

AAAS offered the trip as part of its annual member nomination campaign. More than 4000 members participated in the campaign. William D. Carey, executive officer, drew the winning entry at Association headquarters in Washington, D.C., on 13 March.

Pella has been a AAAS member for 2 years and is a member of the AAAS Resource Group of Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities. His research areas are in neutron-knockout reactions and spin-transfer measurements. This will be the first time Pella has attended the Association's Annual Meeting.

SB&F to Focus on Space Science in 1986-87

In its 1986-87 volume year, the AAAS review journal *Science Books & Films* (SB&F) will be concentrating on the critique of materials relating to space science and what we can learn through space about the earth as well as worlds beyond. The journal will be reviewing trade books and films for children, young adults, and general audiences.

To complement this theme, SB&F will publish a special section in the September-October 1986 issue evaluating most of the major physics textbooks used or destined to be used (1986 and 1987 copyrights) in the nation's high schools.

Many of the reviewers who volunteered for the physics texts

evaluation are AAAS members. Now, SB&F needs additional reviewers to critique books and films about astronomy, astrophysics, aeronautics, planetology, and political and social policy issues related to the exploration of space. If you are interested, please write Kathleen Johnston, editor, *Science Books & Films*, at the AAAS address, or call 202-326-6454.

Women's Participation in the Professional Work Force Levels Off—Minority Representation at Near Standstill

There is evidence of continued improvement in the participation of women in the professional labor force, but the rapid increases of the early 1970's have settled into a slow and unsteady rise. The evidence of true and steady increase in participation by blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians over the past few years appears to be almost totally lacking, according to a report released by the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (formerly Scientific Manpower Commission).

Professional Women and Minorities reports a major trend indicating a leveling off, and in some cases a dropping off, of participation by women. For example, as a proportion of first-year engineering students, women increased from 2 per-

cent in 1970 to 17 percent in 1983, or an average of 1.1 percentage points per year for 13 years. However, in fall 1984, the proportion of women in the freshman class dropped back to 16.5 percent.

The proportion of women among the bachelor's graduates in geology, earth sciences, mathematics, and the biological sciences shows the same phenomenon. However, in other fields, including computer sciences, medicine, business administration, and law, the proportion of women enrolled and graduating at every level continues to increase.

Minorities show mixed progress in technical fields. Among first-year engineering students, Hispanic students have increased from 2.9 percent in 1973 to 4.6 percent of the total in 1984. Asians have moved from 1.7 percent to 5.3 percent of the entering class in those same years, while blacks have moved up slightly from 4.8 percent to 5.9 percent of the class in 1984, down from the 6.1 percent peak in 1981.

Among bachelor's graduates in science, blacks have dropped slightly from 6.4 percent of the total in 1979 to 6.2 percent in 1984. Asians have increased from 2 percent to 2.8 percent; Native Americans have stayed steady at 0.4 percent; and Hispanics have risen from 3.3 percent to 4.5 percent of science bachelor's awards. Thus, little progress has been made in those 5 years.

Women have made more pro-

gress in moving up in the occupational labor force than have underrepresented minorities. For example, among all personnel and labor relations managers in 1980, 36 percent were women, 6.5 black, and 1.5 Hispanic. In 1985, 44.5 percent were women, 5.6 percent black, and 3.3 percent Hispanic. Women were 30 percent of economists in 1980 and 34.5 percent in 1985. Blacks, on the other hand, have dropped from 4.1 percent of the total to 3.4 percent.

These statistical parameters are among many available in the new sixth edition of *Professional Women and Minorities—a Manpower Data Resource Service*. The report provides a comprehensive statistical picture of yesterday's, today's, and tomorrow's professional work force in the United States in the natural and social sciences, engineering, arts, humanities, education, and all the professions. Data in all fields from more than 200 sources are detailed by sex and/or minority status. The volume includes annotated recruitment resources, both for specialized fields and for general recruitment of professional women and minorities.

Professional Women and Minorities—A Manpower Data Resource Service is available for \$75 from the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 831, Washington, DC 20005.

BETTY M. VETTER
ELEANOR L. BABCO
Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology

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