

other speakers, Abelson commended the provisions for deregulation of oil from stripper wells, from new tertiary recovery, and from shale. In closing, Abelson called for federal government support or guarantees for full-scale plants to obtain synthetic methane from coal, to solvent-refine coal, and to produce clean liquids from coal. "Such projects," he maintained, "would create many new jobs and would provide a practical basis for rapid expansion of fuel supplies."

Other major speakers of the conference were Walter J. Mead, professor of economics, University of California, Santa Barbara; Robert A. Charpie, president, Cabot Corporation; John H. Gibbons, director, Environment Center, University of Tennessee; Chauncey Starr, president, Electric Power Research Institute; Lester B. Lave, professor of economics, Carnegie-Mellon University; Henry R. Linden, president, Institute of Gas Technology; and Milton Russell, Resources for the Future. S. Fred Singer, professor of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia, presented a summary for the panel of inquiry.

The participants were unanimous in praising the Carter energy proposal as an essential first step, but each outlined various areas in which changes or further study were needed. The proposal's emphasis on conservation and on strategic storage was widely approved. The speakers differed chiefly in their feelings on regulation; some argued for price controls of energy sources, while others insisted that prices should be set by free market factors. Other discussions included the responsibilities and organization of a centralized energy office; the role of nuclear technology, especially the fast breeder reactor; the implications of energy policy on national security; usage of coal and synthetic fuels; and environmental considerations in energy production. Several speakers iterated one historical point: the current energy problems can be traced directly to bad management of energy by the federal government.

The evening session of the conference, chaired by AAAS president Emilio Q. Daddario, included a roundtable discussion among the panel, conference chairmen, and six members of Congress: Representatives Clarence J. Brown of Ohio, Mike McCormack of Washington, James G. Martin of North Carolina, and J. J. Pickle of Texas, and Senators Harrison Schmitt of New Mexico and Richard Stone of Florida. The congressmen reported that the proposals for gas and "gas-guzzler" taxes generated a large

Pardon Us . . .

As the AAAS membership recruitment campaign continues, we are still running into the problem of people who are already members receiving invitations to join. Although we are purging lists whenever possible, errors still do slip by. We hope that members will bear with us and remain assured that we value their affiliation. Thank you.

amount of mail from constituents. These, however, were not felt to be the most important areas for work. Major goals, specific objectives, and how to achieve these were of concern to the congressional representatives. Supply problems; the ratio of gross national product growth to energy demand growth; and government regulation versus market price-setting were other areas that the congressmen considered important.

AAAS is currently preparing proceedings of the meeting. Their availability will be announced in a later edition of AAAS News.

NANCY CAHILL JOYCE
Office of Public Information

AAAS Workshop on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights

Scientists in foreign countries who are victims of human rights violations or who experience restrictions on their scientific freedom deserve support from their American colleagues principally because of their shared professional identities. This was the consensus of a workshop on scientific freedom and human rights sponsored by the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility (CSFR). The workshop was held in Washington, D.C., on 6 June. Twenty-two representatives from scientific and other professional organizations participated in the meeting, along with six representatives from human rights organizations and two international lawyers.

The workshop was convened to share information about ongoing activities in the scientific and human rights groups and to develop ideas about potential actions that would be relevant to the area

of scientific freedom and human rights in foreign countries. CSFR members John T. Edsall of Harvard University and Joel Primack of the University of California at Santa Cruz, and Rosemary Chalk, CSFR staff officer, chaired the workshop. Primack stated in his opening remarks that the participants should not expect to sign a particular statement or resolution as a result of the meeting. Instead, he indicated that this was an exploratory meeting, the first of its kind, designed to highlight what the scientists want to do in this emerging area of human rights concerns.

The scientific society representatives described the human rights activities already under way in their organizations, including official resolutions of concern about particular repressions, assistance to individual victims, correspondence with U.S. and foreign government officials, and job placement for refugee scientists. Several members expressed a desire to use more active forms of support for foreign colleagues, including on-site visits to the countries where violations occur. Others indicated that their organizational policies restricted them from intervening in any foreign government's politics. They noted, however, that they might assist refugees who were able to leave a foreign country.

Alexsandr Voronel, a Russian émigré physicist who was responsible for initiating the "refusenik" science seminars in Moscow (now called the "Azbel Seminars") described the difficulties of maintaining a professional identity as a scientist when political restrictions are imposed. ("Refusenik" has become the nickname for persons who have been harassed after being denied an exit visa from the Soviet Union.) He stated that signs of support from American colleagues who visit the Soviet Union are critically necessary for the refusenik scientists who have been ostracized by their government.

