LETTERS

REFERENCES

- 1. E. C. Hansen, "Recherches sur la morphologie et la physiologie des ferments alcooliques. VI. Les voiles chez les Saccharomyces" (Résumé du comptes rendues des travaux du laboratoire de Carlsberg, 1886), vol. 2, p. 106. 2. W. Zopf, *Die Pilze* (Trewendt, Breslau, 1890), p. 27.

Women in Neuroscience

Recent discussions about gender parity in science note the decline of women in the academic pipeline sometime before attainment of the Ph.D. (Letters, 19 June, p. 1610; "Women in Science," 13 Mar., p. 1363; AAAS Presidential Lecture, 30 Sept. 1988, p. 1740). In my field, neuroscience, I have been struck by the contrast between the relatively high percentage of women receiving Ph.D.'s and anecdotal accounts of highly qualified women foregoing tenure-track faculty careers ("Women in Science," 13 Mar., p. 1366).

To quantify these impressions, I have analyzed female representation nationwide at different steps on the neuroscience career ladder between 1985 and 1990 (1). The results indicate a slight attrition among women working toward the Ph.D.; women constituted 43% of the student members of the Society for Neuroscience and 36% of neuroscience Ph.D.'s (2). Women were just as likely as men to continue on to a postdoctorate, and they received 38% of postdoctoral tellowships (F32) awarded by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke. Moreover, women were no more likely than men to relinquish a fellowship before its full term had expired.

The largest attrition occurred at the next step, when postdoctoral fellows applied for a faculty position in neuroscience. Women comprised only 18% of the applicants for such positions and 12% of the individuals hired. Remedial actions should be taken at this crucial step.

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REFERENCES

1. D. O. Smith, in preparation.

"1989 survey of doctorate recipients" (National Research Council, Washington, DC, 1989); supplementary 1990 data provided by National Research Council staff.

Corrections and Clarifications

The last two sentences of the second paragraph of the report by Peter R. Buseck et al. (10 July, p. 215) should have read, "We subsequently confirmed the presence of C_{60} and C_{70} by mass spectrometry. They occur within fracture-filling films in shungite, an unusual carbonaceous rock found near the town of Shunga in Karelia, Russia.'

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