

we talked with him. He went on to say that the center must be, first of all, a good center for physics. The program with which he is convinced he is achieving the goal has several parts. An academic year is divided into two main sessions, one for research and one for an "extended" course. Shorter courses on different branches of physics last three to twelve weeks. So far the subjects of extended courses have been high energy, plasmas, nuclei, particles and condensed matter (solids and liquids). This summer's symposium, covering the whole spectrum of physics, which drew a population of 320 from 43 countries, including eight Nobel-prize winners, was an advanced review of the contemporary scene with all the specialists hearing about fields different from their own.

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NEW HEADQUARTERS, provided by city of Trieste at \$1 per year, looks down on Adriatic from a hillside in Miramare, about 6 km north of the middle of Trieste.

Institutional-Grant Bill Supported in House Hearings

An alternative to the project-grant approach to federal support of scientific research is gaining ground in Congress. The House Subcommittee on Science, Research and Development held hearings in July on a bill that would grant \$150 million a year to colleges and universities by formula rather than by project.

The purpose of the bill, HR 875, is to distribute government research money more widely and to ensure that smaller, less endowed schools benefit from federal research programs. Basically the bill would establish a formula that applies geographic, population and academic-incentive criteria to the task of allocating funds.

One third of the money would be given to schools on the basis of advanced degrees. The schools would split up this \$50 million in proportion to the fraction of the total master's and doctor's degrees each school produced in the preceding three years. Degrees in physical, social and biological science, mathematics and engineering would be counted.

One third of the funds would be given to the states in proportion to their share of the total high-school graduates in the country. The states in turn would distribute their share to their colleges and universities on the basis of credit hours offered in the fields mentioned.

The remaining one third would go

directly to schools on the basis of project awards in the previous year from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and the Office of Education, with a maximum of \$300 000.

Rep. Emilio Q. Daddario (D-Conn.), chairman of the subcommittee, said, "The momentum we built up in scientific and technological education must not be lost for lack of adequate support." He told the hearings that "we must maintain our high plateaus and elevate our lower ones."

In testimony before the committee, Donald F. Hornig, head of the Office of Science and Technology, pointed out some of the disadvantages of the project grants. They are highly specific and benefit the individual researcher. So while his school benefits indirectly, it can not shift the grant to fields in which it is trying to establish competence. Then, too, project grants can be discontinued with no regard for the welfare of an individual university.

Although he feels that project grants must be the basic mechanism of federal scientific-research support, Hornig sees institutional grants as a necessary supplement to give schools the ability to set and achieve their own goals and insure an equitable distribution of funds to developing schools.

Other leading science and education figures, including Leland Ha-

worth, head of the National Science Foundation, also testified in support of some form of institutional-grant system. The big question appears to be the actual provisions of the formula. Haworth questioned whether the proposed formula, because of its provisions whereby funding depends on advanced degrees and previous projects, might not benefit the larger graduate schools anyway. Citing the NSF grant program aimed at establishing centers of excellence, Haworth gave his backing to the concept, if not the method, of HR 875. The bill is not expected to be sent to the full House this late in the year, but a new version will be introduced when Congress convenes next year.

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AIP Corporate Associates Meet This Month in New York

Corporate Associates of the American Institute of Physics and officers of AIP member societies will gather in New York this month for a two-day annual meeting. An evening session is scheduled for 25 Sept. at the Hotel Roosevelt; the meeting moves to Rockefeller University the next day for a morning session on the frontiers of physics and an afternoon devoted to applications.

On Wednesday evening Frederick A. Seitz will moderate a panel discussion on "Policy Trends and Projections in Science." Weston E. Vivian, for-