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Newsletter

Number 13 April 1989

URSULA FRANKLIN WINS NEW WIEGAND AWARD

Distinguished Canadian scientist Dr. URSULA FRANKLIN is the winner of the first annual Wiegand Award for Canadian Excellence. She received the Award, which has a cash value of \$2500, at a brief ceremony at UW on Thursday, 2 March.

The Award was established at UW at the instigation of the Wiegand Foundation and is administered by CSTV. The presentation occurred within another CSTV event, the second lecture by visiting speaker Dr. Langdon Winner (see separate story).

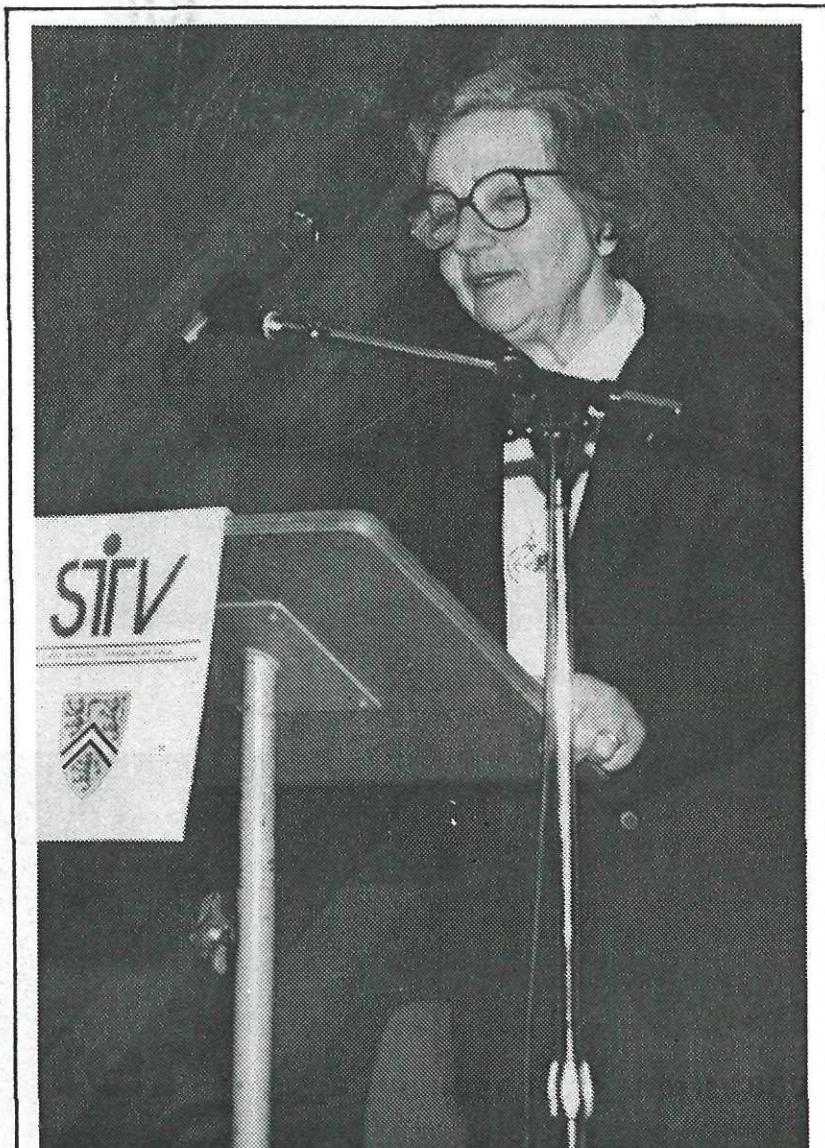
UW president Dr. Douglas Wright, Dr. Keith Warriner (Sociology) of the Award Committee, and FREDERICK and PHILIP WIEGAND were on hand for the presentation. Other members of this year's Award Committee were Dr. Russel Legge (CSTV) and Dr. Robin Cohen (Computer Science).

Ursula Franklin's gracious acceptance remarks, especially her comments on the need for "the spirit of discernment" struck a responsive chord with many.

After the presentation, Franklin and her husband Fred, along with the Wiegand brothers, Langdon Winner and many of the audience enjoyed a wine and cheese reception outside Siegfried Hall.

Later an invitation-only banquet honouring Dr. Franklin and involving guests from the University and from the community was held in the Laurel Room.

