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Photo of intracellular calcium concentration in a guinea pig cerebellar Purkinje cell taken using Photometrics Series 200 CCD system. Courtesy of Dr. D.W. Tank, Molecular Biophysics Research Department, AT&T Bell Laboratories.

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Golly," Mr. Clark!

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AAUP's Role

The slug ("San Diego State faces the tenure police") heading the item in the 31 July ScienceScope (p. 603) is in such bad taste as to be appalling. If the writer had been on the San Diego faculty, I dare say he/she would have regarded it as entirely appropriate that the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) should conduct an investigation to decide whether the university had no choice about laying off faculty and had acted fairly in deciding who was to be dropped. It would be unseemly to prejudge the matter, but university administrators at other sites have been known to protect their prerogatives at the expense of faculty and to use "downsizing" as an opportunity to cut opponents down to size.

If the American Chemical Society, the American Physical Society, and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology do not check listings against the AAUP's censure list, that speaks worlds about their indifference to academic freedom, not about the legitimacy of AAUP's role in defending that freedom.

"Tenure police," my foot! Has Science joined Representative Dingell in concluding that academia is one grand corrupt savings and loan association?

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Corrections and Clarifications

In the News & Comment article "Is the wolf finally at the door?" by David P. Hamilton (10 July, p. 157), several decimal places were dropped when the difference between the Bush Administration's requested 1993 National Institutes of Health budget and that agreed upon by a House of Representatives subcommittee was reported. The correct amount is \$200 million, not \$200,000.

In This Week in Science for 12 June (p. 1495), the first sentence of the item "Uterine oxytocin" should have read, "Oxytocin is a peptide hormone secreted from the posterior pituitary that causes uterine contractions and is used to induce labor."