

AAAS Council Meeting, 1966

Dael Wolffe

The annual meeting of the Council was held in the Cotillion Room of the Sheraton-Park Hotel in Washington, D.C., beginning at 9:00 a.m. on 30 December 1966, with 254 members present. President Alfred S. Romer presided.

In his report as chairman of the Board of Directors, Henry Eyring thanked Council for electing him to office and giving him the opportunity to work on Association matters, expressed the hope that AAAS might strengthen relations with the affiliated academies of science, and commended the Association for serving as a forum for the discussion of controversial issues instead of attempting to adopt a particular point of view with respect to such issues.

Don K. Price, chairman of the Committee on Council Affairs, summarized the activities of that committee during the past year and stated that several matters considered by the committee appeared later on the agenda for Council action.

Dael Wolffe, the executive officer, summarized the Association's financial situation and reported that Kneeland A. Godfrey, Jr., the Association's information officer since 1963, had resigned to accept appointment as associate editor of the *Civil Engineer*; that Edward G. Sherburne, Jr., director, public understanding of science program of AAAS since 1961, had resigned to accept appointment as director of Science Service; that Sarah Dees, editor of the book review section of *Science* since 1955, had resigned to move to Tucson; and that Raymond L. Taylor, associate administrative secretary, who had been responsible since 1949 for coordinating and managing the Association's annual meetings, would retire at the end of 1966. On motion from the floor, with several enthusiastic seconds, Council voted to express its appreciation to Dr. Taylor for his excellent service over 18 years in managing the Association's annual meetings.

Elections

The Committee on Nominations and Elections reported that Council by mail ballot had elected Walter Orr Roberts, director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, as president-elect; Barry Commoner, Washington University, and Gerald Holton, Harvard University, as members of the Board of Directors; and Claude C. Albritton, Jr., Southern Methodist University, Henry W. Riecken, Social Science Research Council, and William C. Steere, New York Botanical Garden, as members of the Committee on Council Affairs.

The persons elected as vice presidents and vice presidents-elect of the Association are named on pages 857.

Charlotte M. Sitterly of the National Bureau of Standards and William C. Steere of the New York Botanical Garden were elected members of the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

The chairman of the Board of Directors reported the selection of Richard S. Manly, School of Dental Medicine, Tufts University, as Secretary of the Section on Dentistry.

New Affiliate

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Affiliation, which had been endorsed by the Board of Directors, Council voted to grant affiliation to the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine.

Committee Reports

Reports of three standing committees of the Association were distributed with the agenda. No action was required. The three committees were the Committee on Science in the Promotion of Human Welfare, the Committee on Public Understanding of Science, and the Commission on Science Education.

The Council Study Committee on Cooperation with Developing Countries submitted a recommendation that the Association establish an Office of International Science, and suggested a number of activities considered appropriate for the proposed office. Council followed the recommendation of the Committee on Council Affairs that action not be taken at this time in order to give the Board of Directors and the staff time to study the proposal. The study committee was continued in existence for another year.

The Council Study Committee on AAAS Meetings recommended that Council be polled to determine the preference of Council members among three possible changes in the schedule of annual meetings: (i) an annual meeting held late in June; (ii) two meetings a year, one in June and one in December; and (iii) regular annual meetings at two-year intervals with a meeting of Council in each of the intervening years. The Committee on Council Affairs reported that it had approved the proposed poll to be conducted during 1967 and had asked the secretary to provide Council members with an opportunity to make comments or suggestions concerning other possible meeting times or arrangements in addition to the three listed above; that Council members who serve as representatives of affiliated societies were invited to confer with officers of those societies so that their responses to the poll might take account of the wishes and recommendations of their constituencies; and that the Study Committee on AAAS Meetings was being discharged with thanks. Council voted its thanks to the study committee.

A progress report from the Study Committee on Ethics and Responsibilities of Scientists was received and the study committee continued in existence for another year.

The Study Committee on Population Explosion and Birth Control reported that it was sponsoring a symposium being held at the annual meeting, and was considering holding one or two smaller working conferences during 1967. This study committee is being continued for another year.

Resolution

The Committee on Council Affairs reported that it had received three resolutions for consideration; that no action had been taken on two; and that one,

after substantial modification from the original version, was being recommended to Council. After further amendment, that resolution was adopted by Council in the following form:

Whereas modern science and technology now give man unprecedented power to alter his environment and affect the ecological balance of this planet; and

Whereas the full impact of the uses of biological and chemical agents to modify the environment, whether for peaceful or military purposes, is not fully known;

Be it resolved that the American Association for the Advancement of Science:

1) expresses its concern regarding the long-range consequences of the use of biological and chemical agents which modify the environment; and

2) establishes a committee to study such use, including the effects of chemical and biological warfare agents, and periodically to report its findings through appropriate channels of the Association; and

3) volunteers its cooperation with pub-

lic agencies and offices of government for the task of ascertaining scientifically and objectively the full implications of major programs and activities which modify the environment and affect the ecological balance on a large scale.

