

Following their election, new Fellows will receive certificates, and a list of their names will be published in the Proceedings Issue of *Science*.

A *Directory of AAAS Fellows (1985)* is available from the AAAS Marketing Office at the AAAS address. The price to members is \$9.55 prepaid.

Pacific Division to Meet in Corvallis in June

The Pacific Division of the AAAS will meet on the campus of Oregon State University in Corvallis, 18 to 22 June 1988. Symposia are scheduled on The New Politics of Science; Genesis, Ecology, and Management of Volcanic Soils; Stability and Chaos in Neural Network Learning; The Clarity of Crater Lake: An Ecosystems Study; and The Future of Endangered Plant Species in the Northwest.

Public lectures will include Robert I. Bowman, professor of biology, San Francisco State University, "Darwin's Finches Revisited"; Jacques Gauthier, assistant curator, Department of Herpetology, California Academy of Sciences, "On the Anato-

my of Ancestry: Reptiles? Birds? Mammals? Who's Who?"; and a Botanical Society of America illustrated lecture on Flora of the Cascades and Central Oregon.

The national office will conduct a special, limited-enrollment, workshop, Communicating About Science, designed to help researchers effectively share their work with journalists and the general public. Advance registration is required. In addition, the National Center for Science Education will sponsor a workshop on Communicating Evolution to the Public.

Scientists are invited to present contributed papers in agriculture, biology, earth sciences, ecology, history and philosophy of science, meteorology, oceanography and limnology, psychology, science education, and social sciences. Papers that do not fall into one of these categories will be included in the General and Interdisciplinary Program. Graduate student papers compete for Division monetary and certificate prizes. The deadline for titles and abstracts is 31 March 1988.

Field trips are planned to the Willamette Valley, Columbia River Gorge, Eastern Slope of

the Cascade Range, and to observe Cascade wildflowers, and volcanic soils and landscape. Space is limited; early registration is requested. Social events include a welcome wagon and mixer and a Sunday evening reception. The Division's banquet will feature an address by Division President Orrin E. Smith, director, Extension Service and associate dean, College of Agricultural Sciences, Oregon State University.

For more information, including registration fees and meal/room packages, write to Alan Leviton, executive director, Pacific Division, AAAS, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California 94118 (telephone 415-752-1554).

Participation of Women and Minorities in Science on Decline

After years of rapid growth, the participation of women in the student population in science and engineering has not only reached a plateau, but in many areas is actually dropping.

While the growth of non-Asian minorities in these fields was much smaller during the 1970s, that growth too, has stopped and in some cases is declining. However, women continue to increase their participation in many of the professional fields including the medical areas, business, accounting, and law; and minorities also show small gains.

These and other trends appear in a new edition of *Professional Women and Minorities*, published by the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology.

Data from the book indicate:

- Decreasing interest in engineering by women, and little progress for non-Asian U.S. minorities.

- In most fields of science, the percentage of women and minorities among bachelor's graduates already has peaked. For example, the proportion of women among bachelor's graduates in the geological sciences rose from 11 percent in 1971 to 25 percent in 1980, but dropped one percentage by 1986.

From 1979 to 1985, the percentage of blacks among new bachelor's graduates in science dropped from 6.4 percent of the total to 5.6 percent. Hispanics dropped from 3.3 percent to 2.7 percent, Native Americans remained steady at 0.4 percent, while Asians rose from 2 to 3.2 percent.

- The number and proportion of women earning professional degrees in business, law, medicine, and pharmacy continue upward, but growth has slowed in all of these fields, and women do not yet constitute a third of the graduating classes except in law (38.5 percent) and pharmacy (54.3 percent). Blacks, who are 12 percent of the population, now earn 5 percent of medical degrees, but less than 4 percent of those awarded in law and business. Hispanics earn less than 3 percent of professional degrees in any field, although they are a growing 7.8 percent of the U.S. population.

- At the doctoral level, the

Soviet Scientists to Speak at Annual Meeting

A delegation of prominent Soviet scientists, led by Yevgeny Velikhov, vice president of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union, will participate in the Annual Meeting.

In noting the importance of this exchange, Alvin W. Trivelpiece, AAAS executive officer, said, "I am delighted that Academician Velikhov accepted my invitation to organize a special symposium on a number of important areas of research in the Soviet Union."

The Soviets will be featured in a daylong symposium, "Soviet Science," on Sunday, 14 February. In addition, Velikhov will deliver a public lecture at 1:00 p.m. that day.

This is the first time in recent years that a group of such high-ranking scientists has traveled to the United States to participate in an open scientific meeting.

The Soviets will be speaking on a broad range of topics from solid-state physics to biotechnology to military-political research. In addition to Velikhov, other speakers will include: Zh. Alferov, director, Ioffe Physical-Technical Institute; Yu. Buslayev, director, Institute for Chemical Physics; A. Derevyanko, director, Institute for History, Philology, and Philosophy; L. Faddeyev, director, Leningrad Branch of Steklov Mathematical Institute; K. Frolov, vice president, Academy of Sciences; A. Galeyev, chief of department, Institute for Space Research; M. Ivanov, director, Institute for Microbiology; A. Kokoshin, deputy director, Institute for USA and Canada Studies; Yu. Osipian, director, Institute for Solid State Physics; A. Skriskiy, director, Institute for Nuclear Physics; K. Skryabin, chief of laboratory, Institute for Molecular Biology; and E. Sokolov, head, General Biology Section, Academy of Sciences.