Nominations for the 1990 edition of the Award will soon be solicited.



URSULA FRANKLIN:
See brief biography, p. 8.

INSIDE:

- Langdon Winner visits campus
- STV courses report

STV OPTION/COURSES REPORT

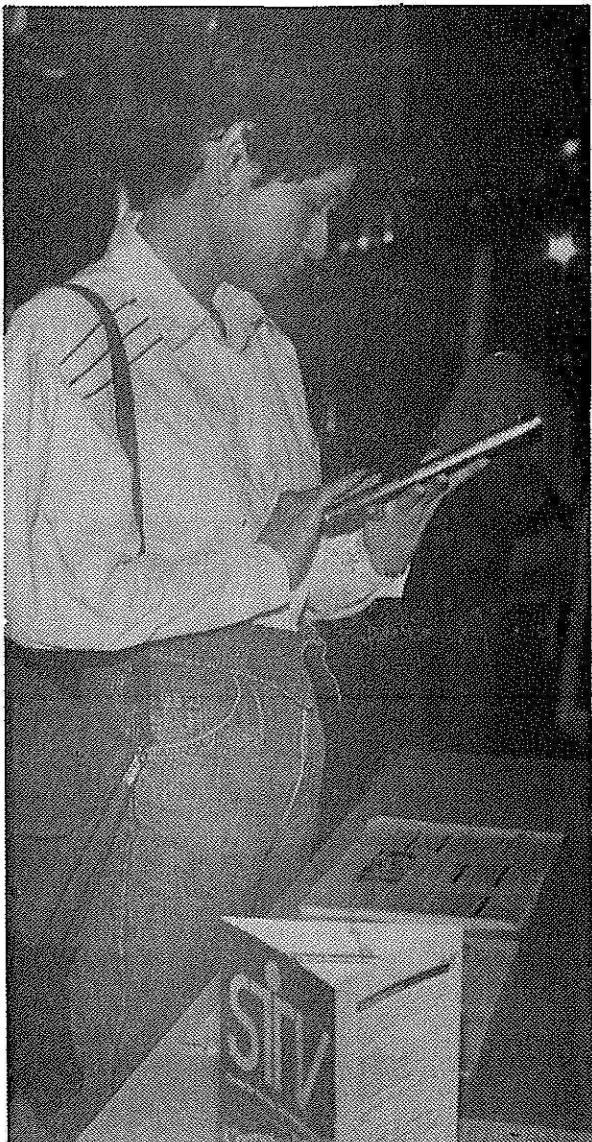
STV courses flourished in the Winter 1989 term. STV 100, co-taught by GED MCLEAN and DAVE LONG, had an enrolment of 47. The faculties of Science, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Mathematics and Arts were represented.

STV 200 had 10 enrolled. This projects course, taught by TIM TOPPER, had representation from Engineering and Arts. STV 400, the senior project course supervised by Dr. RUSSEL LEGGE, consisted of two Arts students.

