

AAAS Program Activities Taken to Africa, China, Germany, Hungary, and Israel

A number of meetings, seminars, and scientific exchanges around the world involved AAAS programs late last fall. In addition to the activities of the Office of International Science (OIS), including an African Regional Seminar and establishment of closer ties with the Hungarian scientific community, the Office of Opportunities in Science sent a unique delegation of disabled scientists and engineers to an international meeting in Israel in November. Highlights of recent international activities include:

Africa

Association Scientifique de Côte d'Ivoire (ASCI) and the AAAS cosponsored an African Regional Seminar on the Role of Scientific and Engineering Societies in Development in Grand Bassam, Ivory Coast, 10 to 13 December. The Seminar, involving 100 leaders of scientific and engineering societies in sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, and North America, explored ways in which scientific and engineering societies could independently and cooperatively advance the development of sub-Saharan Africa.

Seminar participants noted that sub-Saharan African scientific and engineering societies have accomplished much in the face of great obstacles. There are several hundred societies in sub-Saharan Africa, with thousands of members in total. Many individual societies have hundreds of members; a few have more than a thousand. These societies publish journals, hold important conferences and seminars, and represent a vast intellectual resource. This framework, already in place, has the potential for substantial contributions to development in sub-Saharan Africa.

The participants endorsed increased involvement of societies in development schemes for sub-Saharan Africa and made a number of recommendations. (i) Scientific and engineering societies in sub-Saharan Africa should be strengthened and, in those areas where they do

not now exist and where a demonstrated need exists, initiated. (ii) Effective programs of cooperation and exchange are needed between sub-Saharan African scientific and engineering societies and their counterparts in developing and industrialized countries. (iii) Popularization of science and technology is an important complementary activity to the education and training of scientists and engineers. (iv) Scientific and engineering societies should work to establish linkages between industry, universities, and government.

For additional information on the Seminar and proposed follow-on activities, write Barry D. Gold, OIS, at the AAAS address.

China

As part of an exchange agreement, now in its sixth year, between the AAAS and the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), a seven-member delegation visited China 27 July to 19 August to participate in a joint AAAS-CAST symposium at the Institute of Desert Research, followed by 2 weeks of field visits.

Although China's arid lands are harsh and presently sustain people only in developed areas with access to runoff water from high mountains, the region possesses valuable resources. Not only are crops, such as grain, cotton, sugar beets, grapes, and melons, successfully grown today, but the acreage under cultivation could increase as more land is reclaimed; 40 percent of China's unused arable land is located in northwestern China. There are large coal, oil, and other mineral deposits as well. However, recent Chinese studies estimate that 170,000 square kilometers have been desertified, and the area could more than double if precautions are not taken. Overgrazing, deforestation, and previous land-use policies that resulted in an overemphasis on grain production have been responsible for much of this environmental degradation.

Thus, China must solve the problem of desertification and develop new techniques to increase the utilization of arid lands if the potential of this enormous land area is to be realized.

AAAS delegation members, selected by topics suggested by the Chinese, were: Cyrus M. McKell, delegation head, vice president for research, NPI Biotechnologies, and chair, AAAS Committee on Arid Lands (Arid Land Ecosystems and Utilization of Plant Resources); Carol S. Breed, geologist, U.S. Geological Survey (Landforms Shaped by Desert Winds); Billie Eugene Dahl, professor of range management, Texas Tech University (Fixation and Utilization of Drifting Sand); Robert M. Hagan, professor, water science and extension water specialist, University of California, Davis (Management of Water and Soil Resources in Arid Lands); Henri N. LeHouérou, research scientist, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&I University (Desertification Processes and Control); Compton J. Tucker, remote sensing scientist, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Application of Remote Sensing in Arid Lands); and Lisbeth A. Levey, coordinator, AAAS China Exchange Program.

The 4-day symposium was attended by approximately 30 Chinese scientists, representing research institutes and universities, primarily from the Lanzhou area, the center of much of China's arid lands research.

This conference resulted from a symposium at the 1983 AAAS Annual Meeting that compared Chinese, Mexican, and U.S. concepts in arid lands management. AAAS will host a reciprocal delegation at its 1985 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. In addition to conducting field visits, delegation members will participate in two symposia, "The Use, Abuse, and Renewability of China's Arid Lands" and "A Comparative Look at Arid Land Demography and Ecology in China, India, and Niger."

A report prepared by the delegation is available, free, from Lisbeth A. Levey at the AAAS address.

Germany

The Continuing Committee on the Role of Scientific and Engineering Societies in Development held its third annu-

al meeting, 5 and 6 November in Ringberg Castle, the conference center of the Max Planck Society (MPG) south of Munich. The meeting was hosted by the MPG and the Deutscher Verband technischwissenschaftlicher Vereine (DVT), an umbrella organization of West German scientific and engineering societies. Cochairs were A. K. Sharma, president of the Indian National Science Academy and past president of the Indian Science Congress Association and Emilio Q. Daddario, past president of AAAS.

