AAAS Purchases Land for New Headquarters

The American Association for the Advancement of Science has identified and purchased the site for a new headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

On 9 October, the Association purchased the centrally located property in downtown Washington for $16 million. AAAS paid for the land with the reinvested proceeds from the sale of its previously owned building and an $8 million, 4% bank loan.

Architect Henry Cobb of Pei, Cobb, Freed & Partners has been selected to develop a design that incorporates the "essential spirit and methodology of science" in both the external appearance of the building and in its inner use of space. The "science center" is slated for occupancy in late 1995, and will house both AAAS staff and other science-related nonprofit organizations.

AAAS executive officer Richard Nicholson will discuss plans for the new building at the council meeting during the 1993 Annual Meeting in February.

By 1985, the Association had outgrown the headquarters it owned at 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, in Washington, D.C. When a suitable replacement could not be purchased, AAAS rented its current space at 1333 H Street, NW. "It has always been the intention of the Board of Directors that AAAS resume ownership of its own headquarters," says Nicholson. AAAS had considered purchasing its current headquarters, but the building was not for sale. The Board of Directors then approved plans to construct a new AAAS headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Current AAAS Headquarters: 1333 H Street, NW.

Because the cost of land and the expense of developing, constructing, and financing such a project are at temporary market lows, Nicholson says that "this is a propitious time for AAAS to consider owning rather than continuing to lease its headquarters."

"Within 5 years of moving in, our total occupancy costs will drop below the ever-increasing rent that we pay for our current offices," adds AAAS chief financial and administrative officer Carl Amthor. Over the first 30 years in the new building, Amthor expects that AAAS will save an estimated $5.2 million in occupancy costs. With 12 years still remaining on its lease, AAAS must also sublet the 110,000 square feet it occupies at 1333 H Street before moving to the new site.

In addition to the financial considerations, AAAS is looking forward to expanding its operations. Since 1990, the AAAS staff has increased by nearly 15%, with *Science* personnel growing by 19% in the past year. Given the push for the journal to increase its international efforts, and to convert to desktop publishing, the staff is likely to grow further in the future.

Preliminary plans for the new 12-story AAAS headquarters include a 150-seat auditorium, a formal conference center, underground parking facillties, and a museum and bookstore. Amthor says that construction of this 200,000-square-foot facility is planned to begin in the summer of 1993 and be completed within 2 years.

The Association's Board of Directors has expressed a desire to have a "distinctive office building that would project the image of science." The Architect Selection Committee, chaired by AAAS treasurer William Golden, considered a long list of architects before selecting Henry Cobb to design the building.

The Selection Committee also included Nicholson, AAAS president F. Sherwood Roland, president-elect Eloise Clark, Cornell physicist Robert Wilson, and Mellon Foundation president William Bowen. The members were impressed with Cobb's numerous distinguished designs, including the John Hancock Tower in Boston, Pitney-Bowes World Headquarters in Stamford, Commerce Square in Philadelphia, and Columbia Square in Washington, D.C.

AAAS has applied to the District of Columbia for about $55 million in low-interest, tax-exempt revenue bonds, which will provide funding for most of the $60 million project. According to Amthor, these bonds could also save AAAS up to $40 million in interest over the first 30 years of occupancy. By mid-December, the Association expects that the D.C. Council and the Mayor will enact the legislation necessary to authorize the bonds.

AAAS has been headquartered in Washington, D.C., for the past 85 years. Originally housed in the home or office of the permanent secretary, the Association found its first institutional home in 1907 in the basement of the Smithsonian Institution.

In September 1946, AAAS left the Smithsonian for a sprawling old home near Scott Circle, also in Washington, D.C. The Association occupied a series of similar buildings until the construction of its headquarters at 1515 Massachusetts Avenue was completed in 1956.

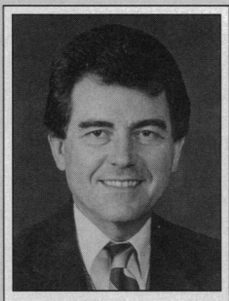
Almost three decades later, AAAS outgrew its offices on Massachusetts Avenue, selling the building and moving to its current location at 1333 H Street in 1985.

Plans for the new headquarters will be discussed in greater detail during the council meeting at the Annual Meeting in Boston. Questions should be directed to the project director, Carl Amthor, AAAS Office of Finance and Administration, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20005.

AAAS 1992 Election Results

The votes have been tallied, and AAAS members have chosen a new president-elect and added new members to the AAAS Board of Directors and Committee on Nominations. Each section also elected a new slate of officers.

Like current AAAS president F. Sherwood Rowland, incoming President-elect Francisco Ayala is a professor at the University of California, Irvine. A Distinguished Professor of biological sciences, Ayala has been active in protecting the teaching of evolution in schools. He has served on the governing council of the National Academy of Sciences and advisory councils of the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency.



