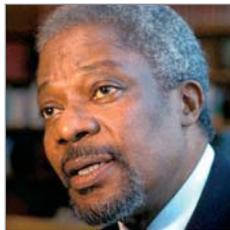


AAAS Worldwide

Science has the capacity to improve life for people around the globe. AAAS is dedicated to building cooperation between U.S. scientists and engineers and those in other parts of the world. Its projects aim to strengthen the role of scientists and engineers in developing countries, as well as the role of science and technology in solving global and regional problems. In 2003, AAAS refocused its international effort toward three main themes, building on strengths and assets found across AAAS: international scientific cooperation; workforce and capacity development; and science, innovation and sustainable development.



A CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD'S SCIENTISTS

"The application of scientific knowledge continues to furnish powerful means for solving many of the challenges facing humanity.

"...At the same time, the way in which scientific endeavors are

pursued around the world is marked by clear inequalities... This unbalanced distribution of scientific activity generates serious problems not only for the scientific community in the developing countries, but for development itself. It accelerates the disparity between advanced and developing countries, creating social and economic difficulties at both national and international levels... It will require the commitment of scientists and scientific institutions throughout the world to change that portrait to bring the benefits of science to all.

"...The agenda is broad and the needs immense, but together we are equal to these challenges. The United Nations system and I personally very much look forward to working with scientists throughout the world to support your work and spread its blessings even further, even deeper, in the years to come."

Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary General
Science 7 March 2003

FURTHERING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

The Women's International Scientific Collaboration Program (WISC), a partnership between AAAS and the National Science Foundation, continued to increase the participation of women in international scientific research. During 2003, WISC travel grants enabled more than 100 U.S. scientists to plan and design new collaborations with colleagues around the world. WISC awardees have conducted research in 54 countries. This network offers a powerful voice for promoting the international culture of science.

COURSE INTEGRATES SCIENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY

Science and technology issues are increasingly important to U.S. international and economic security interests and to the welfare of U.S. citizens at home and abroad. As part of its ongoing commitment to science and diplomacy, AAAS delivered two week-long courses to foreign service officers and other government personnel on environment, science, technology and health.

CONNECTING SCIENCE AND POLICY IN CENTRAL ASIA

In February 2003, AAAS co-sponsored a workshop with the Center for Global Security Research on concrete ways in which U.S. policy goals in Central Asia can be strengthened through science and technology. Participants included 54 policy and science and technology experts from 36 governmental and non-governmental organizations. They constitute a broad-based coalition that policymakers can tap as they address U.S. security and development concerns in Central Asia.

CONSORTIUM BOOSTS INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

The Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs (CAIP) is a multidisciplinary network of scientific and engineering societies active in the international dimensions of their disciplines. Some 100 AAAS-affiliated societies and 150 foreign corresponding members comprise the CAIP. It provides a forum for networking and for taking forward common concerns to change the ways science and engineering serve societies around the world. The 2003 CAIP meeting was devoted to discussions of how to build science and technology capacity for sustainable development.

STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Helping society achieve sustainable development is one of the great scientific challenges of the 21st century. Progress will require advancing the study of human-environment interactions, building scientific understanding where it is most needed, and improving society's capacity to generate and use knowledge for decision-making.

During 2003, the AAAS Center for Science, Innovation and Sustainable Development was established to meet these challenges by building science and policy communities that can realistically address local sustainability issues.

Through the Environmental Areas of Responsibility Initiative, AAAS is helping to coordinate and communicate research, non-governmental organization projects, and management activities related to sustainable management, disaster mitigation, and climate change across the Plata River Basin in South America.

Qs & As

with Sherburne Abbott
Chief International Officer



Q Why is it important to promote international science?

A Inequalities in scientific activity between developed and developing countries hinder development and contribute to societal problems. The growing awareness that nations cannot tackle these challenges alone has led AAAS to work with governments and international organizations to seek international solutions.

Q How much of the world does AAAS reach?

A There are AAAS members on every continent, including scientists working in Antarctica. In addition to running programs in many parts of the world, we work with international governmental and non-governmental organizations in most nations, and with representatives of national governments on common concerns.

Q How can AAAS help if I want to work internationally?

A We run programs worldwide to increase international scientific cooperation. Go to <http://www.aaas.org/programs/international> to find out more.