Committee members from China, Egypt, India, Ivory Coast, Thailand, the United States, and West Germany attended. They reported on development-related activities of scientific and engineering societies in their regions, and on cooperative activities with organizations in other countries. Several such cooperative projects are already well under way between U.S. and Indian disciplinary societies, including projects on climate and food, forestry, microcomputers and databases, and biomedical engineering. The Committee set its 1985 meeting in New Delhi, where it will better define the demand elements for cooperative activities, and will consider several additional proposals for cooperative projects. The Committee will broaden its base of membership to include more than one member from each region.

The Continuing Committee was

formed in 1981 following the 1980 Global Seminar on the Role of Scientific and Engineering Societies in Development, held in New Delhi. With members initially drawn from that Seminar, the Committee's role is to be a catalyst, to encourage the utilization of resources available in mainstream scientific and engineering societies for furthering national development, and to facilitate communication within the worldwide scientific and engineering community. The Committee publishes a Newsletter which goes to more than 1000 societies worldwide.

Hungary

The Hungarian Federation of Technical and Scientific Societies (MTESZ) and AAAS are increasing cooperative activities initiated in September 1983. At that time a MTESZ delegation, led by its Secretary-General János Tóth, who is also a member of the Hungarian Parliament, met with AAAS officials in Washington. The resulting understanding provided for informal exchanges of information, and participation of delegates from each organization in major meetings of the other.

MTESZ, formed in 1948, has 32 member societies representing all facets of Hungarian science and engineering. From its headquarters in Budapest and through its provincial branches, MTESZ

organizes some 7000 professional meetings annually, advises the national and provincial governments, and carries on extensive programs of publication and popularization of science and technology. Member societies have 170,000 members and publish 79 professional journals.

László Jéki, deputy for physical sciences to the secretary-general was a guest at the 1984 AAAS Annual Meeting in New York—the first official MTESZ delegate to a AAAS function. In November AAAS Executive Officer William D. Carey and J. Thomas Ratchford, associate executive officer and head of OIS, visited Hungary. They were welcomed by Tóth and MTESZ President Jenő Fock, retired prime minister.

New MTESZ-AAAS cooperative activities reflect common interests in science, technology, and public policy, and include initiatives related to developing countries. MTESZ is expected to take part in the annual assembly of the AAAS Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs, set for May 1985 in Los Angeles. Participants from AAAS and its affiliates will be especially welcome guests at the more than 100 international conferences in Hungary sponsored by MTESZ and its member societies.

Israel

The Project on the Handicapped in Science organized a delegation of disabled scientists and engineers who presented a workshop on "Appropriate Technology: Its Design and Use by Disabled People," at the Second International Symposium on Design for Disabled Persons at Kibbutz Shefayim, near Tel Aviv, Israel, 18 to 23 November.

The Symposium brought together disabled persons; professional designers, scientists, engineers, and architects; and rehabilitation professionals from 14 countries. Members of the AAAS delegation made presentations on the research, design, evaluation, manufacturing, marketing, financing, and use of technologies, emphasizing the importance of involving disabled users in the research. Participants also demonstrated some of the newest American technologies for disabled people. Funding for the group's participation in the Symposium was provided by the National Science Foundation.

The AAAS group also conducted satellite workshops at the Technion in Haifa, Tel Aviv University, Hebrew University, and the Weizmann Institute. Members of the delegation did demonstrations at rehabilitation hospitals, visited laboratories, met with disabled veteran organizations and consumer groups, and



Members of the AAAS delegation at The Technion, Haifa, Israel. Front row: A. Crane, J. Heumann, P. Axelson. 2nd row: J. Rosenstein, E. Rosenstein, R. Menchel, L. Leifer, M. Redden, L. Scadden, V. Stern, L. Levey, S. Rattner, J. Eulenberg, S. Sideman (The Technion). Not pictured: R. Rabby.

held workshops for families of disabled young people to discuss careers in science. The delegation hosted community meetings in Jerusalem and Haifa to exchange information about education and technology for disabled persons.

The delegation was led by Martha Ross Redden and Virginia Stern of the Project on the Handicapped in Science. Other members of the delegation were: Peter W. Axelson, president, Beneficial Designs, Inc.; John S. Eulenberg, director, Artificial Language Laboratory, Michigan State University; Judith E. Heumann, cofounder and associate director, World Institute on Disability; Larry Leifer, founding director, Veterans Administration/Stanford University Rehabilitation Research and Development Center; Lisbeth A. Levey, AAAS; Robert S. Menchel, senior career opportunities adviser, National Center on Employment of the Deaf, National Technical Institute for the Deaf; Rami Rabby, consultant; Steven L. Rattner, dentist; Joseph Rosenstein, oral interpreter; and Lawrence A. Scadden, president, Rehabilitative Technology, Inc.

