

Membership

Council Meets in Bethesda

The APS Council had the opportunity to sample a typical Washington summer when they met in the 90+ heat and humidity of Bethesda from July 9 to 11. The meeting marked the annual gathering of the Council to receive reports of committee activities from the committee chairs. Most of these committee reports were published in the August issue of *The Physiologist*.

The joint Council and Committee chairs meeting provides the opportunity to review last year's activities, discuss opportunities for the future, and to develop projects that can be implemented through collaborative efforts. Such a project is the Resource Packet being developed by the Careers in Physiology, Education, and Animal Care and Experimentation Committees to assist our members in their efforts to take physiology and animal research into the pre-college classroom. With the employment of Marsha Matyas and Alice Hellerstein, pre-college education and career information have become a more significant Society activity.

During the meeting, Council also received the report of the Task Force on Awards, which reviewed the status of the Society's prestigious lectureships, the Henry Pickering Bowditch and Walter B. Cannon Award Lectureships. The Task Force received comments from the APS Past Presidents and reviewed procedures used by other basic science societies and recommended that the size of the honorarium and the selection procedures be modified. In the future, the membership will be encouraged to nominate candidates for these Awards, with selection being made by the Executive Cabinet.

In addition, the honorarium associated with the Bowditch and Cannon Lectures was increased to \$2,500 and \$4,000, respectively.

The Council also approved the Task Force's recommendation that the Society allocate funds for Career Enhancement Awards for members in good standing. These awards would be for up to \$4,000 and be designed to assist APS members in their efforts to learn new methodologies through a visit to a laboratory or enrollment in a special course. These awards are designed to help our members enhance their skills so they can better compete in the scientific marketplace.

The Membership Committee also presented a series of bylaw changes designed to accommodate the suggestions of a Task Force on Membership that had met earlier in the year. The bylaw changes are designed to recognize the fact that "independence" is not as easily attained in the current funding environment. Individual scientists are spending four to six years in postdoctoral positions, working as research faculty, and/or working in collaborative groups. Recognizing this change, Council approved the Committee's recommendation that the Associate and Associate Corresponding membership categories be eliminated. Students, having completed their doctorates and having published one paper from their thesis, would be able to apply as Regular and Corresponding members, with a reduction in dues for the first several years. Members currently in these categories would be promoted to Regular and Corresponding members. Full details of the pro-



APS Council. Back row (l-r): Martin Frank, Neil Granger, James Schafer, and Franklyn Knox. Middle row (l-r): Leonard Jefferson, Mordecai Blaustein, Frank Powell, Jr., Gabriel Navar, and Heinz Valtin. Front row (l-r): Helen Cooke, Stanley Schultz, Brian Duling, William Dantzler, and Barbara Horwitz.