The Society has become a member of the AAAS Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs. The Consortium arranges programs with associations for the advancement of science in other countries and publishes a newsletter four times a year. The Consortium conducts various symposia and holds a business meeting during the annual AAAS meeting. In this way the Consortium functions much like a Section of AAAS. ASC is already a member of Sections J, Psychology; K, Social and Economic Sciences; N, Medical Sciences; and T, Information, Computing and Communication. We need people to represent ASC at the business meetings of these sections. If you will be attending the AAAS meeting in January in Washington, DC, and would like to represent ASC at one or more of these meetings, please get in touch with our AAAS coordinator, Larry Richards, Dept. of Admin. Science, Colby College, Waterville, ME 04901, (207) 873-1131.

NORBERT WIENER COLLECTION

Eighteen cubic feet of papers produced by Norbert Wiener are stored in the MIT Archives. Jane McCavitt has prepared a guide to these papers. The guide can be obtained free in microfiche or for $10.30 in paper. Write to the Reference Archivist, MIT Libraries, Room 14N-118, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139, (617) 253-5136.

CAREERS IN CYBERNETICS

by Stuart Umpleby

Every now and then we get requests from high schools to send them information about careers in cybernetics. From the AAAS I have obtained copies of brochures put out by several other societies (geology, chemistry, etc.) about careers in their fields. If anyone would like to write a brochure on careers in cybernetics, let me know and I shall send you this material.

Since the field of cybernetics and the practice of cybernetics is rather difficult to define, this task could prove to be challenging. However, it could also help those outside the field to understand us. And, of course, the brochure can always be rewritten in the future as our understanding changes.

1982 ASC CONFERENCE

The 1981 ASC conference was such a roaring success that plans are being laid for another conference in 1982, this time in Columbus, Ohio and again at roughly the same time as the ASIS conference (late October). The Program Chairman is John Hayman (Hayman Associates, PO Box 1626, Clanton, AL 35045, phone 205/793-6609). If you have comments or suggestions you would like to offer him about the next conference, please feel free to do so.

HELP ASC IMPROVE ITS PUBLICATIONS. SEE pp 5, 6 & 7.
A workshop on Community Cybernetic Centers was sponsored by the ASC in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science on October 30, 1981. The purpose of the meeting was to define means by which professional societies can facilitate the flow of information on science and technology to communities which need it. The workshop considered the visions of the community (what communities should be in the next decade and beyond), blocks to attaining the vision, causes of the blocks (especially those relating to information), strategies for removing the blocks, and plans for carrying out the strategies. Four strategies comprised of thirty tactical elements were considered and ten of the tactics were developed in more detail by the workshop. Of these, two were proposals for specific action to be taken or sponsored by the ASC. One proposal was for dissemination of problem-solving methods and the other for motivating members of societies to volunteer services for community development.

Proposal: Problem-Solving Methodology Dissemination

That the ASC sponsor a project by a graduate student at the George Washington University or elsewhere to collect, document, and correlate information on practical, simple methods of identifying and solving problems in developing communities, such as the Institute of Cultural Affairs' LENS (Leadership Effectiveness and New Strategies) methodology, and to prepare scripts, graphics, and brochures to be used in presenting this information both to development agencies (public and private) and to professional meetings.

That the ASC and its members who are also members of faculties seek to have the proposed project accepted as a graduate thesis project (or the equivalent) and encourage students in the field of cybernetics to undertake the project.

That the ASC and its members sponsor the presentation of the results of the proposed project at meetings of development groups and professional societies.

Proposal: Motivating Volunteers for Development

That the ASC encourage participation of members of professional societies as volunteers providing expert advice and participation in community development projects by: (1) ASC members setting an example in such volunteer efforts; (2) seeking, and publicizing in the newsletter, opportunities for volunteer service; and (3) providing a forum for reports of their experiences by volunteers on the same level of prestige as reports of academic research in publications and meetings of the ASC.

That the ASC and its members advocate support of such voluntary efforts in other societies, recommending that they adopt methods for publicizing the desirability of individual participation and means for according the same prestige for efforts expended in the application of knowledge for community development as is accorded efforts for increasing the body of knowledge.