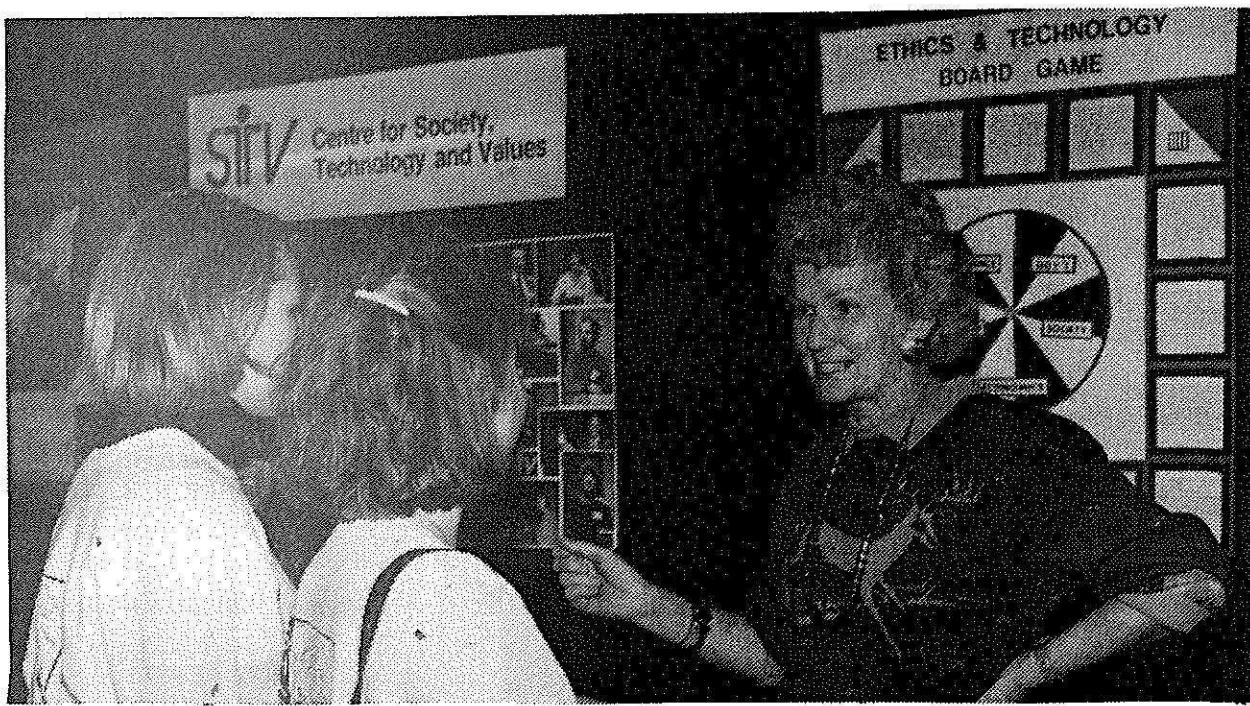
All three courses will be offered again in Spring '89 with Topper teaching STV 100, Long instructing in STV 200, and Legge looking after STV 400. Topper will be assisted by NORINE VERBERG and CATHY RYAN.

At Spring Convocation, STV will graduate its first five students with the Option. They are: SCOTT BRIDGMAN, Arts; LORI HANSON, Environmental Studies; MARK ANDERSON, Engineering; PATTY VOTARY, Mathematics; and DURRELL BOWMAN, Arts.

Option promotion is high on the Centre's list of priorities. STV was a participant in Campus Day on 14 March (see photos).



*Campus Day at the Davis Centre:
Getting the word out about STV*



IMAGES OF HUMANNESS: 1990 CSTV CONFERENCE

"Images of humanness" is the working title of a two-day CSTV conference scheduled for UW in March 1990.

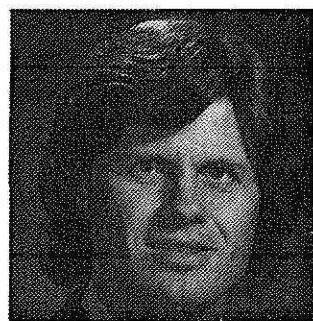
The event will provide an opportunity for examining and clarifying some of the assumptions that underlie current debates and disputes in such fields as biotechnology and artificial intelligence (AI). Discussions in these areas often presuppose certain understandings about "human" nature, "human" rights, the "human" being, and "human" potential.

Organizers expect the conference, CSTV's third such event, to draw Ontario-based scholars, researchers, and practitioners in the arts, humanities, sciences and technologies.

Planning will begin next month, and a call for papers will go out shortly thereafter. For more details, call the CSTV office at UW ext. 6215.

ED
JERNIGAN

Systems
Design
Engineering



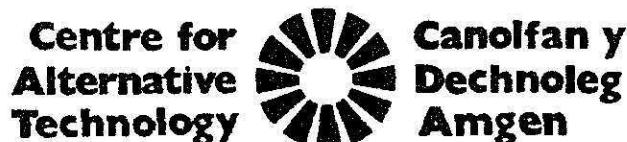
BOARD BACK TO STRENGTH

Dr. ED JERNIGAN, P.Eng., of UW's Systems Design Department has joined the Centre's Advisory Board, filling the Faculty of Engineering vacancy. Jernigan's colleague Dr. Barry Wills had served on the board since the beginning but stepped down late last year, and another Engineering professor, Dr. John Schey, retired from UW last year after serving on the board for the same period. Jernigan has a Ph.D. from MIT and has won UW's Distinguished Teacher Award.

CO-SPONSORING: A CSTV TRADITION

CSTV's tradition of co-sponsoring events with other campus bodies continued in the winter term, with two items on the schedule.

