

tists face as they try to establish research careers in a shrinking job market. Toward alleviation of that problem, the women called for increased availability and improved quality and professional recognition of part-time employment, along with increased research opportunities through funding of programs for women who do not have access to adequate research facilities at their employing institution or who are not affiliated with research organizations. The preliminary conclusions also cover postdoctoral fellowships, the grant review process, the measurement of productivity through publication, the roles of professional societies, and the collection of better data on women in science.

The AAAS Office of Opportunities in Science, which administered the Conference, expects to present three products resulting from the meeting to NSF: a book-length report of the proceedings and of the AAAS study of which the Conference was a part, the recommendations formulated by the conferees, and an expanded set of recommendations developed by the AAAS Office.

As the meeting closed, there was evidence of side effects of the Conference. During a press briefing, the scientists heard Senator Edward M. Kennedy announce his intention to "work very closely" with AAAS to try to implement "both legislatively and administratively" the recommendations of the Conference. Noting that "over a period of the last 10 years . . . the number of women in scientific areas has just not moved off the bottom line," Kennedy announced that he will introduce a legislative package early in the next session of Congress designed to facilitate women's entrance into and participation in scientific fields. Elements of the legislative proposal will include a requirement that every federal agency involved in research and development establish the advancement of women in science as a priority area of concern, the development of science programs especially designed to encourage young women to continue in science through their precollege years, and the establishment of employment goals for both the federal and private sectors, as well as a reporting system to keep track of their progress.

Some of the conferees had met the evening before to consider political strategies and at least one group, representing the Cambridge, Massachusetts, area, left Washington with the intention of organizing locally on behalf of women in scientific research. Earlier in the week, they had heard keynoter Estelle Ramey, Georgetown University Medical Center

physiologist and past president of the Association for Women in Science, call for "unremitting" political pressure on law- and policy-makers. "As far as Congress is concerned," said Ramey, "I think we have lots of friends now. . . . For a variety of reasons, we have to get more. The best way to get a politician friend . . . is, of course, to make his election questionable, unless he or she goes in the [right] direction."

AAAS expects to publish the proceedings of the Conference on the Participation of Women in Scientific Research early next year. Further information on the Conference is available from the AAAS Office of Opportunities in Science.

NANCY CAHILL JOYCE  
*Office of Public Information*

P. QUICK HALL  
*Office of Opportunities in Science*

## **AAAS Mass Media**

### **Intern Program**

#### **Accepting Applications**

Internships are available for the fourth year of the AAAS Mass Media Intern Program.

Advanced students in the natural and social sciences chosen to participate in the program will spend 10 weeks during the summer of 1978 as reporters, production assistants, and research assistants for radio and television stations, newspapers, and magazines around the country.

The program, initiated in 1975, is designed to acquaint young scientists with the process by which events and ideas become news items, improve their skills in communicating complex technical information in a manner understandable to lay people, and increase their understanding of editorial decision-making and the manner in which information is effectively disseminated.

Past AAAS Mass Media Interns have been advanced graduate students (and in some cases outstanding undergraduate or postdoctoral students) in such areas as biochemistry, criminology, entomology, folklore, mathematics, medicine, psychology, and political science. They have assisted in writing, producing, and researching media stories on such subjects as recombinant DNA research, psychosurgery, weather modification, mine and auto safety, and energy alternatives.

The interns will be selected from applications submitted to the Coordinator,

AAAS Mass Media Intern Program. A 2-day orientation for the successful candidates will be held in Washington in early June prior to the beginning of the internships. All travel expenses will be paid by AAAS and each intern will receive a stipend based on the current rates for other media interns (1977 program participants received \$200 a week).

Application forms and additional information are available from the Coordinator, AAAS Mass Media Intern Program.

## **Science Fellows**

### **Choose Hill Slots**

Eighteen scientists chosen by AAAS and ten other sponsoring groups to participate in the Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow Program gathered in Washington on 1 September to begin 10 days of orientation on Capitol Hill. The program, now in its fifth year, provides the opportunity for carefully selected scientists and engineers to make practical contributions to the more effective use of scientific knowledge in the legislative process and to help broaden the perspective of both the technical and congressional communities regarding the value of such science-government interaction.

The new fellows (see photo) met with members of Congress and their staffs and representatives of the Executive Branch, including the Office of Management and Budget and Office of Science and Technology Policy, and General Accounting Office and Office of Technology Assessment during the orientation period. Each of the 16 fellows starting this fall (four more begin in January, two of whom participated in the September orientation) then interviewed between one and two dozen different congressional offices. By 1 October, the 16 had found their positions for the year. The fellows will be working with their congressional hosts on such issues as child and family policy, energy, military research and development, nuclear waste disposal, the handicapped and the aging, education, nutrition, cancer, and others.

AAAS is sponsoring four of the fellows, cosponsoring two others, and, as usual, coordinating the program for the entire set of fellows and sponsors. According to Richard Scribner, who heads the program for AAAS, the Congressional Science Fellows class of 1977-78 is distinguished from those of years past in the number of fellows and sponsors par-