $42. Recent Results in Cancer Research, 89.

Purine Metabolism in Man—IV. Part A, Clinical and Therapeutic Aspects; Regulatory Mechanisms. Chris H. M. M. De Bruyn, H. Anne Simmonds, and Mathias M. Müller, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1984. xviii, 555 pp., illus. $75. Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology, vol. 165. From a symposium, Maastrich, Netherlands, June 1982.

Radiation-Induced Chromosome Damage in Man. Takaaki Ishihara and Masao S. Sasaki, Eds. Liss, New York, 1984. xiv, 636 pp., illus. $98. Progress and Topics in Cytogenetics, vol. 4.

Radiation Oncology Annual 1983. Theodore L. Phillips and David A. Pistenmaa, Eds. Raven, New York, 1983. x, 277 pp., illus. $39.

Role Transitions. Explorations and Explanations. Vernon L. Allen and Evert van de Vliert, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1984. xii, 371 pp. $49.50. NATO Conference Series III, vol. 23. From a conference, Madison, Wis., Aug. 1982.

The Search for Charm, Beauty, and Truth at High Energies. G. Bellini and S. C. C. Ting, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1984. xii, 585 pp., illus. $85. Ettore Majorana International Science Series, Physical Sciences, vol. 16. From a conference, Erice, Italy, Nov. 1981.

Semiology of Graphics. Diagrams, Networks, Maps. Jacques Bertin. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, 1984. xii, 415 pp., illus. $75. Translated from the French edition (Paris, 1967) by William J. Berg.

Workshop on Non-Perturbative Quantum Chromodynamics. (Stillwater, Okla., March 1983.) Kimball A. Milton and Mark A. Samuel, Eds. Birkhäuser, Boston, 1983. xii, 273 pp., illus. $24.95. Progress in Physics, vol. 8.

Personnel Placement

SCIENCE publishes each Friday, except the last Friday of the year. Advertising is accepted only in writing; no abbreviations. Any deadline in ad must be at least 2 weeks after date of issue in which ad appears. Also, personnel advertising is accepted only with the understanding that the advertiser does not discriminate among applicants on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap, or sexual preference.

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Flow Cytometry Expert: M.S. in biochemistry, with 2 years of experience at Genentech and 10 years at Stanford University, seeks challenging position in industry, hospital, or university. Available June 1984. Willing to relocate anywhere. Reply: Assisi, 755 Sunshine Drive, Los Altos, Calif. 94022. Telephone: 415-968-6345. X

Freshwater Ecologist, Ph.D. 1984. Lake acidification. Experience: aquatic chemistry and ecology, statistics, data analysis, undergraduate teaching. Publications, research support (past and proposed). Seeks academic or industrial position. Box 141, SCIENCE. X

Recent graduate with **B.S. in Microbiology and Biochemistry** is seeking position in biotechnologies field. Prefers molecular biology area but will consider any area with young, growing firm. Box 142, SCIENCE. X

Neurophysiologist, Ph.D., 6 years of postdoctoral experience. U.S. citizen. Extensive experience in intra- and extracellular recording in situ and in vitro. Other skills include multibarrel microiontophoresis, HRP neurohistochemistry, electron microscopy, microneurosurgery, computer programming, electronics, photography. Teaching experience. Major publications. Seeks position conducive to the pursuit of an independent research program. Box 144, SCIENCE. X