

In more concrete terms, one of DuBridge's first acts in office was to point out to the President that the expenditure ceiling placed on the National Science Foundation was causing critical situations in some institutions. The President responded by conspicuously diverting \$10 million from other uses to provide some relief to the hardest hit schools.

—JPW

Daddario Seeks Comment on Unifying Science Activities

Rep. Emilio Q. Daddario (D-Conn.) is circulating to top research administrators a background report that could become the foundation for a future bill to unify federal science activities. He plans to call many of these same experts to testify in hearings later this year on the need for federal reorganization.

Although the background report makes no specific recommendations, it does propose a model organization for discussion. Called the National Institutes of Research and Advanced Studies, the model organization includes the present National Science Foundation, the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities, the National Institutes of Health, the National Bureau of Standards and parts of the Office of Education, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Environmental Science Services Administration.

The Science Policy Research Division of the Library of Congress prepared the report for the Daddario subcommittee. Among those consulted in its preparation were the four previous presidential science advisers: James R. Killian Jr, George B. Kistiakowsky, Jerome B. Wiesner and Donald F. Hornig.

Among the people it has gone to are Lee A. DuBridge, President Nixon's science adviser, and Roy Ash, chairman of the group named by the President to come up with recommendations for government reorganization. Copies of the report are available from the House Committee on Science and Astronautics.

SATCOM Challenges Societies To Improve Their Publications

After three years of work the Committee on Scientific and Technical Communication (SATCOM) has published a

landmark study of US technical information dissemination, offering 55 recommendations for improvement. The first recommendation would create a Joint Commission on Scientific and Technical Information to report directly to the councils of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

The 17-man group urged government and private organizations to assume greater responsibility for the effective communication of scientific information. Echoing the pleas of the American Physical Society editors, who argued last year for continued payment of page charges on the grounds that the cost of publication is an integral part of the cost of research, SATCOM wants the sponsors of research to recognize that preparation and dissemination of information is an integral part of research itself.

The report challenges the scientific societies to do more than they are doing. SATCOM wants them to improve the quality, timeliness and techniques of producing and distributing primary literature; assure adequate basic abstracting and indexing; stimulate reprocessing and repackaging for special user groups; and conduct "exploratory and innovative studies" to evaluate their information services.

(The American Institute of Physics has evaluated physics information services and designed a national computerized system. It hopes for approval this fall of a \$4.2-million grant to build and start operating the system.)

SATCOM also called on the societies to encourage the preparation of more critical review articles and data compilations. The committee said there is great need for such work, to organize and evaluate what is known about a subject and present it in a language that can be understood.

The study was paid for by the National Science Foundation. Both a 30-page synopsis and the 336-page study itself can be obtained from the National Academy of Sciences.

IN BRIEF

A quarterly interdisciplinary journal, *Remote Sensing of Environment*, has been started by American Elsevier Publishing Co. David S. Simonett of the Department of Geography and Center for Research in Engineering Science, University of Kansas, is editor. □

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