SWARM to Meet in Tucson in March

The Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division (SWARM) will hold its 61st annual meeting in Tucson, 19 to 23 March. Symposia will feature a wide spectrum of the sciences with a special focus on research affecting the Southwest.

Among the symposia will be "Quaternary Extinctions: How to Explain Them" (cosponsored by the University of Arizona as one of its Centennial Projects), "Macromolecules of Biological Interest," "Interactions Among Plants and Animals in the Western Deserts," "Geothermal Energy," "Biotechnology: Interaction of Disciplines," "Jobba: A New Crop for Arid Lands," "Hazardous/Nuclear Waste Management," and "The Hohokum Village: Site, Structure, and Organization."

Plants that can be cultivated with seawater will be the topic of James O'Leary's (University of Arizona Environmental Experiment Station) keynote address, "Advances on the Frontiers of Agriculture with Seawater and Sand." Richard F. Thompson (Stanford University) will give a keynote talk on "Neuronal Substrates of Basic Associative Learning in Mammals."

SWARM will meet at the Palos Verde Holidome in Tucson. Further information is available from SWARM executive

officer M. Michelle Balcomb, Colorado Mountain College, Spring Valley Campus, 3000 County Road 114, Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601.

For the Library

1985 Calendar of Scientific Meetings. Listings of major scientific and engineering meetings for 1985. Free on request from the Office of Communications.

1984-85 Public Information Contact Directory. Public information contacts at and information about some 300 colleges and universities and 180 scientific and engineering organizations, as well as listings for foundations, government agencies, museums, and nonprofit and industrial research institutions in the United States. Copies of the *Directory* are for sale at \$8 each (prepaid only) through Carolyn Jones, Office of Communications.

Education in the Sciences: AAAS Affiliated Organizations 1985 Directory. Lists name, address, and telephone number of the person responsible for educational activities at AAAS affiliates. Free on request from the Office of Science and Technology Education.

Guide to Education in Science, Engineering, and Public Policy. Provides information to prospective students, researchers, funding agencies, and others on programs which prepare people for careers in the area of science, engineering, and public policy. Twenty-one programs and departments are described including a brief history of each, admission requirements, degrees offered and requirements, information on backgrounds of students who enter the program and types of careers for which they are prepared, tuition and financial aid, and numbers and research interest of faculty members associated with programs. The *Guide* is the first product of a 1½-year study of education and professional practice in this area, jointly supported by AAAS and the National Science Foundation. Free on request from the Office of Public Sector Programs.

Obituaries

William B. Arper of Salida, Colorado, member of Section X since 1965, 12 September 1984.

Philip Ashman of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, member of Section N since 1951, 3 August 1984.

Pierre Bayle of Houston, Texas, member of Section E since 1944, 16 October 1984.

Roger Lewis Black of Shaker Heights, Ohio, member of Section N since 1966, 4 June 1984.

Donald D. Brand, professor emeritus of geography, University of Texas, member of Section E since 1935, 21 July 1984.

A. C. Clement of Decatur, Georgia, member of Section G since 1936, 22 June 1984.

Thorne Deuel, former director, Illinois State Museum, member since 1934, 20 February 1984.

Norman H. Dolloff of Saratoga, California, member of Section Q since 1969, 3 October 1984.

Samuel H. Eppstein of Oshtemo, Michigan, member of Section G since 1937, 25 August 1984.

Isadore S. Falk of New Haven, Connecticut, member of Section K since 1924, 4 October 1984.

Arthur L. Friedberg, executive director, American Ceramic Society, member since 1980, 13 October 1984.

Norman Geschwind, Department of Neurology, Harvard University School of Medicine, member of Section N since 1963, 5 November 1984.

Robert H. Hay of Kingston, Ontario, member of Section B since 1960, 26 September 1984.

Edward C. Heath, professor and head, Department of Biochemistry, University of Iowa, member of Section N since 1966, 24 October 1984.

Earl M. Hildebrand of Sun City, Arizona, member of Section O since 1932, 4 September 1984.

W. H. T. Holden of Pasadena, California, member since 1983, 4 December 1984.

E. W. Hopkins of Lombard, Illinois, member of Section O since 1932, 16 October 1984.

J. E. Horan of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, member since 1981, 25 June 1984.

John Edward Jackson of Castile, New York, member of Section G since 1948, 12 November 1984.

John L. Kennedy of Santa Monica, California, member of Section J since 1938, 14 July 1984.

John Kincaid of Arlington, Virginia, member of Section C since 1974, 31 August 1984.

Earl Lautenschleger of Elyria, Ohio, member since 1984, 6 December 1984.

John C. Lee of Sacramento, California, member of Section N since 1965, 17 October 1984.

Abraham M. Lilienfeld, distinguished service professor, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, member of Section N since 1954, 6 August 1984.

Ralph O. Marts of Princeton, Kansas,

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