In addition to speaking on Soviet science, individual Soviet scientists will attend and participate in numerous other of the 130 sessions at the Annual Meeting.

number of Ph.D. recipients in science and engineering who are U.S. citizens dropped 6.6 percent from 1975 and 1985 despite a 68 percent increase in the number of American women earning such degrees. This change results principally from a 23 percent drop in the number of white American men earning doctorates in these fields. Although the numbers of Hispanic and Asians among degree recipients increased slightly, there was a decline in the number of science and engineering Ph.D. awards to blacks over that decade, and the number earned by black men dropped 17 percent in those 10 years.

■ Women have made more progress in moving into the professional labor force than have underrepresented minorities. For example, between 1980 and 1986, the percentage of chemists who were women rose from 20 percent to 23 percent, while blacks dropped from 5 to 3 percent and Hispanics grew half a percentage point to 3 percent.

Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and American Indians make up an increasing proportion of the U.S. population, and their proportional growth is fastest among the school and college age groups. The number of college age Americans, the source for most science and engineering graduates, is dropping, and will continue to drop through 1998. The implications of minority population growth in a decreasing college age population, if not accompanied by a parallel growth in representation in higher education and among professional workers, raises serious questions about U.S. ability to maintain its technological competitiveness. Of special concern to academic institutions and many large corporations is the drop in production of U.S. doctoral scientists and engineers needed as faculty and/or researchers.

The statistics needed to assess

both the attainment of women and minorities in entering the professional labor force and forecasting the probable number and characteristics of persons available for employment in various fields are provided in the seventh edition of *Professional Women and Minorities—a Manpower Data Resource Service*. This 272-page volume 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, and the volume includes a comprehensive bibliography of data sources and a detailed cross-index. Copies are available for \$85 from the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 831, Washington, D.C. 20005.

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AAAS Radio Program on Mutual

The AAAS is back on commercial radio stations across the country. After a hiatus of about a year and a half, the AAAS Office of Communications is producing three 90-second science radio news feature programs each week. The new show complements "Focus," the Association's long-running interview/panel format program on public radio. It follows the highly successful earlier AAAS commercial radio program, "Report on Science," which was coproduced with the CBS Radio Station's News Service from early 1981 through July 1986.

Topics covered on the new program are decidedly eclectic: an electronic desk that listens to

and talks back to the user; explosions that blast materials together, rather than apart; and microorganisms that rescue gold and silver from toxic waste.

The Mutual Broadcasting System makes the new program available to over 800 commercial radio stations nationwide. In addition, they incorporate some of the stories into their early morning show, "America in the Morning," which airs on nearly 300 stations, including those in the top-ten markets in the United States.

The strategy of using both commercial and public radio to communicate about science is a deliberate one. Project director Carol L. Rogers, head of the AAAS Office of Communications, believes that radio offers excellent opportunities to provide news and perspectives about science to a lay audience. "Increasing the public's understanding of science and technology is a major AAAS objective," notes Rogers. "And the public has demonstrated a keen interest in having more information about scientific and technical topics. Producing radio programs for commercial and pub-

lic stations can be useful in reaching different segments of that public."

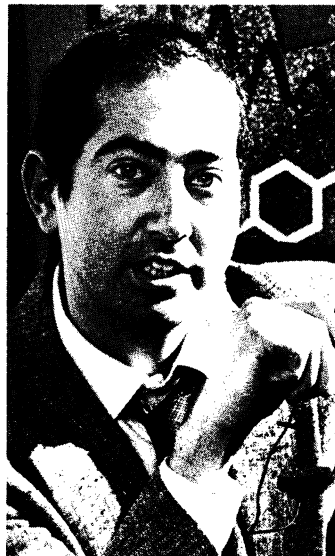
Bob Hirshon is the on-air reporter for the show. Previously, he produced science radio stories for the Christian Science Monitor and WGBH in Boston. "In 90 seconds we can't report on all the current science news stories; nor can we cover a story in-depth," explains Hirshon. "But what we can do is pique the listeners' interest, and tell them about some aspect of science they might not know, or reveal the science side of a story already in the news."

For example, one story takes up the issue of nature versus nurture as it relates to pit bull terriers. Another looks at what physicists hope to discover with the proposed superconducting supercollider. Still another looks at various types of gambling through the eyes of a mathematician.

The cooperation of researchers from across the country is essential to the show's production. In fact, researchers are an integral part of the show, describing their work or explaining scientific concepts. Further, they offer ideas for new shows and verify the accuracy of scripts.

"When I tell a researcher I'd like to do a radio story explaining their work to a lay audience in 90 seconds, they're justifiably dubious," says Hirshon. "Yet they've been extraordinarily cooperative, and very pleased with the results."

Mutual Broadcasting sends the AAAS radio program via satellite to its affiliate stations. Individual stations then schedule them to fit their own programming needs. AAAS members who want to hear the programs in their area should contact their local Mutual Broadcasting station for air times or write to the Office of Communications at the AAAS address.



Bob Hirshon in on the air in new AAAS radio program on Mutual Broadcasting System.