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY CENTERS

information from Stuart Umpleby

Stuart forwarded a letter from the AAAS concerning AAAS volunteers for Science-Technology centers. Such centers and museums are enthusiastic about assistance from AAAS members, and such help does carry forward one of the primary goals of the AAAS - to improve the public understanding of science. Volunteers are sought (specifically for the Capital Children's Museum in the letter Stuart sent, but at other centers as well) for running workshops related to exhibits during museum open hours, providing technical support and training for museum staff, preparing manuals and handout information, helping to select films and the like, helping on field trips, and so forth. If you are interested in the Capital Children's museum project, call Stuart.
NOTES ON THE MACHINE AGE

Stuart sent this item which he picked up off the wires of the EIES system:

"Recently we have been developing new software and hardware technologies in a sister company of ours called ElectroType (tm). We can take any printed matter and convert it to stored information at 15-50 characters per second, depending on the condition and font used as the imaged text. Existing printed books are no problem. We can provide conversion services from paper to magnetic media for a price of between $1 and $1.50 per 1000 characters. We also can provide photocomposition using high resolution CRT typesetters for a fee of $5 per 1000 characters if the information is electronically stored. Laser printing services are also available." This came from Henry B. Freedman, PO Box 2413, Springfield, VA 22152.

There is an interesting article in a recent copy of the IEEE Spectrum magazine which discusses progress on robotics (sorry I don't have the reference). One of the Japanese factories is being (or going to be) run almost entirely by robots. What does it make? Robot-making machines! So the era of machines which reproduce is nearly upon us.

And this comes from the Chicago Sun Times --- "Jon Hupp and John Shoch at the Xerox Research Center have developed an aggressively invasive computer program ... called WORM ... which worms its way into other computers interlinked on a network, replicates itself and destroys any programs they were running. At the laboratory, the two computer scientists had access to a network of 100 small computers linked by a system called Ethernet, which Digital Equipment, Intel, and Xerox have produced. Last winter, Hupp and Shoch left their WORM program running on a few of these computers overnight. By morning, it had invaded dozens of other machines and put them out of action. If one of these machines were restarted, it soon would be invaded by WORM again. Every invaded computer on a network must be cleared and reprogrammed to get rid of the menace."

Isn't that a little scary?

If you read something in your journal or paper that you think would be of interest to readers, please send it in!

LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE ASC

from Stuart Umpleby

At the Washington conference, several people volunteered to set up local chapters in their areas. Write or call them to find out about plans and/or to offer help.

San Francisco Bay Area: Nina Adelman, 630 S. 7th St., San Jose, CA 95112; Heinz Von Foerster, 1 Eden West Road, Pescadero, CA 94060, 415/879-0616.


Montreal: David Mitchell, Concordia University, 1455 O. Boul. de Maisonneuve, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8.

Washington, DC and Northern Virginia: Stephen Ruth, 6204 Colmac Drive, Falls Church, VA 22044, o:703/536-4121; Allen Blair, 1121 Pekay St. SW, Vienna, VA 22180, h:703/281-0519; Fred Giessler, 4401 Aragon Place, Alexandria, VA 22309, h:703/360-4323.

Columbus, Ohio: Jon Cunnyngham, Economics Department, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, o:614/422-7366.

Geneseo, New York: Paul Studer, RD #1, Dansville, NY 14437.


The first newsletter of the Federation has arrived. The IFSR is currently composed of the Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies, the Society for General Systems Research, and the Systeengroep Nederland. The letter which arrived at the ASC office with this newsletter also contained an invitation for the ASC to join this federation. From the newsletter is available the following capsule summaries of the goals of these three organizations:

The Austrian Society was founded in 1970 with the aim of "the study of the theoretical bases of cybernetics and its special field, the investigation of its applications on technical, economic and social problems, its relations to problems studied in the natural sciences and the humanities; furthermore, education in the methods of cybernetics and its technical aids, especially in electronic data processing; finally, advancement of interdisciplinary studies, and the representation of Austria in international organizations." It publishes the journal "Cybernetics and Systems."

The SGSR was founded in 1954 with the overall purpose "to promote the philosophical and theoretical views of systems through encouraging research and facilitating communication between and among scientists and professionals from various disciplines and professions at local, regional, national and international levels." Its aims are: "To foster the investigation of the isomorphy of concepts, laws and models in various disciplines and professions; to facilitate transfer of concepts, laws and models across disciplines and professions; to encourage development of theoretical models where they are lacking; to minimize duplicating efforts between and among disciplines and professions; and to perform, encourage and provide for charitable, religious, scientific, literary and educational acts and works." The SGSR publishes the General Systems Yearbook, the International Journal of General Systems, Behavioral Science, and conference proceedings.