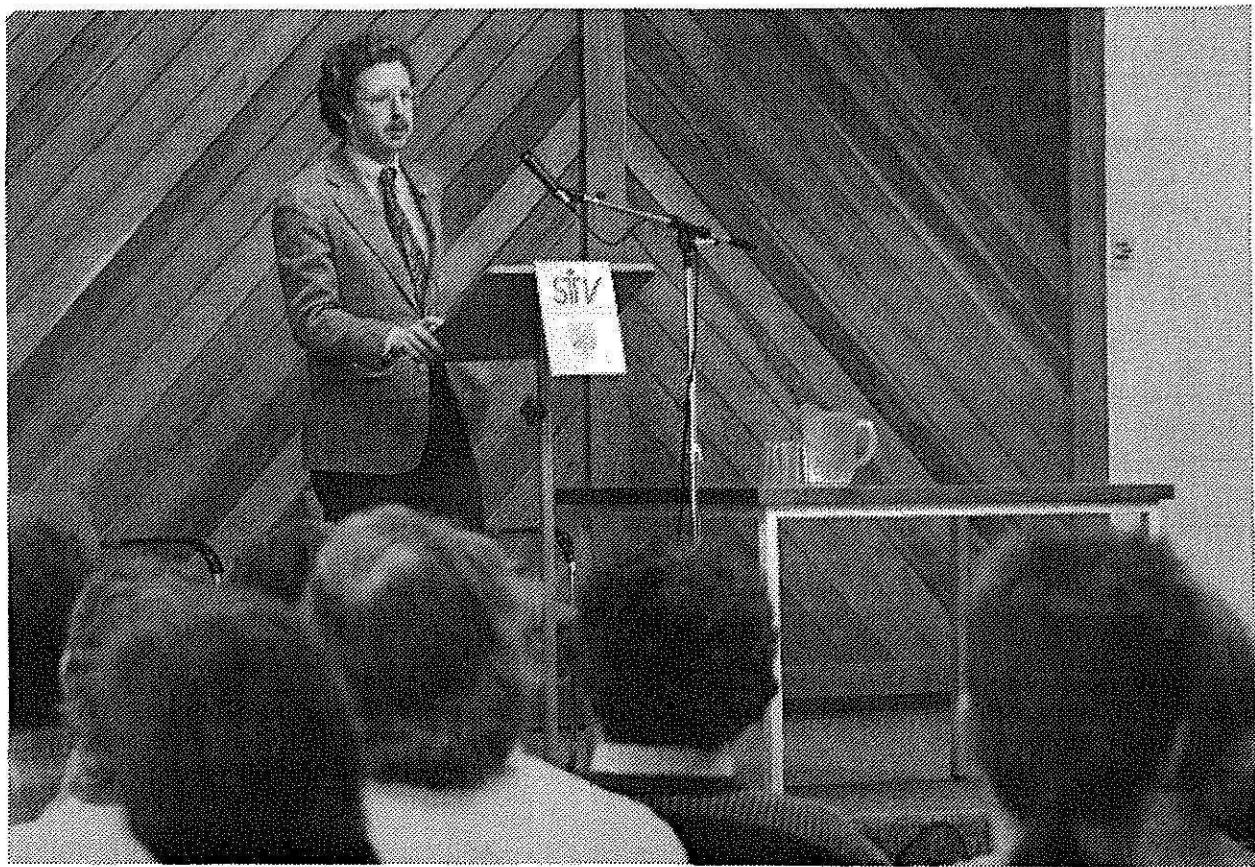
In February, CSTV provided promotional support for a lecture/discussion by DAMIAN RANDLE, education officer with the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales. About 30 attended, mainly students in an ERS class.



Randle's Centre was established in 1974 on the site of an abandoned slate quarry near Aberystwyth in mid-Wales. Comprising displays and demonstrations of alternative technology (windmills, water turbines, solar panels, etc.), a super-insulated house, a forge, and an engineering lab as well as a restaurant and a lecture hall, it now attracts upwards of 60,000 visitors annually and offers a wide range of educational courses.

Randle emphasized the importance of holism and self-reliance in the Centre's approach, conceding that the Centre tries to be "as subversive as possible"--but only in "an unthreatening way!" He also solicited interest in his journal, Green Teacher (see advertisement and subscription form in this Newsletter).

