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## How is AAAS advancing science and serving society?

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### **BOOSTING SCIENTIFIC JOURNALISM WORLDWIDE**

The South African Broadcasting Corporation sent five radio journalists to AAAS in Washington, D.C., for a four-week period to study science journalism. In addition, 12 science journalists from developing countries were selected in 2003 to participate in a special science-writing program at the 2004 Annual Meeting.

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### **PROMISE OF TECHNOLOGY IN ADDRESSING DISEASE**

The 2003 AAAS Advancing Science Seminar focused on technology and its promises for health. At the October meeting, participating researchers described cutting-edge technologies that offer advances in diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer, heart disease, and neurodegenerative diseases.

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### **30TH ANNIVERSARY**

The AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship Program celebrated the 30th year of its existence. Over that period, more than 1,600 scientists and engineers have held year-long appointments in jobs that allow them to provide S&T support to members of Congress and to administrators at federal policy agencies. This year saw the launch of the new Science and Technology Fellowships Program at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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### **NEW WEB PORTALS FOR SCIENTIFIC JOURNALISM**

New EurekAlert! (<http://www.eurekalert.org>) website initiatives include web portals for journalists and the general public on diseases in the developing world, marine sciences and multilanguage news. These and other new initiatives were funded by a portion of the \$5.25 million gift received from William T. Golden for supporting new ideas and programmatic initiatives. EurekAlert! serves 4,800 reporters and 540,000 public visitors per month.

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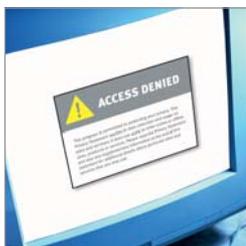
### **SUPPORTING YOUNG RESEARCHERS**

With help and support from AAAS, the new National Postdoctoral Association was founded with a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The group provides a voice for postdoctoral researchers, works to help improve the postdoctoral experience and gives mentoring advice to young researchers early in their scientific careers.

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## Here are the top ten in 2003.

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### **SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS**

The Science and Human Rights Program developed methodologies and resources for monitoring human rights. In 2003, the program completed manuals related to the protection of traditional ecological knowledge and indicators for the environmental dimensions of the right to health. It also developed manuals for monitoring the right to health and the right to water.

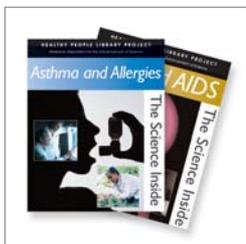
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### **THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GENES AND BEHAVIOR**

AAAS held a major conference on behavioral genetics, in cooperation with The Hastings Center, which involved scientists, ethicists, patient advocates and journalists in an examination of behavioral genetics and its broader ethical and social implications. One of the outcomes was a book entitled *Behavioral Genetics: An Introduction to How Genes and Environments Interact Through Development to Shape Differences in Mood, Personality, and Intelligence*. (See <http://www.aaas.org/spp/bgenes/>)

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### **INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT HEALTH RESEARCH**

Healthy People Library Project published the first book in a series entitled "The Science Inside," aimed at minority populations. The purpose of the project is to provide libraries with resources for informing the public about health research, with the ultimate goal of enabling people to make healthier choices from advances that emerge from research. (See <http://www.healthlit.org>)

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### **IMPROVING STUDENT SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT**

Recruiting the first group of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows for the new NSF-sponsored Center for Curriculum Materials in Science. Project 2061 at AAAS launched a joint venture with The University of Michigan, Michigan State and Northwestern University. The center's activities are focused on the analysis, design and use of science curriculum materials and the development of new leaders in science education.

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### **9/11. THE IMPACT ON SCIENCE**

Science and Policy at AAAS initiated a project to monitor the impact of security policies put in place since September 11 on the conduct of research and on higher education, and to coordinate the activities of major professional science, engineering and higher education organizations in response to issues raised by these new policies.