lof, Ph.D. candidate in structural and regional techtonics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (*The Oregonian*, Portland); and William G. Wild, Jr., an industrial engineer at the State University of New York at Buffalo (*Business Week*).

The fellowship experience has a notable impact beyond the duration of the 10 weeks. Many program alumni, which now total 205, have chosen to pursue careers in science journalism on a full-time basis. Others have continued to free-lance at least part-time. Those individuals who, upon completion of the fellowship, return to careers as scientists and engineers play a valuable role in educating their peers about the ways of the media and the level of scientific literacy and understanding among the general public. Finally, the media site hosts benefit from the different perspectives of students with scientific and technical expertise.

The AAAS Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program is supported by grants from private corporations, foundations, and associations, as well as by the AAAS.

Additional information and applications for the 1988 Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program can be obtained by writing Susan Sauer, Office of Public Sector Programs at the AAAS address.

LISBETH A. LEVEY
SUSAN SAUER
Office of Public Sector Programs

Abelson Receives National Medal of Science

Former *Science* editor Philip Hauge Abelson received a National Medal of Science from President Ronald Reagan on Thursday, 25 June, in ceremonies at the White House. He was honored for "his pathbreaking contributions in radiochemistry, physics, geophysics, biophysics, and biochemistry and for his vigorous and penetrating counsel on national matters involving science and technology."

"I was delighted to be named as a recipient of the National Medal of Science," said Abelson. But, he adds philosophically, "I am more interested in trying to be a useful part of the present and the future than in contemplating events of the past."

Heart surgeon Michael E. DeBakey, Baylor College of Medicine; radiation belt discoverer James A. VanAllen, University of Iowa; and mathematician Michael Freedman, University of California, San Diego, were among the recipients of this year's National Medal of Science.

The National Medal of Science is the nation's highest scientific honor bestowed by the President. Established in 1959, the Medal is awarded to individuals who deserve special recognition for their contributions to knowledge in the physical, behavioral, or social sciences. Selection is based on the total impact and importance of an individual's work on the present state of his or her chosen field. In addition, achievements of an unusually significant nature are considered in relation to their potential effects on the development of scientific thought.

Currently serving as science adviser to the AAAS, Abelson has been with the Association since 1962, when he became editor of *Science*. He retired as editor in 1984.

To honor his many years of service as editor of *Science*, the AAAS created the Philip Hauge Abelson Prize upon his retirement in 1984. The prize is now awarded annually either to a public servant in recognition of outstanding contributions to advancing science, or to a scientist whose career has been distinguished both for scientific achievement and for notable services to the scientific community.

JEFFREY L. TERAMANI
Office of Communications

Philip A. Abelson, former Science *editor, received National Medal of Science from President Reagan at White House ceremony.*

More Cost Savings for Insured Members

Effective 1 October 1987 all rates for the AAAS Group Term Life Insurance Plan will decrease by 10 percent. In addition, all

For more information about the activities and publications described in "AAAS News," write to the appropriate office, AAAS, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, unless otherwise indicated.

members who were insured as of 30 September 1986 will receive a premium credit on their 1 October 1987 semiannual renewal equal to 100 percent of the amount due. This means that eligible insured members will receive a premium holiday for the 6 month period 1 October 1987 through 31 March 1988.

The reduced rates and premium credit are a result of the strong financial condition of the AAAS plan. U.S. members may purchase up to $240,000 of term life insurance in $15,000 units, subject to approval by the New York Life Insurance Company.

Any AAAS member who wishes to enroll in the plan should write to the administrator, Smith-Sternau Organization, Inc., Suite 300, 1255 23rd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037.

1987 Science Education Directory Available

The *AAAS Science Education Directory 1987* is now available. The *Directory* lists key persons who are responsible for science, mathematics, and technology education. It includes the addresses and telephone numbers of principal executives, directors, administrators, and policymakers in a variety of institutions and organizations. Included in this year's directory are education leaders in scientific associations, academies of science, museums, educational research centers and laboratories, and state and federal government agencies.

