

AAAS Project Begins Work with Disability Groups In China

WITH some 20 million disabled citizens, China is anxious to explore many new avenues toward rehabilitation for these individuals. While traditional treatments, such as acupuncture, massage, and physical exercise, date back some 2000 years, modern rehabilitation services are very new in China. This year, the AAAS Project on the Handicapped in Science has begun cooperating with their Chinese counterparts as the Chinese work to provide better education and career opportunities for their country's disabled.

Martha Ross Redden, director of the AAAS Project, visited China in January and met with representatives of the China As-

sociation for Science and Technology (CAST) and a number of disability groups.

She was an invited guest at the First International Conference on Rehabilitation of the Handicapped in the People's Republic of China. The conference, the first of its kind in China, was cosponsored by the China Welfare Fund for the Handicapped and Health Design Concepts.

Noting the critical role China can play in advancing rehabilitative services, Deng Pu Fang, director in chief of the China Welfare Fund for the Handicapped and honorary chair for the conference, said "It is well known that China is the country that has the greatest number of dis-

abled persons in the world. The rehabilitation services will affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. . . . The tremendous size of the disabled population has made clear that China's rehabilitation services will have definite world influences. . . . I am convinced that in a progressive society, disabled people should have the chance to win."

Redden met with Wan Shou Shan, secretary general, and other officials of the Beijing Association for the Handicapped and visited their center. The Association provides a range of services for disabled people in the city. Plans are under way to build a rehabilitation research center that would include a rehabilitation hospital, a research and training center, and a rehabilitation engineering center.

She met, as well, with several representatives of CAST, including Liang Hui of the International Department and Wang Zheng, who served as deputy secretary of the first Chinese delegation to visit the United States as guests of the AAAS—in 1979—and who is now retired.

Law now mandates that all disabled young people in China receive an education, and Redden found a great eagerness among those who work with disabled people to share materials and information. She was able to demonstrate one exciting example of the kind of technology now being developed here that holds great possibilities for the Chinese. While traveling in China, Redden showed Chinese disability officials and others a portable personal computer with voice synthesizer that had been programmed to translate English into Chinese. The program, a prototype for a package with a much more extensive vocabulary, was designed by John B. Eulenberg, director of the Artificial Language Laboratory at Michigan State University and by Gou Daju, guest scientist at the Artificial Language Laboratory and member of the Department of Computer Science at Sichuan University.

"News about technologies that can be adapted for disabled people and other materials and information," says Redden, "are the kinds of things the AAAS Project on the Handicapped in Science can offer the Chinese. We are anxious to expand our cooperation with CAST and disability groups in China as both they and we work to better integrate disabled individuals into the mainstream of our societies."

Grants to Self-Sponsored Foreign Graduate Students to Attend AAAS Annual Meeting

AAAS expects a limited number of grants of up to \$250 to be available to assist self-sponsored foreign graduate students now studying in the United States to attend the AAAS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, 25 to 30 May 1986. Registration for successful applicants will be paid by AAAS.

Applicants should submit (i) curriculum vitae, including phone number; (ii) budget (round trip to Philadelphia and estimated living expenses); and (iii) a short statement (200 to 300 words) describing the subject area of current study and/or research, career plans, and benefit in attending the Annual Meeting. Applications should be sent to Priscilla Reining, Office of International Science, at the AAAS address. Deadline for receipt of applications is 12 April 1986.

Causality in Heredity and Aging

Professor Barbara E. Wright's Pacific Division presidential address, "Cause and Effect in Heredity, Differentiation, and Aging," has been published by the division.

Wright, research professor of microbiology, University of Montana, delivered her presi-



Martha Redden (center) with officials and staff of Beijing Association for the Handicapped at their center in Beijing.

dential address at the Pacific Division's 1984 Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The 16-page essay surveys philosophical and scientific aspects of causality in heredity and aging in cell biology and genetics.

Copies of the paper can be obtained for \$1 (prepaid only) for postage and handling from the Pacific Division, AAAS, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118.

Report from Indian Science Congress Association

Professor S. P. S. Arya, professor of meteorology at North Carolina State University, represented AAAS at the 73rd annual session of the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA). Held 3 to 7 January 1986 in New Delhi, the meeting involved about 2500 delegates, including many foreign guests.

Highlights of the session, which had as its focal theme "Science and Technology in Environmental Management," were the inaugural address by R. Venkataraman, vice president of India, and the presidential address by T. N. Khoshoo, ISCA president. Both speakers addressed the issues of environmental priorities and sustainable development in India.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi spoke at the concluding

session, reminding delegates of the eminent leadership position India held in science and medicine more than 2000 years ago and challenging them to achieve

a similar status in the future. The prime minister stressed the quality of science more than the quantity of scientific publications, and asked Indian scientists

to do original research at the cutting edge, concentrating on areas that are most beneficial for developing countries like India.

Reminder for Members

In order to maintain a steady membership growth, AAAS conducts three direct mail promotion campaigns each year. The lists acquired from various sources are screened against the Association's membership list, but if there is *any* variation in name or address, duplications will not be caught. For example, if a member receives AAAS mail, including *Science*, at home, but his/her office address appears on another list, it will not be rejected during this screening process. Of, if initials are used on our list and full name on another, again the duplication will be missed.

To help avoid such problems, AAAS has compiled a special file of alternate names and addresses. In order to be thoroughly accurate, we need your help. Below is a form on which you can list all other addresses or variations of your name by which you may be listed elsewhere. Please fill it in and send it to the AAAS national office.

The information is *for internal use only* and will be used only for the screening process described above.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol L. Rogers at the address on the form to the right or telephone 202-326-6430. The form may be copied.

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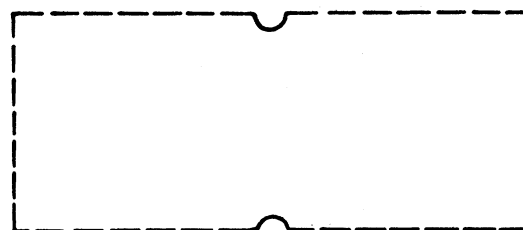
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