

# Inside AAAS

## Fang Lizhi Heads List of Plenary Speakers Set for 1991 AAAS Annual Meeting

Chinese astrophysicist and dissident Fang Lizhi will address new developments and problems in cosmology in a plenary session of the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in February 1991.

Fang and his wife, Li Shuxian, also a physicist, were the focus of worldwide attention when they took refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing during the Chinese government crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators.

The annual meeting address is among Fang's first appearances before a gathering of U.S. scientists since leaving China in June of this year.

The meeting will take place at the Sheraton Washington and Omni Shoreham hotels in Washington, D.C., from 14 to 19 February 1991.

Lizhi joins several confirmed plenary speakers on the AAAS meeting's agenda, including:

- Walter Bodmer, director of research, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London, and the head of the international Human Genome Organisation;
- James Watkins, U.S. Secretary of Energy;
- John Brademas, president of New York University;
- Louis Sullivan, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services; and
- Jose Goldemberg, Secretary for Science and Technology, Brazil.

In conjunction with the meeting, Public Science Day will be held on 14 February. The city-wide event provides hands-on science and technology activities and education for

thousands of area residents and students and takes place at local universities, museums, laboratories, zoos, schools, and other locations.

The 1991 annual meeting includes some 250 symposia on such subjects as:

- Global warming;
- Modeling geographic diffusion of AIDS, and AIDS in Eastern Africa;
- Earthquake prediction;
- Science in the courtroom and in espionage;
- Revolutions in developmental biology;
- The ethics of cystic fibrosis carrier screening;
- Engineering in Japan;
- Environmental threats to astronomy;
- Gene therapy;
- RU 486, and prospects for immunocontraception;
- Bovine somatotropin and the U.S. dairy industry;
- Disposal of fissile materials after nuclear arms reduction; and
- Inheritance of acquired characteristics.

Featured will be a 3-day semi-

nar on areas of neuroscience that hold great promise for the 1990s, including olfaction and taste, the molecular basis of neurological disease, and cognitive processes.

The seminar, to be held from 16 to 18 February, requires an additional registration fee.

Short courses on the uses of computers in medical imaging and graphics, and on sophisticated uses of simple computers, also will be presented.

Several public lectures on popular aspects of science and a science film festival featuring 50 of the best recent science films also are on the meeting program.

In addition, the AAAS Science and Technology Exhibition will run from 16 to 19 February at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

Fully accessible to people with disabilities, the AAAS annual meeting will provide a resource room for disabled people throughout the 5-day event.

For more information, contact the AAAS Meetings Office, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005 or telephone 202-326-6448.

## Science Journalists Selected for Awards

Winners have been selected in the 1990 competition for the AAAS-Westinghouse Science Journalism Awards.

The awards of \$2500 each are presented to recognize outstanding reporting on the natural sciences and their applications, excluding health and clinical medicine.

Awards are presented in five categories: large and small newspapers, general-circulation magazines, radio, and television.

"If anyone were worried about the state of science writing in America, I'd tell them to look at the entries we got this year," said Joann Rodgers, who is the director of media relations at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

Rodgers, a former journalist, served on the 1990 judging panel for both newspaper categories.

She noted that "this year's entries really took you into the rain forest, behind the doors at NIH, into space, and on the earthquake watch.

"Science writing at its best is simply good writing," Rodgers added. "I'd like to think that the impact of the award is demonstrated in this improvement in quality science reporting."

The awards will be presented at the National Association of Science Writers' annual banquet on 16 February 1991 during the AAAS annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The 1990 winners and their entries are:

- For science writing in newspapers with more than 100,000 daily circulation: Charles Petit for a five-part series, "Battle to Save the Rain Forest," published in

## AAAS Forum on School Science Convenes In Washington Next Week

"Assessment in the Service of Instruction" is the theme of the sixth annual AAAS Forum on School Science, which will be held on 9 and 10 November outside Washington, D.C.

The 1990 Forum will offer an overview of assessment issues in science education at the national, state, and local levels, with a special focus on alternative methods of assessment, such as portfolios and group assessment.

Educators from Connecticut, Michigan, California, New York, Virginia, and Texas also will discuss advances their states have made in reforming policies related to science assessment.

The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Va.

For registration information, contact Betty Calinger at 202-326-6629.

the *San Francisco Chronicle*, 25 to 28 September and 1 October 1989.

In the same category, an honorable mention was awarded to John Crewdson for "The Great AIDS Quest: Special Report," published in the *Chicago Tribune*, 19 November 1989.

■ For science writing in newspapers with less than 100,000 daily circulation: Lawrence Spohn for a 12-part series, "The Grand Voyage," published in the *Albuquerque Tribune*, 21 June; 24, 25, 26, and 28 August; 4 through 8 September; and 9 and 17 October 1989.

Honorable mention in the same category was awarded to Doug O'Hara for "Tracking the Caribou," published in the *Anchorage Daily News*, 3 September 1989.

