

on the AAAS model, will provide invaluable information on how best to leverage science to enhance regional development and promote scientific cooperation.”

In April, Neureiter and Cynthia Robinson, director of the AAAS S&T Policy Fellowships, participated in a 4-day orientation event in Jakarta, Indonesia, for the first class of ASEAN fellows. Robinson conducted a session to help fellows maximize their opportunities and accomplishments, and she moderated sessions on strategies to leverage science in support of policy-making.

Over the years, she said, colleagues in Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden, and Switzerland have expressed interest in the AAAS policy fellowships. A successful program with an environmental-policy focus was launched in Israel 4 years ago. In the United States, California and Massachusetts have programs in place that used the AAAS experience as a guide. “We’re particularly excited about the effort in Southeast Asia because it’s regional,” Robinson said. “We hope that it will become a successful model for helping to inform policy in places where multiple countries face the same science-based problems.”

At the Jakarta orientation event for the ASEAN fellows, Neureiter’s presentation focused on the value of international science diplomacy as a mechanism for improving cross-border relations based on shared goals for advancing science. One of the first such examples of U.S. science diplomacy took place in 1961, when Japanese Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda and U.S. President John F. Kennedy, at the urging of Edwin Reischauer, then the U.S. ambassador to Japan, announced the creation of three U.S.-Japan joint committees, including one on scientific cooperation. In 1972, Neureiter noted, President Richard M. Nixon also leveraged science diplomacy to help normalize relations with Russia.

“Science can be an important element of foreign policy,” Neureiter said. “Taking advantage of that through programs such as this new ASEAN fellowship initiative can improve cooperation between countries and, we hope, result in better outcomes for their research.”

The initiative was proposed by Montira Pongsiri, who was then the Science Advisor to the U.S. Mission to ASEAN and previously a mentor to AAAS S&T Policy Fellows at the Environmental Protection Agency, in collaboration with alumna AAAS policy fellow Teresa Leonardo, the Regional Science and Technology Advisor at the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia.



Swapping stories. Alumni reminisced about their internships at a 2 June gathering at AAAS.

Mass Media Fellows celebrate 40 years

By Earl Lane

Forty years ago, AAAS sent its first class of science-savvy students into the newsroom to learn first-hand about writing and reporting from working journalists. For some alumni, their summer as a AAAS Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellow was a life-changing experience.

“Without this fellowship, I swear I’d be selling aluminum siding somewhere in New Jersey,” said Steve Mirsky, columnist and podcast editor for *Scientific American*. Mirsky was working fitfully toward his doctorate in chemistry when he went to work in 1985 as a fellow at WSVN-TV in Miami. He used that experience to get a job at a radio station in Syracuse, New York, where he developed broadcast skills that he now uses for his lively podcasts.

The fellows program has welcomed 620 participants since 1974, and many of them have gone on to distinguished careers in journalism and science communication. Those who have remained in the science professions have used their media skills to better communicate their work to colleagues and the wider public.

Dione Rossiter, the program’s project director, has been conducting a survey of alumni to learn more about the fellowship’s long-term impacts. Preliminary results show that 76% of the respondents said that the program was “extremely” or “very” important to their success, and 37% said that it completely changed the course of their career.

This summer also marks the 10th anniversary of the Minority Science Writers Internship program for undergraduates at *Science* magazine. Natalie Villacorta, a 2011 intern at the magazine, said that the program allowed her to answer an inner voice that said “tell stories.” She is now a health care reporter for Politico, an online news site.

New dues rates approved for 2015

The AAAS Board of Directors has approved a dues increase for 2015. The new rates are effective for membership terms beginning after 31 December 2014 and do not include postage or taxes for international members, which is additional. For more information, contact the AAAS Membership Office at 202-326-6417.

Regular professional members	\$155
Postdocs and K-12 teachers	\$99
Emeritus members who receive print <i>Science</i>	\$115
Students	\$75
Patrons	\$310
Institutional rate for print for high schools and public libraries	\$360
All other institutions receiving print	\$1397