In March, CSTV co-sponsored a much larger-scale event, the campus visit of Dr. HELEN CALDICOTT, founder of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Other sponsors were the Wilfrid Laurier University student union, Psychologists for Social Responsibility, and eight UW divisions, including Women's Studies, WPIRG, and two Faculties.



LANGDON WINNER SPEAKS ON DEMOCRACY, TECHNOLOGY

A good visiting speaker should stimulate discussion and get the audience to see things in a new way. By any such definition, Dr. LANGDON WINNER is a very good visiting speaker indeed.

A political science professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic in New York State, Winner was on campus in early March to give two lectures at the invitation of CSTV. The first was "Democracy and technology: a clash of cultures" and the second was "Political ergonomics: design and the public good."

Altogether more than 160 professors, students and community members attended the two events, which were advertised and reported in the K-W Record.

In his first lecture, Winner explained how technological innovation can bring about major reconstructions of social

relationships, and how "technological rationality" and "cultural rationality" may conflict.

Reminding the audience that democracy is not a finished product, the speaker offered three guiding maxims for democratizing the process of technological innovation: No innovation without representation, no engineering without political discussion, and no means without ends.

In his second address, well-summarized in Record reporter Kevin Crowley's article on 2 March, Winner extended his exploration of the society-technology connection and the need to see the potential of technology for social, not just material, betterment.

Winner's second lecture was also the occasion for CSTV's presentation of the first annual Wiegand Award for Canadian Excellence (see separate story). A



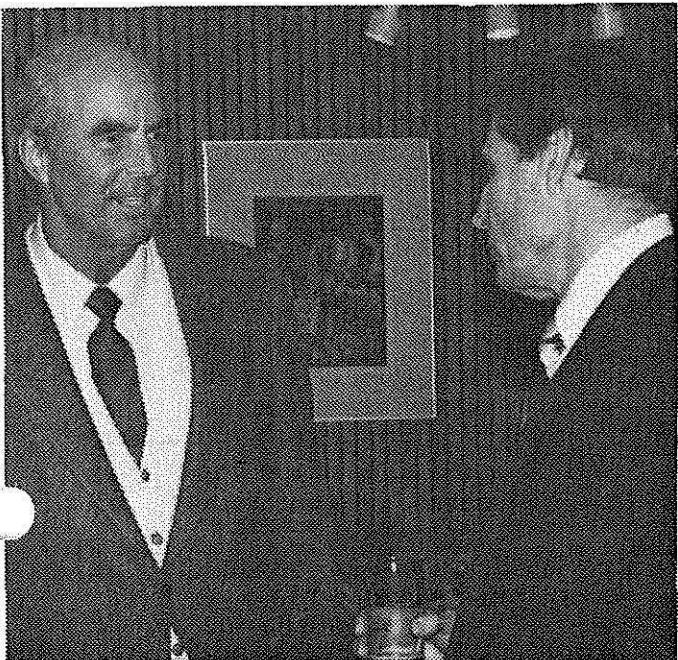
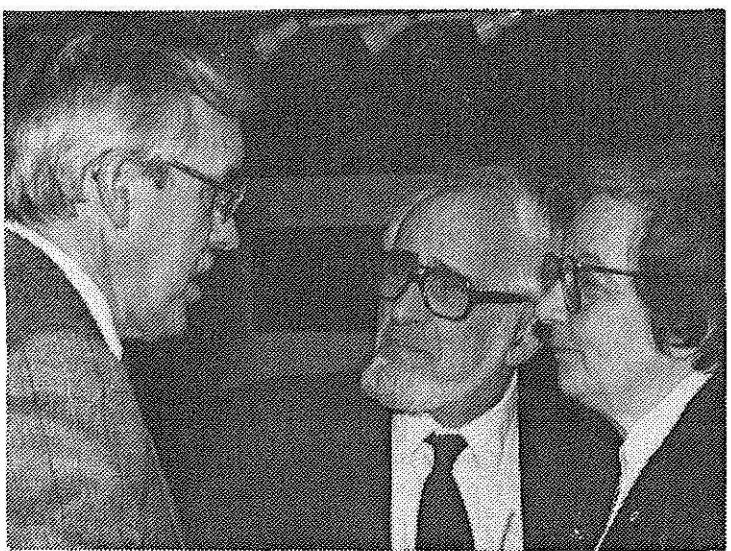
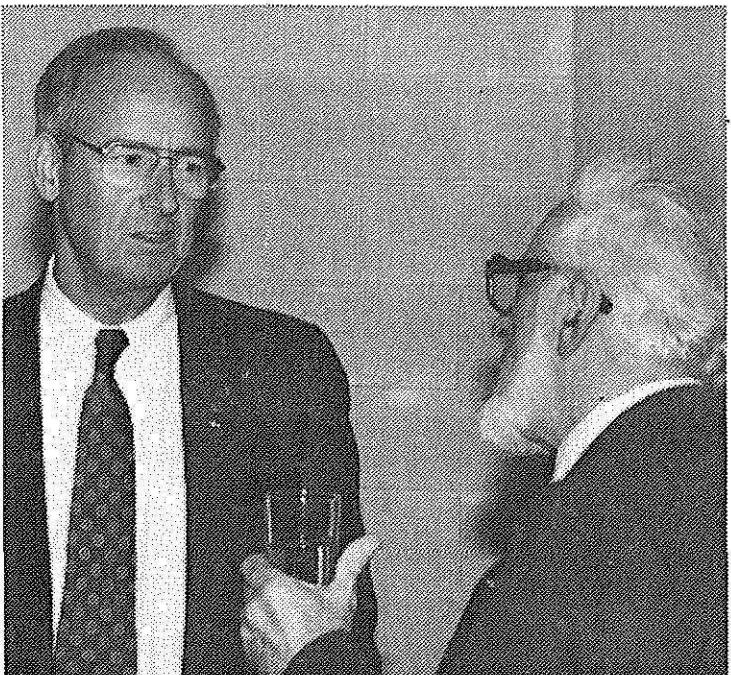
reception followed, allowing for a good deal of informal conversation--and for the sale of copies of Winner's 1986 book, The Whale and the Reactor, which arrived just in time for the event.

