

Special Gifts and Projects 2009

More than 84% of the support for AAAS's diverse programs comes from grants, contributions, and other outside funding. Working in collaboration with AAAS staff, donors can establish special funds that accomplish important goals.

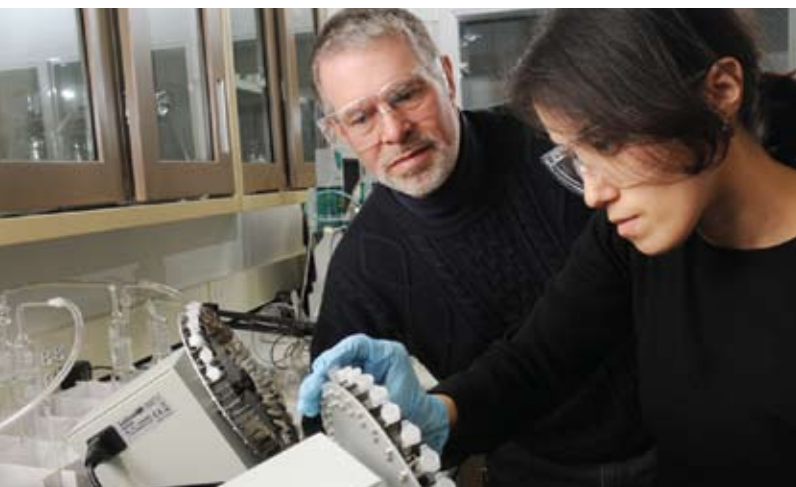
New Endowment Recognizes Public Engagement

The year was 2008, and with his wife Margee, Bob Hazen, then an outgoing member of the AAAS Committee on Public Understanding of Science and Technology (CoPUST), had an idea. The Hazens and Bob's fellow committee members knew that scientists' public engagement work—their efforts to communicate exciting concepts to the public with “accurate simplicity”—was of the utmost importance, especially at a time when so many of the key issues on the minds of Americans are tied to science and technology. But they also knew that earlier career scientists would not earn tenure or get grants just by being great communicators.

So Bob and Margee Hazen began establishing a fund to endow the newest of the AAAS awards: The Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science.

According to Bob: “By recognizing one early-career scientist each year, the award will highlight successful examples of public engagement and create models for other scientists and engineers. As the major voice for science, AAAS is really in a unique position to give these kinds of efforts the credibility that they deserve.”

AAAS CEO Alan Leshner agreed, and in fact, he and his wife Agnes made substantial gifts of their own.



Bob Hazen and student

Since then, many more donors have stepped forward to show their support.

“Without the generosity of the donors who have supported this important and timely effort, this award would be a good idea, but it would definitely not yet be a reality,” Leshner said. “This is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when generous people get behind a good idea.”

By press-time, just under \$20,000 more was needed to reach the \$150,000 goal to sustain the new award in perpetuity.

AAAS will launch the new award in 2010, selecting the first recipient to be recognized at its 2011 Annual Meeting. Information on how to apply will be available online at www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/.

\$2.3 Million Gift to Endow AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards



Fred Kavli

The 2009 Science Journalism Awards are the first to be given under a new endowment established by Fred Kavli and The Kavli Foundation. The awards—first given in 1945—now are called the AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards. Kavli is a Norwegian-born physicist, entrepreneur, business leader, innovator and philanthropist who is dedicated to supporting research and education that has a positive, long-term impact on the human condition. He established The Kavli Foundation in 2000 to advance science for the benefit of humanity.

“I am very pleased that The Kavli Foundation, with goals similar to those of AAAS, has joined in helping us honor such fine examples of science journalism,” said Alan I. Leshner, chief executive officer of AAAS and executive publisher of the journal *Science*. “The winners demonstrate the breadth and depth of contemporary science reporting, even at a time when journalism outlets continue to face daunting economic challenges.”

“We are truly delighted to support this award honoring science journalists whose excellence has been recognized by

their peers,” said Kavli. “The ability to communicate science in an understandable, interesting and exciting way is essential to gain the support of the public and policy-makers, and to stimulate the interest and excitement in our youth to select science careers.”

