INSIDE AAAS

Board Proposes a New/Old Objective for AAAS

An explicit statement supporting science education should be added to the present five stated objectives of the AAAS, the Association's Board of Directors has decided. The AAAS Council is scheduled to consider the proposal at its 18 January meeting, to be held during the Association's Annual Meeting at the San Francisco Hilton.

The addition was proposed by Walter L. Gillespie, head of the AAAS Office of Science & Technology Education. He points out that interest in science education is not a new Association concern. It goes back to the earliest days of AAAS, and an Office of Science Education was established in 1955. Present-day education activities take place not only in his Office but in several other AAAS programs as well, he notes. "It seemed to me that since the Association is doing so much and has done so much that maybe there ought to be an explicit statement in the objectives," Gillespie says.

Gillespie has suggested adding the italicized phrase to Article II, Objectives, of the AAAS Constitution:

The objectives of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are to further the work of scientists, to facilitate cooperation among them, to foster scientific freedom and responsibility, to improve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare, *to advance education in science,* and to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress.

"I don't look upon adding this specific phrase to our objectives as changing our position. I think it is recognizing where we are and where we have been," Gillespie says. "I think it calls attention, to the members and to everybody else, that it is a major concern of the organization."

Gillespie believes scientists care about education in science both because it determines the supply of future scientists, and because it enhances public appreciation of science. "It's a pipeline issue," he says, "and it's a scientific literacy issue."

Among the activities in the AAAS Office of Science & Technology Education is Project 2061, aimed ultimately at science curriculum development for the next century. Underwritten by the Carnegie Corporation and the Mellon Foundation, the first phase, outlining what all students should learn about basic science, technology and math, is essentially complete. A report is presently in preparation and will be issued early next year.

Memo to Members

This information about the proposal to add education in science to the other five official objectives of AAAS is published in accordance with the Association's Constitution. Article IX calls for publication of any proposed amendment at least 30 days in advance of the Council meeting at which it is to be considered. If a majority of Council members votes approval at its meeting on 18 January 1989, the amendment will be submitted to you for mail ratification during the 1989 general election. If two-thirds of the members who return ballots favor the amendment, it will be adopted and become effective immediately.

■ **MARGE WHITE, Executive Office**

Good Weather and Great Physics

Physics will be a central feature of the 1989 Annual Meeting of AAAS, which will take place 14–19 January in mild and lovely San Francisco. The AAAS Meeting will be held in conjunction with the joint winter meeting of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers, and AAAS registrants will have free access to the physics meetings. Several sessions are jointly sponsored by all three groups.

There will be two full days on synchrotron radiation and a day-long session on scanning tunnelling microscopy. Several sessions will be devoted to education in physics, including one that examines why so few women enter the field. Speakers at a day-long tribute to Richard Feynman, who died in February, will include such stars of American physics as Julian Schwinger, Freeman Dyson, Hans Bethe and Murray Gell-Mann.

If physics interests you not at all, there's plenty more, from studies in chaos to studies of Japanese science—with stops in between at oceanography, engineering, retroviruses, ecology, neurobehavior, social science, economics, ethical issues, policy matters, and science and technology education.

Workshops will help scientists improve their chances for NSF grants, testify in legislative hearings and communicate with policymakers. Special-registration seminars from 15–17 January will explore protein folding and the genetic engineering and molecular biology of plants.

Among those delivering the 15 plenary lectures will be Berkeley's Allan Wilson on "The Search for Eve," National Academy of Sciences President Frank Press on resource allocations, and Shoji Tanaka on superconductivity. Stanford President Donald Kennedy will give the keynote address at 8:30 p.m. on 14 January.

AAAS headquarters will be in the San Francisco Hilton; APA/AAPT sessions take place in the Westin St. Francis, a block away. Discount air fares have been arranged through United (AAAS Convention Code 9017D) and Delta (Code R0030). The full Meeting program appeared in the 28 October issue of *Science*, or can be obtained by calling 202/326-6466.

Foreign Student Grants

Grants of up to $300 are available to help foreign graduate students attend the AAAS Annual Meeting. Applications must be received by 20 December. Call Carolina Carter, AAAS Office of International Science (202/326-6650) for information on procedures.