

Los Angeles Hosts Annual Meeting

The AAAS will meet in Los Angeles, California, later this month—the first time Los Angeles has been the site of the Annual Meeting since 1923! The 151st national meeting, with a theme of “Science and Engineering: Diversity and Convergence,” will explore science and technology from cell biology to “Star Wars.”

The AAAS will meet 26 to 31 May at the Westin Bonaventure and Los Angeles Hilton Hotels.

In addition to the symposia, lectures, workshops, Film Festival, exhibit, and tours (see *Science*, 5 April 1985, pages 45 to 64), of special note are:

- **Youth Activities.** The day-long “Youth Symposium” will take place Wednesday, 29 May, at the California Museum of Science and Industry. The program includes special lectures and demonstrations. Some 2200 Los Angeles area students will participate.

Disabled students, in addition to attending the Youth Symposium, will have lunch with disabled scientists and engineers. The young people will have an

opportunity to discuss education and careers in science and engineering and to meet with scientist role models. The luncheon for disabled students and scientists also will be held at the California Museum of Science and Industry on Wednesday, 29 May.

In addition, the American Junior Academy of Sciences will bring students from across the country to present papers and participate in the program. They will present their papers between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, 28 May, in the Exhibit Hall at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

A Youth Activities information desk will be open throughout the Meeting on the Ballroom Floor Foyer at the Los Angeles Hilton Hotel. *Science Encounters*, a special program for young people, will be available at this desk.

- **Meeting attendees** are invited to a Brown Bag Seminar on the role of student chapters of professional associations. The seminar will be in the Resource Room for Minority Scientists, San Bernardino Room, Westin Bonaven-

ture, from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m., Monday, 27 May. Check the bulletin board in the Minority Scientists' Resource Room for other activities planned during the Meeting.

- **The Women Scientists luncheon** will be on Tuesday, 28 May, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Luncheon tickets will be available at the AAAS Ticket Desk in the California Foyer of the Westin Bonaventure.

- **The AAAS Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights** will hold a business meeting from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, 28 May, in the Santa Barbara B Room at the Westin Bonaventure. The meeting is open and Meeting attendees invited.

- **A Speakers Room** (La Cienega Room) as well as resource rooms for disabled (San Pedro Room) and minority registrants (San Bernardino Room) and AAAS members (Los Feliz Room—see box) will be open throughout the Meeting at the Westin Bonaventure.

- **Eight self-sponsored foreign graduate students** studying in the United States will attend the Meeting. Their participation is made possible by a grant, to the AAAS, from the Institute of International Education's Short-Term Enrichment Program.

Member Resource Room—a “First”

Information on a range of AAAS projects from human rights to museum volunteers will be featured at the Association's first Member Resource Room. The Member Resource Room will be located in the Los Feliz Room at the Westin Bonaventure.

Films from the science education project “Challenge of the Unknown,” a Science Resources for Schools (SRS) series, and the IBM-produced “I, Leonardo” will be shown. In addition, several segments from the AAAS radio programs “Focus” and “Report on Science” will be heard. Schedules will be posted daily.

A kit will be available to visitors containing information on each AAAS office. Sample copies of special issues of *Science*, AAAS books and other publications, and Association jewelry will be on display. Mountains of literature will be available to take home. And there may even be a surprise or two.

But, maybe most important, AAAS staff persons will be present to answer questions about the Association and help solve problems. Also, a representative of Smith-Sternau, Inc., administrators of the AAAS Life Insurance Plan, will be there to answer questions and give information on the program.

If you're planning to attend the Annual Meeting, make a note now to stop by the Member Resource Room.

New Books from the AAAS

This spring four new books—two from *Science* and two from *Science 85*—are being published and others are in the planning stages.

Following the successful publication last May of *Newton at the Bat*, the sports science book from *Science 85*, the AAAS has published *A Passion to Know*, a book of scientists' profiles, and *Songs from Unsung Worlds*, a book of science poetry. Both books are based on material that previously appeared in the magazine.

Edited by *Science 85* editor Allen L. Hammond, *A Passion to Know*, is a behind-the-test-tube look at the varied personalities of 20 scientists and the sometimes surprising methods at work on science's cutting edge. The scientists profiled cover a wide spectrum of science from astrophysics and cytology to sociobiology and zoology.

Included are Barbara McClintock, who spent nearly 50 years in obscurity before winning her Nobel Prize for discovering jumping genes, and Subramanian Chandrasekhar, who at age 24 formulated his theories of black holes only to be told that they were an impossibility.

The idea for a book of science poetry grew out of the reception of poetry published in *Science* 85 during the past 4 years. According to Bonnie Gordon, editor of the anthology and an editor at *Science* 85, "the original concept was a collection that traced the influence of science poetry over several hundred years . . . but it became evident that such a wealth of science poetry is being written today that an anthology based on contemporary work was demanded."