Finances

The Board of Directors reported that it had adopted the 1967 budget shown in Table 1. Membership changes during 1966 are indicated in Table 2.

Constitution and Bylaws

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Council Affairs and the Board of Directors, Council voted to make vice presidents-elect members of Council and of section committees. The constitutional changes are shown below by italicizing the material newly added.

Article IV, Section 2. "The Council shall consist of (a) the president-elect, the president, the retiring president, all past presidents, the vice presidents, *the vice presidents-elect*, the secretaries of the sections, the members-at-large of the section committees, the executive officer, the treasurer, and the eight (8) elected members of the Board of Directors; (b) two Fellows elected by each regional division of the Association; and (c) the representatives of affiliated organizations as provided in Article VIII of this constitution."

Article VI, Section 3. "The affairs of each section shall be managed by a section committee consisting of (a) the chairman, *vice chairman (if there be one)*, and secretary of the section; (b) members of the Council who represent societies affiliated with the sections; and (c) four (4) Fellows, one elected each year by the section committee for a term of four (4) years."

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Council Affairs, Council voted to require that resolutions and proposals for Council action involving substantive policy decisions be submitted to the secretary 30 days in advance of the meeting of Council instead of two weeks in advance, as previously required. The bylaw change is indicated below by placing in brackets the material to be deleted and italicizing the material to be added.

Article XII, Section 2. "Any resolution or proposal for Council action involving substantive policy decisions shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least [two weeks] *30 days* in advance of any regular or special meeting, so that it may appear on the prepared agenda. Any proposal so submitted which does not appear on the

Table 2. AAAS membership.

<i>Changes during 1966</i>	
New members	25,784
Losses	
Deaths	498
Resignations	3,726
Dropped for non-payment of dues	9,873
	14,097
Net increase during 1966	11,687
<i>Totals as of 31 December 1966</i>	
Annual members in good standing	105,049
Graduate student members ..	3,177
Life and emeritus members ..	1,768
Total active membership* ...	109,994

*A member whose dues are in arrears continues to be counted as a member for 1 year. In addition to the active membership, there were in the Association, at the end of the year, 9998 other members whose dues were in arrears for less than 1 year. Some of these have been reinstated since the end of December and others will be as their dues are paid.

agenda may be brought up for consideration under the item 'new business.' The president may make exceptions to this rule for matters proposed by the Board of Directors or by the chairman of a standing committee."

New Business

The business meeting, which adjourned at 11:25 a.m., was followed immediately by a panel discussion arranged by the Committee on Council Affairs for the interest of Council members. Under the chairmanship of Gerald Holton of Harvard University, five speakers discussed the following topics, all centering on the general theme of the relations between universities and government:

"Who should be responsible for planning science policy: PSAC, the National Science Board, others?"—Philip Handler (chairman, department of biochemistry, Duke University Medical Center); "Distribution of research funds to different areas of science"—Alvin M. Weinberg (director, Oak Ridge National Laboratory) and Steven Ebbin (staff director, United States Senate Subcommittee on Government Research); "New sources for ideas on science policy"—Philip H. Abelson (editor, *Science*); and "Possible models for flow planning of scientific manpower in anticipation of reductions in the rate of increase of funds for research"—Richard H. Bolt (Bolt, Beranek, and Newman; Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Discussion followed the presentation of the statements by the five speakers.

Table 1. AAAS budget for 1967.

<i>Revenue</i>	
Dues of annual members	\$ 960,000
Journal subscriptions (Treasurer)	15,000
Nonmember subscriptions	190,000
Subscriptions: <i>Science Books</i>	25,000
Affiliated organization assessments	3,300
Advertising in <i>Science</i>	2,150,000
Sales: Symposium volumes	65,000
Back issues of <i>Science</i>	6,500
Binders and emblems	6,200
Book lists	19,300
Meeting and exposition	90,000
Rental receipts	2,700
Income from investments	40,000
Administration of projects	85,000
Other income	5,000
Total revenue	\$ 3,663,000
<i>Expenses</i>	
General administration	\$ 93,000
Board of Directors	8,100
Business office	281,500
Symposium volumes	38,800
<i>AAAS Bulletin</i> —printing and mailing	13,500
Building	66,180
Depreciation of building and equipment	40,120
Membership recruitment	99,950
Editorial and news	445,600
<i>Science</i> —printing and mailing ..	1,690,000
<i>Science Education News</i>	2,500
Science bibliographies and library ..	48,800
<i>Science Books</i>	18,200
Book lists	23,200
Meeting and exposition	80,250
Press service	21,000
Section expense	7,600
Public understanding of science ..	30,500
Committee expenses	20,000
Division allowances	21,000
Academy Conference	1,500
Advertising—cost of sales	537,500
Emblems and binders	5,000
Participation at exhibits of other societies	3,000
Contingencies and new activities ..	2,000
Total expenses	\$ 3,598,800
Net revenue	\$ 64,200