

## AAAS Report on R&D in Federal Budget Steps Into Post-War Spending Battle

If James Michener had written this year's American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) analysis of research and development in the federal budget, it might sell more copies. But for veteran budget-watchers, the R&D report—due out next week—couldn't be more popular.

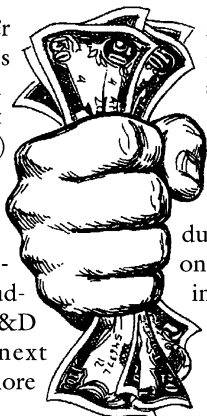
"It's a critical report of what's there and what's not," says House of Representatives budget committee staff member Mike Telsen. "And given that the Administration stopped putting out its R&D report the past 2 years, there's nothing else like it."

The report comes at a time of intense budgetary tension between support for American military technology in the wake of the Persian Gulf war and concern that the country's economic competitiveness hinges on greater civilian R&D efforts.

In addition, the report notes that the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, which divided discretionary programs into three groups with separate caps (defense, nondefense, and international affairs), "pits domestic priorities against other domestic programs, defense against defense."

With increases in civilian R&D requiring cuts in other domestic areas such as unemployment and housing, "this could be a tricky year in terms of waltzing this budget through Congress," says AAAS Science, Technology, and Government program director Stephen D. Nelson, who oversees the report.

Besides providing an overview of budget R&D highlights, the



report breaks down its analyses by agency (such as Defense or Energy) and by discipline (such as physics or social science). There are also chapters on trends in industrial R&D funding and on proposed federal spending for science, engineering, and mathematics education.

In terms of the overall budget, total increases for R&D "look pretty healthy" at 11% more than fiscal 1991, says Nelson. The 1992 budget would return defense spending to its preeminence over civilian R&D, a reversal of last year's trend. (Nondefense R&D is slated to rise by 9.5%, as compared to a jump of 12% for defense R&D.)

Big science does well, also, says Nelson, particularly the Superconductor Super Collider project, which has been bud-

getted at twice the 1991 level.

"The report is a hit with researchers, university administrators, policy-makers, industrial R&D folks—really, anyone who cares about what the government" proposes to spend on science and technology, says Nelson. "It's the only source of government-wide funding information that's provided on a timely basis."

The federal budget for fiscal 1992 was released on 4 February. By 28 February, says Nelson, contributors from 22 scientific, engineering, higher education, and industrial associations—AAAS affiliates known collectively as the Intersociety Working Group—had researched, written, and sent in their chapters for publication.

"A turnaround like that of such in-depth analyses is only possible because we've been doing it" since 1976, when AAAS produced the first R&D report, says Nelson.

The final word on R&D in the 1992 budget will be ana-

lyzed in AAAS's annual congressional action report, issued in the fall or winter at the end of the congressional budget process.

The report on the President's proposed budget, though designed to stand alone, is provided as background material to those who attend the AAAS annual Colloquium on Science and Technology Policy, to be held this year in Washington, D.C., on 11 and 12 April.

The 1991 colloquium will offer some of the first publicly discussed results of an Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) study of basic research in the United States. The results, "which are bound to be contentious," says Nelson, will be offered during a morning session entitled "Academic Research Funding: Is There a Crisis?"

"The session essentially will be a debate on the issues raised by" AAAS president Leon Lederman's January report, says Nelson. That report cited a "slow but steady erosion" of the academic research environment.

Besides offering overviews of federal agency budgets for 1992, other sessions at the colloquium include:

- a look at states' R&D efforts;
- an assessment of how well certain statistical indicators work to tell policy-makers about science and engineering; and
- an evaluation of the new budget process, including one presentation called "The R&D Un-Budget: What's Not Being Funded?"

Complete colloquium proceedings will be available later in the year from AAAS.

For more information about the R&D report or the colloquium, contact AAAS, Science and Policy Programs, 1333 H St., NW, Washington, DC 20005. ♦

## New Network of Southwestern Fellows

AAAS Fellows who live in Arizona, New Mexico, or west Texas can become part of a new regional network that hopes to match volunteer scientists and engineers in the Southwest with local government or community groups in need of scientific expertise.

The Fellows network is the brainchild of David Hsi, a New Mexico State University professor and AAAS Fellow. He says retired Fellows, in particular, are a largely untapped pool of valuable scientific know-how.

"There is so much talent out there," he says. "We want Fellows [to get] involved locally where, with their prestige and training, they can have the most impact."