The Dutch systems group was founded in 1970 "to promote interdisciplinary research activities based on the systems approach and more generally to stimulate the study of systems and systems theory. It published the Annals of Systems Research (now discontinued), organizes summer courses for Dutch graduates and International Summer Schools and other meetings.

The Washington Chapter of the ASC will serve as a Tape Exchange Center for the 1981 conference. We will create a listing of names, addresses and telephone numbers of people who have tapes of particular sessions. Furthermore, we offer to create a Full Conference Tape Library with authorship of the tape offered to the taper, e.g. Von Foerster, 10-12 Friday, "Cybernetics, Epistemology and Ethics", by Ellen Stolarik. Please tell us what sessions you taped successfully (call or write). We will contact you if we need your tapes to complete our library. Or, if you are a great cybernetics volunteer, please duplicate a copy of your tapes and send them to us. Or, send us your tapes after you have used them to your satisfaction. We (the Washington Chapter) will reimburse you for the cost of tapes, even if we already have copies in our library. We will continue to let you know about the library by short descriptions of the highlights of sessions as revealed on the tapes. These will be published in future Newsletters.

Contact: Ellen Stolarik, 4310 Van Buren, University Park, MD 20782, H: 301-927-6945, or Fred Giessler, 4401 Aragon, Alexandria, VA 22309, H: 703-360-4323.
THE FUTURE OF THE FORUM

by Stuart Umpleby

The Society is now in pretty good shape in terms of internal communication (the newsletter), office procedures (membership lists and financial records), and conferences. It is time we turned our attention to our publication, Cybernetics Forum. At the present time the Forum is struggling. There is a shortage of articles. Few people are actively involved in working on the Forum. Vadim Drozin has been putting it out almost single-handedly. Perhaps most important, the Forum is not covering its costs. The current situation must change. We can either put more energy into the Forum to make it a viable publication, or we can discontinue the Forum and adopt another journal as the publication of the Society.

The argument for continuing and improving the Forum is that we would have more control over the articles published in it (see footnote). The case for combining our efforts with an existing journal is based on several observations. The field has a number of journals already; many of them have solicited articles from our members. It is not clear that our Society is large enough to support a journal. My personal feeling is that if we continue the Forum, we should look at the publications that now exist and try to find a niche that is not currently being filled.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a description of the three journals most likely for us to adopt if we were to discontinue the Forum. Also included in this newsletter is a questionnaire designed to solicit your opinions, recommendations and support. Please fill out this questionnaire as soon as possible and send it to me at 2131 G St. NW, Washington, DC 20052. Several of the Society’s officers will meet in Washington, DC, in January during the annual meeting of the Society for General Systems Research to discuss the returns from this questionnaire.

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ed. note: Klaus Krippendorff comments that in addition, continuation of the Forum would also help to define the Society’s identity and would create a visible record of the Society’s focus.

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PUBLICATIONS

from Stuart Umpleby

The following publications are available from ASC. The costs are based on 5 cents per page.

Computer Conferencing Directory (a comparison of 5 systems now available) - $1.50.

Cybernetics Bibliography (from the Scorpio system, Library of Congress) - $0.75.

International Language (pros and cons of adopting Esperanto as an easy-to-learn international language for science) - $1.75.

Cybernetics Glossary (includes the glossary of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, IIASA) - $2.50.

Cybernetics Tour of Washington, DC - $0.50.

When ordering these from ASC please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery, and include 50 cents per publication for postage and handling.