Discussion following Winner's lectures and at other informal gatherings during his visit was hearty and lengthy. But Winner admittedly got a lot out of his interlocutors too, quizzing them about technology-business link-ups at UW, STV courses, and other matters.

The only downside to the event was the absence of Centre Director Russel Legge, who was hospitalized a few days before. (Ed. note: We're happy to report that the Director is now able to be back at work).

Videotapes of Winner's lectures will be screened this spring (date, time and location TBA) and in the fall and winter terms as well.

At the Winner/Wiegand reception, clockwise from top right: Philip Wiegand, Fred Franklin; Ray Voll (Waterloo Region Separate School Board) and the Franklins; STV Board member Sally Lerner, Langdon Winner; Fred Wiegand and UW Dean of Arts Robin Banks.



STV TEACHING TEAM: REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

STV teaching team members GED MCLEAN and TIM TOPPER report that the fourth national (US) Technological Literacy Conference held in Washington, DC last February was well worth attending. (They also say they were pleasantly surprised to find UW's STV information already on display when they arrived!)

This month, for the benefit of CSTV Advisory Board members, McLean and Topper distributed and discussed some of the conference proceedings and materials, especially information on STV-type programs at other campuses in the US and Canada.

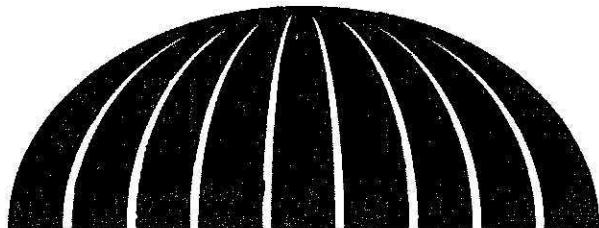
The Washington event was organized by the National Association for Science, Technology and Society (NASTS)--see item at right--and included such speakers as Nobel prize winner Rosalyn Yalow, World Watch Institute president Lester Brown, Polytechnic University president George Bugliarello, and AAAS chief education officer James Rutherford.

Five themes received attention: Education and information; Technology, industry and work; Environment; Health and biomedicine; and Moral, ethical and philosophical perspectives.

NASTS has made videotapes of conference highlights, and CSTV is buying one called "Who should choose our Future? Directing the nation's \$64 billion R/D budget." Speakers appearing on the tape include Penn State's Rustum Roy (see CSTV *Newsletter* #7).

Next year's NASTS conference will be held in Washington in early February. Program inquiries can be directed to Franz Foltz, TLC-5 Manager, 117 Willard Building, University Park, PA 16802.