Francisco Ayala: 1993 AAAS president-elect

Ayala considers the U.S. role in advancing science a vital one. He says that as "the world's greatest economic power and dominant political force... the United States should exercise leadership toward enhancing international cooperation in scientific research and technological development." Because "AAAS is the most representative science and engineering organization in the United States and in the world," Ayala says that it is well poised to assume a leading role.

During his term, Ayala says he will focus his attention on: federal support for investigator-initiated research; K–12 science education and public science literacy; and environmental protection and preservation of biological diversity.

Results of the 1992 election are given below. Ayala and other officers will begin their terms on 17 February 1993.

General Offices
President-Elect: Francisco J. Ayala (15,945); Alan Schriesheim (6,925).
Board of Directors (two elected): Joseph G. Gavin, Jr. (6,282); William A. Lester, Jr. (12,579); Samuel O. Thier (9,260); Nancy Sabin Wexler (15,894).
Committee on Nominations: Kenneth R. Manning, Joseph D. Novak, Frank von Hippel, Vivien Weil.

Section on Agriculture
Chair-Elect: Robert F Barnes;
Member-at-Large: Sue A. Tolin;
Electorate Nominating Committee: R. James Cook, Betty Klepper.

Section on Anthropology
Chair-Elect: Jeremy A. Sabloff;
Member-at-Large: Wendy Ashmore;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Cynthia M. Beall, William D. Lipe.

Section on Astronomy
Chair-Elect: Julie Haynes Lutz;
Member-at-Large: Harry L. Shipman;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Karen B. Kwitter, Susan Lea.

Section on Atmospheric and Hydrospheric Sciences
Chair-Elect: Ferdinand Baer;
Member-at-Large: Jennifer A. Logan;
Council Delegate: Kevin E. Trenberth;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Thomas P. Ackerman, Starley L. Thompson.

Section on Biological Sciences
Chair-Elect: Rita R. Colwell;
Member-at-Large: Annette W. Coleman;
Electorate Nominating Committee: May R. Berenbaum, Laurel R. Fox.

Section on Chemistry
Chair-Elect: Karen W. Morse;
Member-at-Large: Ed Wasserman;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Allen J. Bard, Sharon K. Brauman.

Section on Dentistry
Chair-Elect: Marc W. Heft;
Member-at-Large: Brian H. Clarkson;
Council Delegate: Kathleen L. Schroeder;
Electorate Nominating Committee: John Clarkson, Irving M. Shapiro.

Section on Education
Chair-Elect: Marvin Druger;
Member-at-Large: Raymond J. Hannapel;
Council Delegate: Alice J. Moses;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Diane M. Bunce, Susan P. Speece.

Section on Engineering
Chair-Elect: Ernest S. Kuh;
Member-at-Large: Lawrence P. Grayson;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Julia Abrahams, Alice M. Agogino.

Section on General Interest in Science and Engineering
Chair-Elect: Elizabeth S. Ivey;
Member-at-Large: Mary Lynne Bird;
Council Delegate: Dael Wolfle;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Della M. Roy, John L. Safko.

Section on Geology and Geography
Chair-Elect: Richard S. Williams, Jr;
Member-at-Large: James F. Hays;
Electorate Nominating Committee: John W. Hawley, James F. Miller.

Section on History and Philosophy of Science
Chair-Elect: Jane Maienschein
Member-at-Large: Michael M. Sokal;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Anne Harrington, Edith Dudley Sylla.

Section on Industrial Science
Chair-Elect: Theodore W. Schlie;
Member-at-Large: James J. Solberg;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Charles H. Kriebel, Mary Ellen Mogee.

Section on Information, Computing, and Communication
Chair-Elect: Thelma Estrin;
Member-at-Large: Caroline M. Eastman;
Council Delegate: Susan L. Graham;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Deborah Estrin, Dorothy McGarry.

Section on Mathematics
Chair-Elect: Deborah Tepper Haimo;
Member-at-Large: Fred Almgren;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Barbara Lee Keyfitz, Paul J. Sally, Jr.

Section on Medical Sciences
Chair-Elect: Charles C. J. Carpenter;
Member-at-Large: Patricia A. Buffler;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Peter S. Aronson, Michael B. A. Oldstone.

Section on Pharmaceutical Sciences
Chair-Elect: Gary L. Grunewald;
Member-at-Large: Gordon L. Amidon;
Council Delegate: Grant R. Wilkinson;
Electorate Nominating Committee: James D. McChesney, Elizabeth M. Topp.

Section on Physics
Chair-Elect: Raymond Orbach;
Member-at-Large: Henry Ehrenreich;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Virginia Trimble, Daniel C. Tsui.