Songs from Unsung Worlds is a collection of science poetry written by both poets and scientists. It contains works of poetry from as diverse a group of poets as 20th-century American poet W. H. Auden to 18th-century German poet Goethe. Theoretical chemist and Nobel Prize winner Roald Hoffmann, Loren Eiseley, and biochemist Anselm Parlatore are among the scientists whose words appear in the anthology.

Two new books from *Science* focus on research topics of great interest to the scientific community—neuroscience and biotechnology.

Neuroscience contains 27 papers from *Science* representing the work of some 84 researchers at private and federal laboratories, hospitals, universities, and medical schools in six countries. Solomon Snyder, neuroscience researcher from Johns Hopkins University Medical Institutions, presents an overview to the volume and a look at some of the most up-to-date advances in the field.

Edited by Philip H. Abelson and Eleonore Butz, the book presents accounts of discoveries made during the recent burgeoning in neuroscience research in areas ranging from genetic engineering to clinical therapy and addresses fundamental questions concerning the functioning of the nervous system within the four sections of the volume—neuroplasticity, molecular biology, synaptic transmission, and behavior.

Biotechnology and Biological Frontiers covers some of the most important topics at the forefront of biological research and development. Edited by Philip H. Abelson, this volume consists of 36 papers by 136 scientists representing industrial, university, and governmental laboratories worldwide. The book is divided into two parts. Part I is devoted to a sampling of the status of a revolution in applied biology and includes articles on

gene splicing, monoclonal antibodies, agricultural research, microbiological engineering, and protein engineering. Part 2 of the book focuses on fundamental research instead of practical applications.

Several new books from *Science* also are in the planning stages including those on astronomy and astrophysics and on chemistry.

Copies of *A Passion to Know* and *Songs from Unsung Worlds* are available through the *Science* 85 Book Service, 1101 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Copies of *Neuroscience and Biotechnology* and *Biological Frontiers* are available from the AAAS Sales Office, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

JEFFREY L. TERAMANI
Office of Communication

Membership Office Needs Your Help to Stop Duplication

More than 25,000 AAAS members responded to our plea earlier this year to help us avoid sending membership promotional mailings to our current members. Since our mail tells us that many of you still are receiving promotional mailings, we are repeating our appeal to members to let us know all addresses and variations of names by which you receive mail.

In order for AAAS to maintain our strong member base, we must regularly recruit new members, more than 25,000 each year. Our most effective tool is the direct mail membership campaign, conducted three times annually. Even though we make every effort to screen out current members' names from the lists we use, the system is not foolproof. One reason for this is the variation between names and addresses as they appear on our membership file and how they appear on the lists we acquire. Another reason is that our member files contain either a home or business address for each member, but not both.

You can help us to reduce further the likelihood that you receive promotional mailings. To do that we need for you to provide us with a current mailing label from *Science* and your "other" address(es). These other addresses will be for internal use only and will not be used for purposes other than our own screening process described above.

The system for avoiding these trouble-

some mailings will never be perfect. However, we believe that the above procedure is one more step toward avoiding inconvenience to you and toward further controlling our costs. Please direct your responses and any questions to Carol L. Rogers, head, Office of Communications and Membership, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, or telephone 202-467-4460.

AAAS Honors Argentine President

In March, the Association hosted a reception in New York City to honor Raul Alfonsin, president of Argentina, for his commitment to advancing both science and human rights in his country. The reception, on 21 March, was held at the American Museum of Natural History.

Calling Alfonsin's election (in December 1983) a "vivid symbol of hope throughout the world," AAAS president David A. Hamburg commended the Argentine president for "rapidly restoring the [Argentine] scientific community to its former healthy condition of freedom and creativity and social contribution."

Alfonsin expressed deep appreciation to the AAAS for its continuing commitment to science and to human rights and called on the Association to persevere in this work. He also urged AAAS to use its resources to help the world avoid nuclear war.

The AAAS has played a collaborative role in promoting both science and human rights in Argentina over the course of some years. Working together with other Latin American scientific associations through the Interciencia Association, AAAS has supported and organized scientific symposia in Argentina, including "Biotechnology and Development" (Buenos Aires, November 1984) and "Improved Utilization of Natural Resources in Semi-Arid Regions" (Mendoza, November 1984).

In 1977 AAAS president Emilio Q. Daddario made a 10-day visit to Argentina to demonstrate the concerns of the American scientific community for the plight of their colleagues in Argentina. Continuing its interest in the situation in Argentina, the AAAS issued a report, *Scientists and Human Rights in Argentina Since 1976*, in 1981.

In June 1984 the AAAS' Clearinghouse on Science and Human Rights sent a delegation of forensic scientists and a geneticist to Argentina at the re-

(Continued on page 758)