chronologists, combined with an IHO Board majority loyal to Johanson and antagonistic to BGC's friendly relations with Getty, appear to be the principal factors. BGC scientists have enriched IHO in many ways over the past 5 years. Results of their activities are still being used for fundraising in the private sector by IHO.

BGC simply wants to get back to doing science. A significant body of research by BGC staff, and dozens of collaborators around the world, has hung in the balance. More than 30 different projects funded by NSF, the Cal Space Institute, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Geographic Society, and the L. S. B. Leakey Foundation have been disrupted by IHO's refusal to allow BGC to use the facilities historically funded through the efforts of its staff and constructed, applied, and maintained by them.

This is the legacy of the IHO breakup.

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Anyone reading about the funding troubles of the Institute for Human Origins ("Clash with billionaire costs anthropology institute dearly" (News, 27 May, p. 1247) might receive the impression that participating in a NOVA mini-series is damaging to the interests of scientific research. That is very regrettable. To fulfill the extremely ambitious demands of NOVA's three-part series "In Search of Human Origins," Don Johanson dedicated many months of his time, remunerated at extremely modest public television levels. But in terms of furthering public understanding of science, the effort has paid off handsomely. More than 17 million PBS viewers watched the series, which was the first serious exploration of human evolution on television in 15 years, and that number will continue to grow as the series is repeated over the next several years. In addition, the series with its related teaching materials will have a long life in the schools.

Perhaps because Johanson *has* spent so much time raising public support for paleoanthropology, he understands the importance of returning the fruits of their investment to the public. If more scientists felt as Johanson does, perhaps the public would be better informed about scientific research and it would be less difficult to find the resources to support it.

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UV-B and Ozone Observations

In their Technical Comment "Analyzing ultraviolet-B radiation: Is there a trend?" (27 May, p. 1341), Patrick J. Michaels, S. Fred Singer, and Paul C. Knappenberger state that I did not claim as a trend observations of a summer ozone minimum (230 Dobson units) and alpine-level ultraviolet-B radiation (UV-B) at South Central Texas on 23 June 1993 associated with tropical storm Arlene (*1*). However, my unpublished paper also describes record low ozone and correspondingly high UV-B after Arlene and during the entire summer of 1993. The regional nature of these observations is established by simultaneous observations with two identical ozonometers of record low ozone at Seguin and four other Texas cities.

Michaels *et al.* also incorrectly state that I used an instrument "similar to the Toronto instrument" used by Kerr and McElroy (*2*). The observations were made with two Total Ozone Portable Spectrometers (TOPS) (*3*). Although these instruments are considerably less sophisticated than the Brewer instrument used at Toronto, they measure direct UV-B and ozone sufficiently well to have detected a drift of several percent in an extrapolated calibration of the Nimbus-7–Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer some 6 months before the drift was confirmed by the world-standard Dobson spectrophotometer (instrument 83) at Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii (*4*).

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References and Notes

1. F. M. Mims III, in preparation.
2. J. B. Kerr and C. T. McElroy, *Science* **262**, 1032 (1993).
3. The TOPS ozonometer is a two-channel version of the UV-B radiometer I described in 1991 [*Sci. Am.* **263**, 106 (August 1991)].
4. F. M. Mims III, *Nature* **361**, 505 (1993).

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Nitric Oxide Toxicity and Poly(ADP-Ribose)Polymerase

In their report "Nitric oxide activation of poly(ADP-ribose) synthetase in neurotoxicity" (4 Feb., p. 687) (*1*), Jie Zhang *et al.* incorrectly state that a paper of ours (reference 21) (*1*) deals with macrophage cytotoxicity. The paper did not deal with macrophages, but showed that inhibitors of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) prevented nitric oxide (NO)–mediated toxicity.

One major caveat of our and Jie Zhang *et al.*'s studies is that the evidence is only indirect, based on the effects of pharmaco-