Section on Psychology
Chair-Elect: Charles R. Gallistel;
Member-at-Large: Margaret Jean Intons-Peterson;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Irvin Rock, John A. Swets.

Section on Social, Economic, and Political Sciences
Chair-Elect: Judith M. Tanur;
Member-at-Large: Marta Tienda;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Teresa A. Sullivan, Michael S. Teitelbaum.

Section on Societal Impacts of Science and Engineering
Chair-Elect: Rosemary Chalk;
Member-at-Large: Stephanie J. Bird;
Council Delegate: Rachelle D. Hollander;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Luther J. Carter, Lois S. Peters.

Section on Statistics
Chair-Elect: Mary Ellen Bock;
Member-at-Large: Donald Guthrie;
Council Delegate: Nan M. Laird;
Electorate Nominating Committee: Nancy Flournoy, Thomas A. Louis.

Working with Congress

There is a growing need for scientists to provide legislators with technical information on issues such as global warming, AIDS, alternative energy, health care, the space program, and national security. To maximize their impact, George Washington University management science professor William Wells says that scientists should familiarize themselves with the operations of the legislative branch and become more active in influencing policy.

Wells has written a new book, published by AAAS in cooperation with the Carnegie Commission on Science, Technology, and Government that outlines how and why scientists should become politically active. *Working with Congress: A Practical Guide for Scientists and Engineers* offers advice on preparing and presenting testimony at Congressional hearings, information about congressional committees and offices, and a sample congressional calendar. It even includes a cheat-sheet for deciphering the bells, buzzers, and signals that alert members to roll calls, votes, and other congressional goings-on.

"If we, as scientists and engineers, expect Congress to understand us," writes Wells, "it is essential that we make more of an effort to understand and work with them." The book sheds light on how Congress functions, and provides practical advice to scientists who wish to share their expertise, offer insights and opinions, or influence appropriations and federal funding.

Why become involved? "Decisions on support for science and engineering research and on other policy issues involving scientific and technical considerations will be made regardless of whether scientists and engineers choose to become involved," says Wells. To ignore Congress is to disregard one's obligation to the scientific community and the nation.

Working With Congress is available for $12.95 ($10.35 for members) from AAAS Books, Dept. A74, P.O. Box 753, Waldorf, MD 20604. To order by phone, call 301-645-5643 and ask for AAAS.

Science and Politics: Election 1992

On 3 November, over 100 million Americans cast their ballots to choose who would govern the United States from the White House and Capitol Hill. Two weeks later, the AAAS Directorate for Science and Technology Policy Programs sponsored a symposium to examine how those votes will affect future science and technology policy and funding.

About 140 members of Washington's science and technology policy community, science attachés from foreign embassies, congressional staff, and reporters attended the half-day discussion session on 20 November. Speakers discussed what to expect from the new Congress and Administration, and how the two will work together.

On Capitol Hill, it won't be business as usual. Chief of staff of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Radford Byerly Jr., predicted that the large incoming congressional class, elected largely on promises to combat gridlock, will constitute "an effective bloc of votes for change."

But the arrival of 110 new members is not the most significant result of this election, said Jerold Roschwalb, director of Federal Relations for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. More important is that the key players, like Representative George Brown, Jr., chairman of the House Science Committee, will be returning.

Council on Competitiveness executive vice president Daniel Burton stressed the need for an activist government that can, at the same time, avoid interfering with the marketplace.

Although most speakers seemed to agree that scientists probably won't see huge increases in funding for basic research, they suggested that the Clinton Administration will likely focus more attention on technology policy, with Vice President Al Gore acting as a "technology czar."

Regarding the relationship between the residents on either end of Pennsylvania Avenue, William Wells, professor of management science at George Washington University, predicted that Congress and the Administration will most likely cooperate. But there is a caveat. "Those who think that Congress is going to rubber stamp everything submitted by the Clinton Administration are in for a little shock," he said.

Wells pointed out that the President and members of Congress have different responsibilities. While leadership in policy formulation comes from the White House, the Congress reflects the spectrum of opinions held by the American people.

However, Congress is equal to the President in terms of power, said Wells, "and Presidents who forget this do so at their own peril."

AAAS Science and Policy Programs director Albert Teich admits it is still pretty early in the process for conjecture. "This is all really informed speculation," he said. "The specifics just don't exist." But with the Congress preparing to abandon business as usual, and Clinton pledged to consider science and technology issues, it seems science policy planning is off to a good start.

While Teich predicted that on Clinton's agenda "science and technology will take their place on line behind other things—like the economy," the topic is sure to be revisited at the Association's Annual Science and Technology Policy Colloquium on 15 and 16 April 1993. For more information, contact the Directorate for Science and Technology Policy Programs at 202-326-6600.