

Washington Insider

- In 1998, the National Science Foundation will conduct a competition to fund new Science and Technology Centers (STCs). Since 1987, the NSF has established 25 research centers, including one in psychology, presently the only STC focusing on a social science. The competition will be open to all sciences and will potentially establish eight centers for scientific research from a pool of \$25 million. Centers can be funded for a maximum of 10 years. For application information, contact Dr. Fernanda Ferreira of NSF's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate. Dr. Ferreira can be reached at (701) 306-1731 or <fferreir@nsf.gov>.
- The National Science Foundation is revising its process for reviewing grant proposals. NSF will ask reviewers to consider these two broad questions in evaluating grant proposals: 1) What is the intellectual merit and quality of the proposed activity, and 2) What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity? Under the two broad questions and a longer list sub-questions, reviewers will focus more of their evaluation on how proposals seek to serve society. Pending final approval, these new guidelines could be implemented as early as the fall of 1997.
- "Valuable resources are wasted every time an important policy decision is made without regard to the science and technology research that could be tapped to inform that decision." So state the heads of the National Academies of Science and Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. These organizations have jointly published *Preparing for the 21st Century*, a series of six papers on the relationship between social science research and public policy. These papers be accessed on the web at <<http://www2.nas.edu/21st>>.
- The United States Information Agency (USIA) announced that the Institute for International Education (IIE), headquartered in New York City, has assumed administrative responsibility for the Fulbright Senior Scholars Program, formerly administered by the American Council of Learned Societies. Each year, the Fulbright Senior Scholars Program sends approximately 800 American academics to more than 125 countries.
- President Clinton has called for a 3.4% increase in National Science foundation funding for the fiscal year 1998, raising NSF's budget to \$2.5 billion. Under Clinton's proposal, the budget for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate of NSF would increase to \$129.7 million, up 6.5% from FY 1997. Representative Vern Ehlers (R-MI), vice-chair of the House Science Committee and head of the Committee's two-year study of science and technology policy, commented that the President's NSF budget represents "a realistic proposal from which we on the science committee can work." Support for the Clinton proposal is also evident in Representative James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), chair of the Science Committee.

gressional Fellows from Germany, the German Marshal Fund, in conjunction with the Franco-American Commission for Educational Exchange, supports Congressional Fellows from France.

APSA Congressional Fellow Rises in Army's Ranks

APSA Congressional Fellow Michael Gayle has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the United States Army. Gayle's promotion ceremony took place in February in the office of Representative J.C. Watts (R-OK) where he is currently serving as a Congressional Fellow. Major General Peter Franklin, USA, officiated at the ceremony, and Pam Pryor, deputy staff director for Congressman Watts, offered congratulations on behalf of the congressman.

A 1980 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Gayle has spent over 15 years in management positions in the army. In order to participate in the Congressional Fellowship Program, Gayle is on leave from his position in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development, and Acquisition where he works on the aviation acquisitions staff.

Gayle is one of three army officers who are 1996-97 APSA Congressional Fellows.

APSA Hosts East Europeans through International Civics Project

In an effort to extend civics education projects in former communist bloc countries, APSA is hosting delegations of scholars and teachers at its national headquarters. Funded by the US Department of Education and coordinated by the Center for Civics Education, the American Federation of Teachers and several American colleges and universities are conducting study tours for groups of political scientists from Russia, Latvia, Poland, Bosnia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. The program seeks to enable a mutual exchange of ideas about civics edu-

cation between educators in the United States and East European countries.

Sheilah Mann, APSA's director of educational affairs, is hosting the various delegations at APSA headquarters and sharing information on the civics education projects she coordinates at the Association. Visitors have also been introduced to other services provided by APSA, briefed on APSA's annual meeting, and given complimentary membership to the Association. In addition, the visitors have been briefed on the Association's initiatives regarding scholarly journal donations to Eastern European countries. To date, delegations from Latvia, Poland, and Russia have spent a day at APSA learning about civics education. The others will visit in the near future.

During their time in the United States, the East European visitors are touring American colleges and universities and attending informational sessions on civics education, teaching methodologies, and the American educational system. Their study tours also include visits to congressional offices, embassies, and professional organizations that can provide useful information on developing civics education initiatives.

Also involved in planning these study tours have been political scientists John Patrick of Indiana University's Social Studies Development Center, who hosted the Latvian delegation; Richard Remy of Ohio State's Mershon Center, who hosted the Polish guests; and Stephen Schechter of the Center for Citizenship Education at Russell Sage College in Troy, New York, who hosted the Russian visitors.

Journal Donations to Africa

Each year the Association donates over 60 subscriptions of the *APSR* and *PS* to universities, libraries and other institutions worldwide. The program is maintained in an effort to keep our colleagues abroad abreast of current trends in teaching and research. The donations have been distributed through several programs, including the East and Central European Donation Project and



Latvian scholars visit the Association. (l-r) Front row: Jun Yin, APSA Staff Associate; Lolita Spruge, University of Latvia; Candace Boyer, Indiana University; Vija Rudina, Aizkrankle Secondary School; Sheilah Mann, APSA Director of Educational Affairs; Daina Bara, University of Latvia. Back row: Guntars Catlaks, Democracy Advancement Center, Latvia; Valts Sarma, Sala Primary School; Arijs Orlovskis, Liepaja Pedagogical College; and Linda Bara, University of Latvia.

the Sub Saharan Africa Donation Project.

In September 1996, the American Council of Learned Societies and American Association for the Advancement of Science announced the closing of the Sub Saharan Africa Program. At its conclusion the program offered journals from as many

as 100 learned societies to nearly 200 universities, libraries, and research centers. An active participant since 1993, the Association has supplied *APSR* and *PS* to 25 locations throughout the region.

Despite the decision of ACLS and AAAS to close this program the Association has stepped forward to

Minority ID Project Contributors

The Minority Identification Project is a collaboration of undergraduate programs and graduate schools encouraging the interest of minority undergraduate students in graduate study in political science. Undergraduate programs recommend promising minority graduate students to APSA which, in turn, gives those names to graduate programs for recruiting purposes.

The following list includes those who have made contributions in the past quarter. The Association thanks all those who made contributions.

Departmental Contributions

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