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Science & Society

Science, Technology, and Society Emerging Relationships

Edited by Rosemary Chalk

This volume provides a thorough introduction to the issues concerning the unique relationships among science, technology, and society (STS). It offers 85 articles, editorials, and letters published over the past 40 years in *Science*, the weekly journal of the AAAS.

The material provides a broad overview of the emerging relationships of science, technology, and society in the period after World War II. Contributors include Bertrand Russell, C.P. Snow, Pope John Paul II, and many scholars well known in the scientific literature. The collection reflects a variety of perspectives on science, tech-

Dael Wolfle was executive officer of AAAS

during the post-war period that saw an

unprecedented growth in American sci-

ence. In this clear and engaging narrative,

he describes the Association's role in that

growth as well as its internal changes as it

sought to serve its four key constituencies:

scientists working in all fields of science

and technology, students seeking careers

in those fields, a public that increasingly

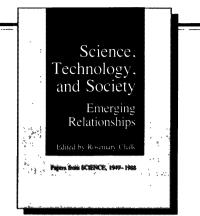
needed to understand new technological advances, and opinion leaders whose decisions could influence scientific and tech-

nological activities.

nology, and society. Provocative essays capture the concerns of leaders in the scientific community who sought to articulate the pressing problems of their times.

The book is a valuable resource for those with a professional interest in STS studies. It is also designed for use as a supplemental text for college or high school courses examining the social context of STS. And it is of interest to lay readers who want to gain an insight into the purposes and values that shape the directions of science.

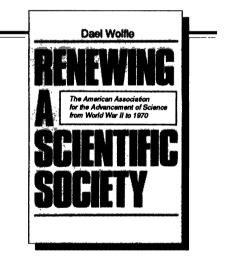
Topics include: Scientific responsibility; science and freedom; science and eth-



Books from AAAS

ics; the human side of science; scientists and citizens; science and the modern world; fraud and misconduct in science; professional rights and duties in the health sciences; science and risk; and science and national security.

1989; 262 pp.; softcover; index **#88-12S** - \$19.95 (members \$15.95)



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American Association for the Advancement of Science

Renewing a Scientific Society The American Association for the Advancement of Science from World War II to 1970

Dael Wolfle

Dr. Wolfle also describes the AAAS's work on a wide range of national issues, including development of the National Science Foundation; Cold War concerns about the loyalty and freedom of scientists; questions about the ownership and control of research; efforts to develop an effective science curriculum for all Americans; and issues regarding air conservation, the use of arid lands, the effects of herbicides in Vietnam, and much more.

This book is essential for historians of science, members of scholarly organiza-

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 The American Association for the Advancement of Science was founded in 1848 and incorporated in 1874. Its objectives 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.



COVER Skull of the earliest known relative of the higher primates (including humans) *Catopithecus browni* from early Tertiary deposits in northeastern Africa. Of probable late Eocene age, this skull shows several characteristics that rank it with the early higher primates of the Old World (Catarrhini). See page 1567. [Dave Leonhard, senior photographer, Audiovisual Medical Photography, Duke University]

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Complex genetic diseases

EART disease, manic-depression, cancer, Alzheimer's dis-Lease, obesity, high blood pressure, and diabetes are some of the targets of molecular genetics research in the 1990s (page 1540). Susceptibility or resistance to these and other diseases appears to be in part dependent on one's genetic makeup, but unlike the comparatively "simple" single-gene diseases (such as cystic fibrosis) more than one gene-probably from three to six genes-may typically be involved. Solving the complex genetics of these diseases is one part of a two-pronged problem; figuring out how to modify the effects of susceptibility genes (for example, altering diet when there is a susceptibility to diabetes or high blood pressure or minimizing exposure to carcinogens in cases of susceptibility to cancer) is the other. Recent approaches, progress, and setbacks in research into the genetics of complex diseases are described by Marx; though difficult, the task of untangling the diverse factors that contribute to multigene diseases is considered worth the effort because of the tremendous personal suffering and public costs now associated with these very common diseases.

Soft x-ray lasers

HE usefulness of x-rays has generally been limited by a lack of sufficiently intense x-ray sources. However, recent advances in soft x-ray laser technology have greatly improved prospects for the development of technologies such as high-resolution imaging of living cells and new forms of microlithography for the electronics industry (page 1553). Soft x-ray lasers were first successfully generated in 1984; they work at wavelengths shorter than 25 nanometers. The thrust of current efforts is to push the technology toward shorter wavelengths (the "water window" region that is important for biologic specimens is between 2.4 and 4.4 nanometers) while concurrently improving the efficiency of existing x-ray

lasers and developing low-cost systems. Suckewer and Skinner discuss the physics and technology of soft x-ray lasing and show the type of image that currently can be made of human cells when wavelengths of 18.2 nanometers are used. The development of small-scale high-performance lasers will be fundamental for applying this technology.