■ For science writing in general circulation magazines: Michael Lemonick, Philip Elmer-DeWitt, Madeleine Nash, and Christopher Redman for "Smash: The Ultimate Quest," published in *Time*, 16 April 1990.

■ For science coverage on television: Larry Engel, Thomas Lucas, and Paula Apsell for the NOVA program "Hurricane!" broadcast on the Public Broadcasting Service on 7 November 1989.

No award will be given in the radio category in 1990.

Judges for the awards were drawn from the ranks of journalism professors, scientists, and print and broadcast journalism, including writers and editors from *Science*, *Scientific American*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Since their inception in 1959, the AAAS-Westinghouse

## New Photo Exhibit Examines Threatened Rain Forest



Rick MacDowell

The endangered region and life forms of the Ituri, a relatively dry African rain forest that covers more than 70,000 square kilometers, are the focus of a new photographic exhibit that opens at AAAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., 2 November.

West Virginia photographer Ric MacDowell, a

returning exhibitor in the AAAS Art of Science and Technology series, highlights subjects that are native to the region and facing the same threats as the rain forest they inhabit, according to program coordinator Virginia Stern.

MacDowell's exhibit, entitled "The Ituri—Africa's Imperiled Rain Forest," results from 8 months spent with research ecologists Terese and John Hart, who study the okapi, short-necked forest giraffes now found only in the rain forests of eastern Zaire.

The Harts' research is sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation International program of the New York Zoological Society.

The color photographs will remain on exhibit on floors 8 and 9 of the AAAS offices at 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C., through January 1991.

Science Journalism Awards have been funded by a grant from the Westinghouse Foundation and administered by the AAAS Office of Communications.

## Delegate Needed for Bangladesh Meeting

The Bangladesh Association for the Advancement of Science (BAAS) is seeking a AAAS member to participate in the 16th Annual Bangladesh Science Conference to be held at Chittagong University in Bangladesh, 21 through 24 December.

Organized around the theme "Science and the Environment," the conference will provide the opportunity for a AAAS delegate to deliver a lecture in his or her area of expertise.

The delegate will be selected by the AAAS Directorate for

International Programs. Although no travel funds are available, BAAS will host the AAAS delegate during the meeting.

Members who plan to be in or near Bangladesh in December or can refer colleagues on sabbatical in the region should contact Laura Mann, AAAS Directorate for International Programs, at 202-326-6664 no later than 30 November.

## Resources Available on Education Issues

The reasoning behind science literacy efforts—and resources for furthering them—are the subjects of two new publications available from AAAS and the Education Writers Association.

The new edition of the *Sourcebook for Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education*

(formerly the *Science Education Directory*) provides more than 2000 listings of contact information for experts, programs, and organizations involved, in science education efforts in the United States.

Federal and state agencies, congressional committees, academies of science, national organizations, and museums are among the sources included in the book, which also describes AAAS programs related to science, mathematics, and technology education.

Resources for people with disabilities, minorities, women, students, parents, and other special populations are covered, with special sections on textbooks, curricula, testing, and related journals.

Edited by Betty J. Calinger and Barbara Walthall, the *Sourcebook* was produced by the AAAS Directorate for Edu-

cation and Human Resources.

Also newly available are reprints of an April 1990 lecture by AAAS president-elect Leon Lederman on science literacy, presented at the Education Writers Association national seminar, held in Chicago, Ill.

Lederman, director emeritus of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and a professor of physics at the University of Chicago, discussed the race between the United States and other nations in science literacy, as well as his own efforts in advancing U.S. science education.

*Sourcebook for Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education, 1990-1991*, AAAS Publication #90-34S, 208 pages, indexed, softcover, \$12.95 (AAAS member price \$10.95). Order from AAAS Books, P.O. Box 753, Waldorf, MD 20604. VISA and Mastercard accepted. Membership label from *Science* required to order at AAAS member price.

*Science Literacy: A Race Between Education and Catastrophe*, The 1990 Martin Buskin Memorial Lecture by Leon Lederman, 22 pages; reprints available for \$1.50 per copy. Order from the Education Writers Association, 1001 Con-

necticut Avenue, NW, Suite 310, Washington, D.C. 20036, telephone 202-429-9680.

### Workshop to Focus on Ethics, Values

Minority perspectives, often missing in interdisciplinary studies of ethical issues raised by science and technology, will be raised by 20 to 30 minority scholars in an intensive AAAS workshop to be held in summer 1991.

Designed to begin closing the gap in minority contributions to ethics and values research, the workshop also is expected to result in an array of related research projects to be pursued in the months following the workshop, according to Mark Frankel, who directs the AAAS programs in scientific freedom, responsibility, and law.

Initiated by the AAAS Directorate for Science and Policy Programs, the program is funded by the National Science Foundation.

The program is cosponsored by some 15 national organizations representing students, minorities, women, and other special populations in such fields

as the physical sciences, social sciences, engineering, and medicine.

