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StatView runs under Windows 95, Windows 3.1, Windows NT and is available for Macintosh and Power Macs. We have translated and student versions of StatView and license, academic and quantity discounts.

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Career Options in Science

Floyd E. Bloom's editorial "Future imperfect and tense" (14 Feb., p. 907) notes that something is amiss in the job market for new Ph.D. scientists and engineers seeking to launch their careers. He refers to the report of the AAAS Task Force on Careers for Young Scientists and particularly to one of its recommendations—increased investment in "Science's Next Wave," the World Wide Web site that has given wide exposure to career issues and also could be used as a resource for faculty.

The Task Force report (1) also indicated new areas for AAAS action, including the nomination of young scientists to the AAAS Board; creation of a new AAAS section to address the concerns of those in transition to the workplace; and improved collection, analysis, and sharing of timely data on employment trends through greater support for the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (CPST). A participating organization of AAAS, CPST plays a pivotal role in promoting professional society and other surveys and in disseminating job information (2). The AAAS Board of Directors charged the Task Force with evaluating data and AAAS activities that address the concerns of young doctoral scientists preparing for careers. The Task Force affirmed that federal agencies, professional societies, and universities seldom include the voices of young professionals in policy-making and priority-setting. Career options for doctoral scientists seeking to contribute in settings other than research-intensive institutions must be cultivated (3). Until the major decisions shaping our nation's science and technology enterprise are reconsidered in this light, we continue to risk those human resources who represent the future.

**AAAS Ad Hoc Task Force on
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References and Notes

1. *Report of the AAAS Task Force on Careers for Young Scientists* (American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC, 1996). Copies available from the Directorate for Science and Policy Programs, AAAS, or by e-mail to rrich@aaas.org.
2. A recent CPST workshop on postdocs and career prospects, for example, showed that data on postdoctoral appointments are uneven at best. Many institutions have no designated unit responsible for collecting and reporting information on their own postdocs and have no mechanism for even identifying them.
3. R. G. Greene, B. J. Hardy, S. J. Smith, *Issues Sci. Technol.* **59**, 59 (Winter 1995–96).

*Daryl E. Chubin (Chair), Finley Austin, Kevin Aylesworth, Roman Czujko, Maryrose Franko, Catherine Gaddy, Freeman Hrabowski, Catharine Johnson, Jules LaPidus, Jane Lubchenco, Robert Siegel, and Robert Rich (staff liaison).

Birthrates: Russians Not Alone

Low birthrates are hardly unique to Russia ("Tumbledown pyramid," *Random Samples*, 14 Feb., p. 933). Recent estimates (see "Social indicators" at <http://www.un.org/depts/unsd>) show equally low total fertility rates of 1.2 births per woman in Hong Kong and Spain and rates nearly as low in Germany and Italy (1.3), Greece (1.4), and Austria, Bulgaria, Slovenia, and Romania (1.5). A "gloomy" assessment of the future may be one explanation, as the Population Reference Bureau hypothesizes, but it appears that other factors must certainly be at work.

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Evidence for Linkage Disequilibrium Between HLA-DRB1 Gene and Multiple Sclerosis

In their Perspective "The future of genetic studies of complex human diseases (13 Sept., p. 1516), Neil Risch and Kathleen Merikangas emphasize that such studies might benefit greatly from approaches based on gametic disequilibrium. Recent genome scans (1) and our own data on human leukocyte antigen (HLA)-DRB1 gene in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) illustrate the issue well.

Despite the large number of affected sib-pair families investigated, the HLA region that is suspect from association stud-