

long-term educational planning. The spatial constraints are essentially the Americas with occasional reference to selected European experiences. The emphasis usually remains at the national or regional level with occasional application of educational planning models at the institutional level. Many disciplines will be represented among the speakers and participants.

In terms of organization, there are three ½-day sessions (28–29 June) supplemented by evening round tables. A general session will be held on the first morning to provide distinguished scholars and educational leaders from a number of countries with the opportunity to speak on the future directions of educational planning. In particular, papers presented at this session will highlight the need for, and demonstrate approaches to, the inclusion of qualitative aspects in the planning of education. The second session, through a series of case studies, will examine the application of quantitative, computerized models in sectoral and institutional planning in education. The utility of these models will be carefully evaluated.

During the final session papers will be presented concerning the political, social, and administrative influences on the educational planning process. Improvements in the sophistication of educational technology have not guaranteed that the needed educational change will result from planning efforts. Therefore, in this session the obstacles to the implementation of educational change are explicitly and empirically examined. In addition to the three main sessions there will be a number of round table discussions where small groups of participants have the opportunity to discuss in more detail issues raised by the formal papers.

The program on educational planning will bring together, in most cases for the first time, significantly large numbers of educational planners from the Americas. The formal presentations and the work sessions are designed to describe and evaluate the most recent developments in the field of educational planning. Subsequent to the conference, attempts will be made to foster, through publication and organizational and individual means, continued exchanges of ideas and information.

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29–30 June

Health and Illness, Birth and Death

Modern medical technology has offered greater control at both ends of the life cycle and altered our notions of health and illness in between. But control, in turn, implies conscious decision-making; and as the area of conscious decision-making over reproduction and prolongation of life, over standards of health and treatment of illness, has grown, fundamental questions about birth, death, health, and illness are forced to the surface. To what extent are our definitions of "health" and "illness" influenced or modified by the existence of medical technology—or by the mere prospects of developing such technology? What values will guide our new-found control over reproduction and death? And how will these values be expressed in social institutions?

The Mexico City meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for dealing with such questions from both cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspectives. Accordingly, the Institute of Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences has organized a 2 day symposium (29–30 June) beginning with explorations of the cultural meaning of health and illness in primitive, transitional, and technological societies. Papers on these topics will be given by Stanley Diamond (New School for Social Research, New York), Antonio Ordóñez-

Plaja (former Minister of Health, Bogotá, Colombia), and David Mechanic (Graduate Training in Medical Sociology and Mental Health, University of Wisconsin, Madison).

The second day's discussions will focus on the significance of birth and children for different cultures and different socioeconomic groups in Mexico and the United States, the care of terminal patients, the symbol of death in Mexican literature, the impact of life-prolonging technology on traditional attitudes toward death in Latin America. Pablo Pindas (Instituto Mexicano de Estudios Sociales, Mexico City), Robert Coles (Harvard University Health Services, Cambridge, Massachusetts), Emir Rodríguez Monegal (Latin American Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut), and Luis Weinstein (Center for Medical and Social Anthropology, Santiago, Chile), will participate in this day's program. Other commentators and panelists include Renée C. Fox (Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia), Carlos Gual (Instituto Nacional de la Nutrición, Mexico City), and Amitai Etzioni (Center for Policy Research, New York City).

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Travel Grants for Latin Americans

A limited number of nonparticipant travel grants for the AAAS/CONACYT meeting in Mexico City are available. Their objective is to assist Latin Americans to attend the meeting. Only persons working in Latin American countries are eligible; no one from Mexico or the United States can qualify. Selected will be those whose research, educational, economic, or industrial role can profit by attending. The individual's potential for contributing to science and the translation of science into technology upon return to his own country will be among the selection criteria. (Recipients will be provided airline tickets.)

In order to provide an opportunity to the greatest number, applicants are expected to obtain matching funds or partial support from their universities, industry, or other employer.

Applicants are required to provide the following information: name, address, employer, position, area of interest, symposia of special interest, why attendance would be valuable, name of airline or other transportation required, and number of days attendance is desired. Applications should be sent to Dr. Richard Trumbull, AAAS, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Applications must be received by 1 May.