Beginning 28 July 1991, the 8-day workshop will use panels, lectures, and small group sessions to explore such subjects as:

- minority views on the impact of science and technology on their lives;
- how those perspectives compare with existing views; and
- influences that minority perspectives can have on scholarship, individual practices, and policy decisions related to science and technology.

A review of theoretical work and research methodologies in ethics and values research, publishing outlets, and other resources to support scholarship in the field will also be covered.

Frankel noted that after the workshop concludes, participants will be encouraged to prepare proposals for ethics and values research projects.

He added that AAAS will identify mentors to assist in project development, coordinate the proposal preparation, and seek funding for the projects in collaboration with workshop participants.

### Policy Changes Affect Back Issues

*Science* subscribers who renew their subscriptions more than 8 weeks after the expiration date will no longer receive issues missed in the interim as part of their renewal.

No break in service will occur for subscribers who submit renewals within 8 weeks of expiration.

The new policy, effective with this issue of *Science*, affects both AAAS members and nonmember subscribers.

Back issues of *Science* may be purchased from the AAAS Customer Service Department, Room 117, 1333 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, telephone 202-326-6770.

### Member Donations Aid AAAS Efforts

Since 1976, when AAAS members were first given the option to include a voluntary contribution with their membership renewals, this form of charitable giving has had a "substantial impact" on the association's programmatic activities, according to Jeannette

### How to Apply for the Minority Ethics and Values Workshop

Persons of any minority group may apply for the workshop, although preference will be given to the following applicant groups:

- Asian/Pacific Islanders
- Black/African-Americans
- Hispanics/Chicanos/Latinos
- Native Americans/American Indians

Eligible applicants include those with an advanced degree from any field of science, engineering, or the humanities. They may be from academic or other

institutions, including museums, corporations, hospitals, libraries, government agencies, private research institutions, and professional societies.

An advisory board will competitively review the applications, which will be selected with special attention to diversity within the group as well as each scholar's credentials and potential contributions to the workshop.

Applications are due no later than 8 February 1991.

Participants will be reimbursed for accommodations, meals, and travel related to the workshop.

In addition, a modest stipend may be available for qualified participants who might not otherwise be able to attend.

For more information on the workshop or an application form, contact Amy Crumpton, Directorate for Science and Policy Programs, AAAS, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, or telephone 202-326-6798.

Wedel, who heads the AAAS Office of Development.

Wedel, who notes that about 25% of members contribute when renewing membership, said that the funds account for some \$250,000 raised annually.

"Voluntary giving by members is significant because it signals to our other funders—corporations and foundations—that members care about our efforts to advance science," Wedel said.

She noted that contributions received in this way range from \$10 to \$1000.

For more information about making contributions to AAAS, contact Wedel at 202-326-6636.

sponsor fellows and run nationwide competitions to fill the positions under the AAAS effort include the Acoustical Society of America; American Geophysical Union; American Institute of Biological Sciences; American Institute of Physics; American Physical Society; American Psychological Association; and the American Society for Agronomy; Crop Science Society of

America; Soil Science Society of America; and the Weed Science Society of America.

Other sponsors of the program include the American Society for Microbiology; American Society of Mechanical Engineers; American Society of Plant Physiologists; American Veterinary Medical Association; Biophysical Society; Federation of American Societies of Food Animal Sciences; Geological Society of America; Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues; and the federal

Office of Technology Assessment.

For information about these and other fellowships offered by AAAS, contact AAAS Fellowship Office, Directorate for Science and Policy Programs, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, or telephone 202-326-6600.

## AAAS Washington Fellowships Place Scientists, Engineers in Year-Long Assignments on Science, Diplomacy, and Security

Fifty-seven scientists and engineers are beginning year-long assignments in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government under the 18th round of the AAAS Science and Engineering Fellowships Program.

More than 600 scientists and engineers have worked under the Washington fellowships since the first program was established in 1973.

The fellows, who represent a wide range of physical, biological, and social sciences as well as many fields of engineering, are assigned to contribute to federal efforts in science and science policy, based on their technical expertise, according to Claudia Sturges, who directs the program for AAAS.

Fellows are selected for one of three distinct programs in Washington:

■ **Congressional Science and Engineering Fellows**, who number 28 this year, serve on Capitol Hill in offices of members of Congress, on committee staffs, or in legislative support agencies such as the Office of Technology Assessment.

■ **Science, Engineering, and Diplomacy Fellows** serve in positions at the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) or at the U.S. Department of State. Twenty-one fellows are participating in the



*The 1990 Science and Engineering Fellows gather in front of the Capitol.*

program this year; an additional 15 fellows are beginning a second year in their positions under the diplomacy program's renewal option.

■ **Arms Control and National Security Fellows** serve in federal offices dealing with those issues; 15 such fellows have begun this year's program.

AAAS sponsors an umbrella program for all three groups of fellows that provides an orientation to policy-making in Washington when fellows first arrive, as well as a year-long series of seminars and gatherings to supplement the program's work experiences.

National organizations that