





At ceremony honoring the Association's programs for disabled scientists and engineers are (left to right) John Gavin; Martha Ross Redden; Virginia Stern; William R. Howell, chairman of the board, J. C. Penney Company, Inc.; Margaret Heckler, secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Senator Robert Dole, chairman, National Organization Awards Program.

the AAAS set out on an uphill effort to dismantle barriers to the full participation of disabled men and women in scientific and engineering careers. The results speak for themselves, and science is the chief beneficiary."

The award of \$3000 was presented at a Capitol Hill ceremony on 6 June. Receiving the award for AAAS were Martha Ross Redden, director, and Virginia Stern, senior program associate of the Project on the Handicapped in Science, and John Gavin, a member of the Resource Group. Other organizations winning awards were the American Library Association, Boy Scouts of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Special Olympics, Inc.

In addition to forming the Resource Group of Disabled Scientists and Engineers, the Project has conducted a series of workshops centering on the uses of science and technology to aid disabled persons; prepared a guide to assist other organizations to hold "barrier-free" meetings; and put together a slide show and directory of out-of-school science programs available to all students, including disabled youth. The AAAS Project (part of the Office of Opportunities in Science) is currently conducting a program to better bridge the gap between researchers and developers of technologies and the disabled people who are potential users of the technologies. As part of this project, the AAAS has assembled a consortium of professional societies involved in expanding their services to disabled members.

More than 90 organizations entered this, the first, awards competition, the purpose of which is to initiate or expand the participation of disabled persons

within national organizations and associations and their memberships, and to link association activities to the goals of the Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992).

## New Insights into The Technological Marketplace Available

Students, parents, educators, and employers who are concerned with the marketplace for scientists and engineers will find both an undersupply and an oversupply of these professionals in the coming decade, concludes a new report from the Scientific Manpower Commission. Engineers, particularly electrical, electronic, and aerospace engineers, will find employment prospects especially bright through the 1980's, as will computer specialists and some other technical professionals. However, a significant oversupply of some kinds of life scientists and social scientists may limit opportunities in those fields, even through 1995.

*The Technological Marketplace: Supply and Demand for Scientists and Engineers* provides a statistically based assessment, field by field, of balances and imbalances over the past decade, at present, and as anticipated through the next decade and a half.

Engineering degrees have been increasing steadily since 1977, with much of the increase made up of women. However, the increase is not expected to continue past about 1987 because of the decline in the number of college age students. As a proportion of all degrees

awarded, those in science have been dropping since the early seventies.

In examining available projections of supply during the next decade, consideration is given not only to the decreasing size of the college age population, but also to the rising representation of foreign nationals among those preparing for and engaged in technological careers, particularly in such fields as engineering, computer science, economics, and agriculture. Present faculty shortages in engineering and computer science are expected to continue despite employment of foreign-born graduates in these faculty positions. (In 1983, more than one-fourth of all assistant professors in engineering had earned their B.S. degrees outside the United States.)

While our increasingly technological society will continue to create new jobs for scientists and engineers over the coming years, with technical employment growing at a faster rate than total U.S. employment, the number of professional jobs for scientists and engineers, as well as the mix of specialists required to fill them, will depend in part on both the levels of funding and the emphasis of that funding in support of research and development. The nature and extent of these funding decisions by the Congress, the administration, and the private sector cannot be known with certainty, but this report provides a comprehensive picture of some of the most likely forecasts of both supply and demand through the remainder of this century.

*The Technological Marketplace: Supply and Demand for Scientists and Engineers*, third edition, by Betty M. Vetter (May 1985, 54 pp. 38 tables, 17 figures) is available from the Scientific Manpower Commission, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, for \$25 prepaid.

BETTY M. VETTER  
*Scientific Manpower Commission*

## Obituaries

**Edwin Melvin Banks**, professor and former head of the Department of Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution, University of Illinois, member of Section G since 1958, 24 March 1985.

**Werner C. Baum** of Delmar, New York, member of Section G since 1957, 4 April 1985.

**Raymond L. Bisplinghoff**, Apollo engineer, of North Hampton, New Hampshire, member of Section M since 1947, 5 March 1985.

**W. Frank Blair**, professor emeritus of  
(Continued on page 573)