Hsi's survey of about 400 southwestern Fellows showed that the 50 or so respondents were most interested in advising government offices on policy issues or in helping out university science students. Hsi hopes that others may also be willing to work with younger students, parents, and teachers.

The group's first meeting, which occurred at the New Mexico Academy of Science's annual meeting on 7 December 1990, was attended by about 30 Fellows as well as by New Mexico senator Pete Domenici and representatives from the Los Alamos National Laboratory, area universities, and local industry.

A second meeting will occur in conjunction with the AAAS Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division annual meeting in Tucson, Arizona, in May 1992. Interested Fellows can contact Hsi at New Mexico State University, Agricultural Science Center, 1036 Miller St., SW, Los Lunas, NM 87031 or 505-865-7340. ♦

## AAAS Members Elected as Fellows in 1991

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Dennis P. Sullivan

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Brage Golding, Jr.  
Charles D. Goodman  
Harvey Gould  
Miles V. Klein  
Melvin Lax  
Michael S. Lubell  
Gerald A. Miller  
Richard A. Muller  
Philip J. E. Peebles  
James R. Peterson  
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Edward F. Redish  
Brian B. Schwartz  
Philip John Siemens  
Ravindra Nath Sudan  
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Thomas R. Cech  
Joyce Y. Corey  
Adrian H. Daane  
Scott E. Denmark  
Richard D. Ernst  
Andrew E. Feiring  
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Frank W. Fowler  
Gerhart Friedlander  
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Joseph J. Grabowski  
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Malcolm F. Nicol  
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Ronald J. Parry  
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Sridhar Komarneni  
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Beth Burnside  
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R. Andrew Cameron  
Marcelino Cerejido  
Kenton Lee Chambers  
William A. Clemens  
Annette W. Coleman  
John R. Coleman  
Samuel F. Conti  
Joseph J. Cooney  
Carl W. Cotman  
Charles L. Coulter  
Antony Richard Crofts  
Elizabeth A. Davis  
John Doebley  
James L. Edwards  
Louise H. Emmons  
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Gerald D. Fischbach  
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John F. Kihlstrom  
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Geoffrey R. Loftus  
Christina Maslach  
Lynn Nadel  
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Jonathan Winson  
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Janie M. Fouke  
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Alan A. Johnson  
Richard E. Kronauer  
Alexander H. Levis

## New Tradition Blooms

A blue-and-gold rosette is the new mark of distinction for AAAS Fellows, those members who have distinguished themselves in the advancement of science. Board chairman Richard Atkinson pinned the first rosette on President-elect Sherwood Rowland during the 1991 annual meeting's Fellows Forum. In heraldic tradition, blue is assigned to engineering and gold to science. ❖

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Bahram Nassersharif  
Banu Onaral  
Courtland D. Perkins  
Kenneth F. Reinschmidt  
Terry E. Shoup  
Harold W. Sorenson  
Robert W. Thresher

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D. Martin Carter  
Charles Christian  
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Kurt W. Deuschle  
Howard A. Eder  
Bernard Fisher  
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John R. Hogness  
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John Kinney  
Francis J. Klocke  
Manuel Martinez-Maldonado  
William B. Neaves  
Gilbert S. Omenn  
Roger N. Rosenberg  
Samuel Silverstein  
Aubrey E. Taylor  
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P. Stephen Baenziger  
Pedro Barbosa  
Fredrick A. Bliss  
Edward E. Butler  
Bob V. Conger  
R. James Cook  
John W. Dudley  
R. J. Hildreth  
Richard R. Hill, Jr.  
(posthumous)  
Warren E. Kronstad  
Charles F. Krull  
William D. Pardee  
Eldor A. Paul  
Donald A. Phillips  
J. Neil Rutger  
Alfred E. Slinkard  
Robert L. Thompson  
John Giles Waines  
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Lee W. Rivers

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Ethel L. Schultz  
Robert F. Tinker

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John W. Stamm

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Paul Janssen  
Vincent H. L. Lee  
Chin-Tzu Peng

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Susan L. Graham  
Don Herbert  
Richard M. Karp  
Paul H. Klingbiel  
Michael J. McGill  
H. Vincent Poor  
Ronald Linn Rivest  
Robert F. Simmons  
James Robert Slagle

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John Crowley  
Nan M. Laird  
Paul F. Velleman

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John A. Dutton  
Thompson Webb, III

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Harry G. Barnes, Jr.  
Mark S. Frankel  
J. William Futrell  
Phyllis L. Kahn  
David A. Wilson

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Walter Froehlich  
John L. Safko  
Ertle Thompson  
Gerald F. Wheeler