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LIMERICK

from Ernst Von Glasersfeld

The beebees in Frog made a lump!
Too heavy for him to jumpl
So he stood on his head
And dropping the lead
He pensively said
There must be more than one bee in Umpl.
JOURNAL: Cybernetics and Systems
ASSOCIATION: Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies
NAME OF CONTACT: Christine Flint, Managing Editor
ADDRESS OF CONTACT: Hemisphere Publishing Corporation
1025 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (202) 783-3958

Number of times published each year: 4

Cost:
Nonmembers: $85 annually in U.S. ($90 annually outside U.S.)
Members: $30 annual membership fee which includes the journal subscription

JOURNAL: Cybernetica
ASSOCIATION: International Association for Cybernetics, Namur, Belgium
NAME OF CONTACT: Doreen Stegg
ADDRESS OF CONTACT: Department of Human Behavior and Development
Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA 19104
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (215) 895-2408

Number of times published each year: 4
about 50% of the articles are in French and 50% in English

Cost:
Nonmembers: $60 annually (journal only)
Members: $120 annually (includes membership and journal subscription)

JOURNAL: Kybernetes
ASSOCIATION: World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics
NAME OF CONTACT: Jack Rose
ADDRESS OF CONTACT: Blackburn College of Technology
Feilden Street
Blackburn, BB2 1 IH
Lancashire, England
TELEPHONE NUMBER: Blackburn 64321

Number of times published each year: 4

Cost:
Nonmembers (Institution) $110 per volume of four issues
Nonmembers (Personal Use) $55 per year
Affiliated Members (Bulk Subscription - 100 copies) $30 per year
QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE FORUM

1. Should we continue Cybernetics Forum? Should we adopt another journal for our publication? If another journal, which one would you prefer?

2. If the Forum continues, what suggestions would you make to help ensure its success?

(The following questions assume that the Forum will continue.)

3. What people would you like to see on an editorial board, keeping in mind ability, stature in the field, geographical representation, coverage of many facets of the field, and links to other fields?

4. There has been a good deal of discussion over whether we should publish just original papers or also reprint classic articles from the past and from other current journals. The argument for reprinting is that key papers from the past and other fields are not widely known or available. The argument against reprinting is that it is expensive, redundant, and the purpose can be largely fulfilled by publishing bibliographies and reviews and then letting people get the articles they want from the library. What do you think?

5. A number of innovative suggestions for review procedures have been made, such as publishing the comments of reviewers along with the paper. Keeping in mind that such a review process requires an administrative center to handle copying and mailing, and commitment on the part of quite a few people, what are your thoughts on review processes?

6. Cybernetics is closely associated with art. How can we ensure the use of cybernetics in the design and layout of the publication and thus avoid being just one more technical journal?

7. What features should be included in the Forum, for example editorials, letters to the editor, puzzles or games, columns by distinguished cyberneticians, book reviews, lists of articles of interest in other journals, a different cover design each issue, etc.?

8. What work on the Forum would you be willing to do?

Please send your answers as soon as possible to:

American Society for Cybernetics
2131 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20052
## Titles on Display

**American Society for Cybernetics Meeting**  
Washington, D.C., 1981

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<tr>
<th>Books</th>
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<td>Applied Optimal Control: Optimization, Estimation, and Control, by A. E. Bryson, Jr., &amp; Y-C. Ho</td>
<td>$18.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Hedonistic Neuron: A Theory of Memory, Learning, and Intelligence, by A. H. Klopf (forthcoming)</td>
<td>$19.95</td>
<td>$15.95</td>
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<td>Pipelining and Overlap in Computer Design, by P. M. Kogge</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
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<td>Applications and Research in Information Systems and Sciences: Proceedings of the First International Conference on Information Sciences and Systems, edited by D. G. Lainiotis &amp; N. S. Tzannes (3 vol. set)</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
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| Progress in Cybernetics and Systems Research:  
Volume VI, edited by F. Pichler & R. Trapp | $80.00 | $64.00 |
| Volume VII, edited by F. Pichler & F. de P. Hanika | $80.00 | $64.00 |
| Volume VIII, edited by R. Trapp, G. Klir, & F. Pichler (forthcoming) | $80.00 | $64.00 |
| Volume IX, edited by R. Trapp, L. Ricciardi, & G. Pask (forthcoming) | $80.00 | $64.00 |
| Volume X, edited by R. Trapp, F. de P. Hanika & R. Tomlinson (forthcoming) | $80.00 | $64.00 |
| Volume XI, edited by R. Trapp, N. V. Findler, & W. Horn (forthcoming) | $80.00 | $64.00 |

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CYBERNETICS
MEETING ORDER FORM

HEMISPHERE PUBLISHING CORPORATION
1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

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ORGANIZATION___________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS__________________________________________________________________________

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