

1975-76 Congressional Fellows

All of the participants in the 1975-76 Congressional Fellowship program have chosen their assignments in Washington for the upcoming year. Some will be joining Senators' staffs, others will work with Congressional committees and a few will divide their time between two assignments.

APS Congressional Fellow Paul Horwitz has joined the staff of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and his colleague John H. Young is with the Senate Committee on Commerce. Lawrence Froman, Congressional Fellow from the American Psychological Association, will work on the staffs of the Senate Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Narcotics and the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. Anthony L. Rigas, sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, will assist Senator Bob Packwood. The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Congressional Fellow, Harold Rosenbaum, will join the staff of the House Armed Services Committee. Arthur M. Silverstein, sponsored by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, will work with the Senate Subcommittee on Health and the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

The five remaining Congressional Fellows are all sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Robert J. Brungraber and Charles P. Wolf will spend the year in the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. David W. Hafemeister will divide his time between the office of Senator John Glenn and the Senate

Interior Committee. Ernest W. Johnson is assisting Senator Gary Hart, and William R. Moomaw has joined Senator Dale Bumpers's staff.

"Self-nominations" prove useful in APS elections

At its October 1974 meeting the Council of The American Physical Society approved certain changes in the structure and operations of APS committees, including recommendations designed to provide a greater involvement of the membership in the affairs of the Society. As a result of these changes, in April 1975 each member of the APS was sent a "self-nomination" form to enable him to register an interest in serving the Society in various capacities: elective office, service on committees, APS studies, etc. Members were asked to indicate areas of expertise and experience in public affairs and to suggest new activities that the Society might undertake to sponsor. The response to this solicitation was impressive, with over 850 members volunteering to serve the Society in some capacity. Each of these "self-nomination" forms was followed up by a member of the APS Nominating Committee, who added biographical data to the information provided on the form.

The Nominating Committee's chairman, Mildred Dresselhaus of MIT, found that these "self-nomination" forms provided an excellent pool of talent for service on the various committees of the APS. A large fraction of

the slate of candidates nominated to fill committee vacancies was chosen from the pool of self-nominations.

The pool of well-qualified self-nominees greatly exceeded the number of vacancies on APS committees; so it was not possible to find assignments for all this year. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee feels that this procedure does provide for greater representation of the membership in the affairs of the Society. With some improvement in the format of the "self-nomination" form, it is expected that this approach will become increasingly useful in identifying people who are willing and able to serve the Society.

The self-nominations are also being used by the Committee on Education (whose chairman is Eugen Merzbacher) and the Panel on Public Affairs (whose chairman is Philip Morse). POPA has developed a computerized list to improve utilization of these resources. Individuals may be selected according to expertise, concerns, geographical location or expressed interest in areas of Society activity. Compiled as an easily read computer deck, this listing will be a flexible resource that may be used in the nomination of the limited number of individuals needed for service in APS offices and committees, as well as in APS studies and other public-affairs activities. Selection by geographical area would allow development of regional advisory groups or other mechanisms for grass-roots physics contributions to public problems. Members who wish to be included in this listing but who have not already sent in a complete questionnaire are urged to contact Carol Z. Rosen, APS, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. □



Richard Scribner* (third from left), AAAS Administrator of Congressional Fellowship Program, with (l to r) Young,* Horwitz,* Hafemeister,* Brungraber, Johnson, Froman, Moomaw,* Rigas and Silverstein.

Asterisk indicates APS member. Rep. Mike McCormack recently noted that Congressional Fellows make "invaluable contributions in offices on the Hill, providing sorely needed analytic capability."