The new endowment also allowed expansion of the television category to include two awards for the first time, one for spot news/feature reporting and one for in-depth reporting.

Independent panels of science journalists select the winners of the awards.

Two AAAS Members Honor Their Teacher

When Woody Savage and Lyn Armbruster first entered John Marean’s high school physics class, they had a passing interest in science. When they left at the end of the year, they were scientists in the making.

Over decades of teaching, Marean worked to uphold his belief that teachers need to offer assistance to students who are eager to try different educational approaches. As a result of his efforts, Woody and Lyn, who married ten years later, gained a tremendous amount of self-confidence and appreciation for the seemingly endless opportunities science offered. Marean’s lasting influence also led to careers in the field – Woody, as a seismologist at the U.S. Geological Survey; and Lyn, as a middle- and high-school mathematics teacher in both public and private schools (now retired) and also a developer of supplemental mathematics educational materials.



Nearly 500 members of the science reporting community gather to honor the 2009 AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Award winners.

Since their respective time in his class, Woody and Lyn, by their own introspections, realized that Marean was a “touchstone” of their lives, both personally and professionally. It is with this spirit that they decided to honor and thank Marean with their pledge in his name to support the AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize.

Established in 2006 with a generous contribution from Edith D. Neimark, this annual award recognizes high-school science teachers for the development and implementation of innovative teaching methods and encouraging the next generation of scientists.

Learn more about the 2009 AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize at www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/hs_scied_leadership/.

2009 AAAS Annual Meeting news: <http://news.aaas.org/2009/>



Special Gifts and Projects 2009 *cont'd*

Golden Fund: Social Media and Policy

The late William T. Golden, treasurer emeritus of AAAS, established the William T. Golden Endowment Fund for Program Innovation with a generous, historic gift of \$5.25 million in 2003. The purpose of the fund is to support activities beyond the scope of AAAS's general budget, catalyzing programmatic innovation.

In 2009, the Golden Fund supported Expert Labs, providing seed money for this cutting-edge collaboration with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to provide a platform for interactive dialogue between policy-makers and the science community.



Anil Dash

Expert Labs will leverage and extend the potential of social networking, a technological realm popularized by such public systems as Facebook and Twitter. The effort is headed by Web gurus Gina Trapani and Anil Dash, who described Expert Labs as “making technology that helps government listen to citizens,” by answering

the questions of policy-makers with authoritative information from an online community of experts in science and technology and other citizens with specialized expertise. AAAS CEO Alan I. Leshner described the project as a perfect fit for AAAS's mission of promoting the effective use of science in public policy, while enhancing communication among scientists, engineers, and the public. See www.expertlabs.org.

Are you interested in supporting the AAAS Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science, encouraging excellence in science teaching, making a gift in someone's honor, establishing a special fund, or providing general support to AAAS?

Please contact the Development Office at (202) 326-6636 or jstaiano@aaas.org.



Charles Valentine Riley Collection. Special Collections, National Agricultural Library.

Charles Valentine Riley Examining an Insect. Undated.

Special Funds at AAAS

By establishing special funds, donors ensure long-term support for a wide range of initiatives to advance science and serve society.

The *Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Endowment* supports an annual lecture to enhance agriculture through increased scientific knowledge.

The *Fund for Honesty in Scientific Research* supports efforts to promote scientific integrity.

AAAS's *John P. McGovern Endowment* funds a lecture by a prominent behavioral scientist to explore the accomplishments and challenges of the behavioral sciences.

The *Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Endowment* provides grants to support travel to the AAAS Annual Meeting.

AAAS's *Leadership in Science Education Fund* recognizes high-school science teachers for the development and implementation of innovative teaching methods.

The *Revelle Fund* supports one AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow in the area of domestic or international environmental issues.

The *William T. Golden Endowment Fund for Program Innovation* inspires new program ideas by funding activities not normally supported by the AAAS general budget.