Argentina and the Soviet Union were the two primary examples of repressions against foreign scientists offered by the workshop participants. The participants were concerned that some actions taken in support of oppressed colleagues might be counterproductive. Nathan Jacobson from Yale University stated, however, that his organization (the American Mathematical Society) had initiated a series of support actions, including letters of protest to foreign government officials, and that none of these had stimulated a counterproductive reaction.

Some scientific society representatives indicated that their human rights activities were the result of strong con-

cerns expressed by a small group of members, in some cases including a past president or other society official. They acknowledged that there was no institutional process through which these concerns could be discussed with the majority of the societies' memberships, although some groups, including the American Physical Society and the American Mathematical Society, have recently established human rights committees. Other participants noted that similar committees were under consideration in their organizations. Society journals were described as ideal forums for communicating human rights concerns through letters to the editor, news reports, editorials, and feature articles.

The human rights organizations' representatives urged the scientific societies to recognize the larger field of activities related to human rights concerns. Some members suggested that the societies might have to educate themselves about various codes of international law related to human rights violations. Others suggested that the societies might consider testifying in support of U.S. endorsement of various international conventions, including the Genocide Treaty and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Some members commented that scientific society involvement would be effective in the congressional efforts related to terminating military security and economic assistance when gross patterns of human rights violations emerge in a particular country.

Jacqui Chagnon from Clergy and Laity Concerned suggested that scientific societies could help raise public awareness about human rights violations by preparing special studies on the physical, psychological, or sociological effects of torture and other forms of political repression. She noted that a group of Danish doctors had prepared a study on physical evidences of torture for Amnesty International.

A clearinghouse on infringements of scientific freedom and human rights has been initiated by the AAAS Committee (see *Science*, 21 January 1977, pp. 245-246). Chalk commented that individual cases received by the clearinghouse would be referred to appropriate scientific societies for preliminary inquiry in order to develop better information about the extent of violations affecting scientists. Tom Farer, a member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, suggested that cases developed through the clearinghouse might be expanded into personal biographies of individual vic-

tims; sample biographies or "profiles" are important for identification of the full extent of the victim's difficulties, he noted. Jeremy Stone, director of the Federation of American Scientists (FAS) and a CSFR member, indicated that "country profiles," describing general patterns of repression of scientists in Latin America and Eastern Europe, were in preparation by the FAS.

A brief report of the workshop discussions and a listing of the workshop participants is available from the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility.

ROSEMARY CHALK

Staff Officer, Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility

AAAS Announces 1977 Mass Media Interns

Eighteen advanced students in the natural and social sciences have been selected from some 450 applicants to participate in the 1977 Mass Media Intern Program. The program, currently in its third year, is supported by the Russell Sage Foundation and the National Science Foundation. It enables interns to work as reporters, research assistants,

or production assistants with newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations across the country. Such on-the-job training is designed to increase the interns' understanding of the processes and possibilities involved in communicating technical information to the general public through the mass media. The program also seeks to enhance public interest in and understanding of science through wider, more accurate media coverage.

Following a 2-day orientation session at AAAS last month, the interns began their 10- to 12-week assignments. They are: Martha F. Breidenbach, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle (WTTW-TV, Chicago); Kenneth M. Dossar, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania (WNEW-TV, New York City); Elaine M. Earl, Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley (WHA-FM, Madison, Wisconsin); L. Hugh Gardner, Department of Sociology, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (KPBS-TV, San Diego); Pamela J. Gray, Department of Folklore, Memorial University of Newfoundland (Baltimore *News American*); W. Alexander Hawkins, Jr., Department of Biological Sciences, University of Kansas (Charlotte *Observer*, Charlotte, North Carolina); Mary H. Hughes, Department of Poli-



1977 AAAS Mass Media Interns: (Left to right, front row) Randi Revitz, Mercedes Lynn de Uriarte, Mary Hughes, Cathy Reed, Elaine Earl. (Second row) Hugh Gardner, Pam Gray, Juan Mejia, Brian Magee. (Third row) Alex Hawkins, Martha Breidenbach, Randy Strossen, Barbara Mandula. (Fourth row) Arnold Levinson, Robert Millay, Eric Lander, Ken Dossar, Gordon Uno.