STV instructors McLean and Topper also chaired a session for the Advisory Board in April on curriculum models, based on their extensive experience with STV courses at Waterloo.



National Association for Science, Technology and Society

NASTS

- ... is the boldest experiment in Intellectual Integration or Interdisciplinarity ever tried.
- ... covers the spectrum from philosophy to electrical engineering; from history and sociology to mineral chemistry; from artificial Intelligence to artificial organs and bioethics.
- ... is for:
 - citizens and scientists
 - engineers and ethicists
 - teachers from K-12 to graduate school
 - research scientists and science policy makers
 - environmental educators
 - religion professionals

The above is part of a promotional blurb on NASTS. For additional details, call CSTV at UW ext. 6215 or use the membership application form on p. 10 of this *Newsletter*.

PUGWASH NATIONAL AND LOCAL NEWS ROUND-UP

OTTAWA IS SITE OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN JUNE '89

Canadian Student Pugwash will hold its fifth national conference, called "New Frontiers for Humanity: Science, Technology, and Promise for the Future" at Carleton University 16 - 18 June.

Undergraduate and graduate students from all academic disciplines are invited. Organizers expect about 75 students and 25 resource people to participate in "intensive discussions of the role that science and technology can play in building a promising future."

Five concurrent workshops and two public sessions are scheduled. A debate will explore Canadian contributions to space development in light of Canada's proposed investment in the Space Station, and a public symposium will focus on global climate change and international institutions.

Registration fee is \$40; meals and accommodation are covered by Pugwash. Some travel assistance may be available.

For more details, call the Ottawa office of Canadian Student Pugwash-- (613) 234-3622.

THE UW CHAPTER: PAST AND FUTURE

Last year, CSTV provided travel assistance for HU MACDONALD to attend the Pugwash organization's fourth national conference and has maintained an active interest in the local chapter ever since.

MacDonald returned from the Victoria, BC event chock full of ideas and enthusiasm, revived the dormant local chapter, and set up a program for the Fall 1988 term. The experience was a mixture of hits and misses, with several events drawing decent crowds but executive-level student support being a little spotty.

A look back at the past year and proposals for 1989-90 were on the agenda of a CSTV-sponsored Pugwash discussion held on 11 April.

Participants included STVers and a WPIRG representative. The consensus was that Pugwash may still have a place at UW, and a number of possible future strategies were discussed. An announcement of 1989-90 plans is expected soon.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES IN CANADA AND THE US

25-29 October 1989

Ethical Choice in the Age of Pervasive Technology

University of Guelph

Themes: broad effects of technology, nationally and internationally, in medicine, agriculture and the environment, bioethics, industrial strategies in Third World development, communications, education, government policy, industrial innovation, etc.

Details: Division of Continuing Education
University of Guelph
(519) 824-4120, ext.
3956

20-21 October 1989

**Society on the Social Implications of Technology
(Los Angeles Chapter)
Interdisciplinary Conference**

California State University, Los Angeles

Details: Professor Allen Freedman
California State University
(213) 224-2002

15-18 November 1989

**Society for Social Studies of Science
Fourteenth Annual Meeting**

University of California, Irvine

Details: S. Leigh Star
Department of Information and Computer Science
University of California
Irvine, California 92717

NEW CSTV DIRECTOR IS SOUGHT

At press time, the search for the Centre's next Director was still underway. Current CSTV Director Dr. RUSSEL LEGGE will step down on 31 August, after faithfully heading the Centre since 1986 despite considerable ill health. An STV Option Coordinator is also being sought, and a combination of the two positions is one of the possibilities under discussion. An announcement will be made this spring.



NASTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership in NASTS is open to anyone concerned with the interaction of technology and science with contemporary society. Membership entitles you to the NASTS Newsletter and Journal.

NAME _____

TITLE OR POSITION _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

For Membership: Send personal or institutional check for \$40 payable to "NASTS," 117 Willard Building, University Park, PA 16802. For information, call (814) 865-9951.

Indicate the sector which best matches your area of interest.

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- Public Interest Sector
- K-12 Education
- Post Secondary Education
- Informal Education
- Values, Ethics, Religion
- ST Policy
- International STS

Indicate your major theme of interest.

- Education and Information
- Technology, Industry and Work
- Environment
- Health and Bio-medicine
- Moral, Ethical, Philosophical Perspectives

