procedural using the latest technology. Surely the scientists working with the STS and other science competitions can recognize and reward the students doing science against all odds without punishing those who have had the advantages. If we cannot, then we do not have the objectivity we lay claim to.

ANDREA YATES BLUMBERG
New Delhi ID 9000,
U.S. Agency for International Development,
Washington, DC 20521–9000

Museum Molecular Lab

I was pleased to see treatment of an important trend in museum research toward molecular systematics ("Systematics goes molecular" (Research News, 22 Feb., p. 872). I must point out, however, that the discussion of the facility at the American Museum of Natural History does not fully reflect this institution's commitment to molecular systematics. The new laboratory is a $1.8-million state-of-the-art facility for DNA sequencing, with bench space for more than a dozen researchers. Contrary to a statement in the article, our molecular lab is the essence of centralization. It is placed within the museum at the crossroads of three scientific departments. We find this advantageous over arrangements at some other institutions where the molecular facility is off-site and less accessible to much of the museum staff.

MICHAEL NOVACEK
Vice President and Dean of Science,
American Museum of Natural History,
Central Park West at 79th Street,
New York, NY 10024–5192

Molecular Structure of Charybdotoxin: Retraction

Shortly after our paper of 3 August 1990 on the molecular structure of charybdotoxin (*1*) was published, two independent determinations of the structure of this molecule appeared (*2*) that were similar to each other and in strong disagreement with ours. We have obtained new data and find that some spectral features depend on solvent conditions, which explains some differences between our data and those of the other groups. More important, we conclude that we most probably misassigned an important sequence of amino acids, as suggested by Bontems *et al.* (*3*). Therefore, we withdraw our previously reported structure (*1*) and regret any inconvenience it may have caused. We thank F. Toma for sending us a copy of his paper before publication and for discussions.

WALTER MASSEFSKI, JR.
ALFRED G. REDFIELD
Graduate Department of Biochemistry,
Brandeis University,
Waltham, MA 02254–9110
DENNIS R. HARE
Hare Research, Inc.,
Woodinville, WA 98072
CHRISTOPHER MILLER
Graduate Department of Biochemistry,
Brandeis University

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2. F. Bontems *et al.*, paper presented at the 14th International Conference on Magnetic Resonance in Biological Systems, Warwick, England, 9 to 14 September, 1990; P. Lambert *et al.*, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* **170**, 684 (1990).
3. F. Bontems *et al.*, *Eur. J. Biochem.* **196**, 19 (1991).

Erratum: In the report "Free energy and temperature dependence of electron transfer at the metal-electrolyte interface" by C. E. D. Chidsey (22 Feb., p. 919), the axis label in figure 3B should have been "Time (s)," not "Time (ms)." Also, the text following equation 8 should have read, "where $C = (k_BT/4\pi\lambda)$ and $g(x) =$

$$\frac{\exp\left\{-C\pi\left[x - \frac{\lambda \pm e(E - E^{0'})}{k_BT}\right]^2\right\}}{1 + \exp(x)}$$

"