Satellite measurements of global temperatures

SCERTAINING whether the earth's atmosphere has been warming has been difficult. What is needed is a method for measuring temperatures all over the earth on a short (daily) time scale, and this can only be done with satellites. Spencer and Christy now present global temperature data that were obtained with microwave radiometers aboard orbiting NOAA weather satellites (page 1558). The radiometers were originally intended for spot measurements but have been gathering data for 10 years and actually provide global coverage; they measure the thermal emission of radiation by atmospheric oxygen, which, because of its constant concentration in the lower atmosphere, serves as a stable temperature tracer. Although some dramatic temperature changes have been recorded over the short term, no trend toward increased heating of the earth is apparent in the last decade. Since 1979, only one year (1981) was considered an "average" year; the other nine were either cool or warm. Abelson addresses some of the uncertainties that surround the issue of global warming on page 1529.

Primitive anthropoid skull

A crushed but nearly complete skull (see cover) found in the Fayum badlands of Egypt may be the earliest skull specimen known in the anthropoid family line, the line that leads to humans (page 1567). The fossil was recovered from a green shale quarry called locality L-41 from which fossils of other primates, other mammals, birds, and fish have also been recovered. The L-41 fossils are thought to be of Eocene age (greater than 38 million years old) and are thus the most primitive primate fossils so far recovered in the Fayum badlands, which is the world's major recovery site for earliest higher primate fossils. Simons describes the configuration of the skull and features of the skull bones and teeth that identify this specimen as a member of Catopithecus browni. Catopithecus is a new genus that belongs to the new subfamily Oligopithecinae in the family Propliopithecidae. Although Catopithecus has a number of advanced characters, it is a very primitive anthropoid, and features of its dental anatomy appear to link it and other members of its subfamily to the Eocene adapids, which are thought to be the ancestors of modern lemurs and lorises.

Self tolerance

T ELF tolerance is established in an individual's immune system dur-ing the time in early development when the thymus is differentiating. "Physiologic combinations" of self peptides and self histocompatibility molecules are presented to potentially reactive cells of the immune system. Cells that react with such combinations are permanently eliminated, but there remain in the body immunoreactive cells that recognize the universe of self peptides and self histocompatibility molecules that were not scrutinized by the developing system. Some of these cells are shown by Schild et al. to react with "nonphysiologic" combinations of self peptides (from various common proteins) and self histocompatibility molecules (page 1587). The tested combinations were probably not presented in the right form or in the right amount during thymic differentiation. The converse of self tolerance-autoimmunity-may result when these remaining immunoreactive cells are stimulated by nonphysiologic combinations of self components that perhaps are released from cells or are altered as a result of the disease process.

RUTH LEVY GUYER

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1527

Books from AAAS

AIDS

AIDS 1988: AAAS Symposia Papers

Edited by Ruth Kulstad Foreword by C. Everett Koop

This volume contains many of the groundbreaking papers on AIDS presented at the 1988 AAAS Annual Meeting.

The wide variety of the papers presented here reflects the current thinking about AIDS research today—that control over the AIDS epidemic must be achieved through a collaborative, multi-disciplinary effort that includes not only the medical and biological sciences, but the social and behavioral sciences as well.

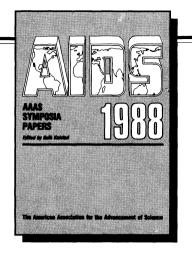
This fully indexed volume is organized into five major sections: The first explores the epidemiology and natural history of AIDS and the HIV infection both in the United States and internationally. It also looks at the difficulty of predicting the course of the virus—statistical issues; patterns of HIV-1 incubation, infectiousness, and transmission; and approaches to demographic impact modeling.

Section two discusses the social consequences of AIDS as they relate to gender, intravenous drug users, and public policy, and it examines the dilemmas that AIDS presents to the medical community.

The third section focuses on the AIDS prevention strategies currently employed around the world.

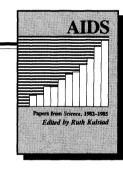
Section four considers the economic, political, ethical and legal issues surround-ing the epidemic.

The final section presents several recent medical and biological studies on AIDS and HIV.



AIDS 1988 is a timely, authoritative source of information on the growing body of AIDS research being conducted around the world. It is essential for medical, biological, social, and behavioral scientists, and for everyone who is professionally or personally concerned about the AIDS epidemic.

1988; 478 pp.; softcover index; 12 appendices **#88-19S** – \$29.95 (members \$23.95)



AIDS: Papers from Science, 1982-1985

Edited by Ruth Kulstad

This collection includes frequently cited research papers and news reports on AIDS that were published in *Science* between August 1982 and September 1985.

Many of the papers relate directly to AIDS research, while others touch on relevant aspects of the immune system. The news stories help to explain the ongoing research, while focusing on some of the sociological questions raised by the disease. The book is arranged chronologically, enabling the reader to trace the history of the AIDS epidemic through September 1985—a history that is of great sociological interest.

This fully indexed collection is valuable not only for the experimental data and conclusions, but also as an excellent bibliographic reference of AIDS work in major journals worldwide.

1986; 654 pp.; softcover detailed indexes and illustrations **#85-238** – \$19.95 (members \$15.95)

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