The 1987 edition also includes information about the major science and mathematics activities of these organizations. In addition, the dates and locations of annual conferences of the associations are listed.

The *Directory* is published each year by the AAAS Office of Science and Technology Education. Free copies are available while the supply lasts. To order, please write to Barbara Walthall, Office of Science and Technology Education, Department D, at the AAAS address.

Seminar Looks at Movement of Scientists and Engineers Between Germany and U.S.

On 17 and 18 June, a group of scholars, policy-makers, and policy analysts from the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) met at AAAS headquarters to discuss trends in the mobility of scientists and engineers between the two countries. The meeting was jointly sponsored by the German Union of Technical and Scientific Societies and the AAAS.

Hans J. Queisser, director of the Max Planck Institute for Solid State Research, Stuttgart, led a 20-person German delegation composed of university and government officials, foundation executives, and experts on mobility. D. Allan Bromley, director of the A. W. Wright Nuclear Structure Laboratory at Yale University, headed a similar group of 31 persons from the United States.

Participants reaffirmed the importance of international exchanges of scientists and engineers as a means of sustaining the communication and openness that are essential to progress. They considered FRG/U.S. mobility to be important, but part of a larger network of movement to which both countries should direct greater attention.

Background papers prepared for the seminar produced new findings on mobility. For example, the trend of both short-term (less than 1 month) and long-term visits has increased about fourfold over the period 1978–1985. There are currently some 2000 short-term and 600 long-term visits per year in each direction.

Despite these moderately encouraging statistics, the participants noted that a number of factors discourage mobility between the two countries: (i) The post–World War II period during which all young scientists in FRG wished to study and conduct research in the United States has ended. Opportunities for study and research in many fields are now as rewarding there as here: (ii) the shortage of permanent career opportunities in both countries continues to make many scientists reluctant to go abroad; and (iii) there is a marked lack of symmetry between the efforts of the two countries to encourage mobility. The German system is better organized than is the U.S. effort, and it is deliberately designed to foster long-term relationships. German sources provide practically all of the money for movement of German scientists to the United States and two-thirds to three-fourths of the money for movement of U.S. scientists to Germany.

The conferees made a number of recommendations:

- Information on mobility should be improved by making better use of existing data and by studying nonquantitative aspects of mobility, such as social, economic, and demographic forces affecting international movement.
- Both countries should improve their capacity to inform scientists and engineers from the other country of opportunities to study and conduct research.
- University to university exchange agreements should be analyzed and suggestions for strengthening the agreements should be drawn up.
- An effort should be made to simplify visa requirements for scientists entering the United States.
- A stronger U.S. administrative structure for sponsoring and facilitating the mobility of scientists and engineers should be established either by strengthening existing organizations or by setting up a new system.

The seminar was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, and the American Council on Germany.

Copies of the proceedings, which will be available in September, may be obtained by writing to the Office of International Science at the AAAS address.

CHARLES V. KIDD
Office of International Science

Judging Panel Selected for Public Understanding Award

A distinguished panel of judges has been named for the first AAAS/Westinghouse Public Understanding of Science and Technology Award which will be presented during the AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston, 11 to 15 February 1988.

The judges are E. Margaret Burbidge, director, Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences, University of California, San Diego, and former president, AAAS; Jewel Plummer Cobb, president, California State University, Fullerton; Donald N. Langenberg, chancellor, University of Illinois, Chicago, and member, AAAS Board of Directors; John P. McTague, vice president for research, Ford Motor Company; and Cristine Russell, science/medicine reporter, the *Washington Post*, and president, National Association of Science Writers.

The new annual award is for working scientists and engineers who make outstanding contributions to the popularization of science, but are *not* members of the media. It carries a $2500 prize.

The award is intended to encourage talented scientists and engineers, especially younger, upcoming professionals, to popularize their work; to recognize those that do so in a responsible manner; and to emphasize that the scientific community regards the fostering of public understanding as a valued, prestigious