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Iowa Science and Humanities Symposium: An Educational Vehicle

Edward L. Pizzini
University of Iowa

Charles Philp
University of Iowa

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IOWA SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM: AN EDUCATIONAL VEHICLE

Edward L. Pizzini and
Charles Philp
Science Education Center
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

On March 21, approximately 225 secondary students and their teachers will gather at The University of Iowa for the twelfth annual Iowa Science and Humanities Symposium. The theme for the three-day symposium is "Research in the Service of Man." The annual event is held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Iowa Academy of Science, and is sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Office. The Symposium is designed to:

- (1) promote study and experimentation at the high school level in the sciences (including mathematics) and in technology; demonstrate the part which humanities play in the development of the scientist and engineer; emphasize the role of science and the humanities in the national culture and the importance of their application to the general welfare;
- (2) search out talented youth and their teachers; recognize the accomplishments of such people; encourage continued interest and participation in science; provide an environment for the free exchange of ideas;
- (3) assist science-oriented students in expanding their horizons by exposing them to opportunities in the academic, industrial, and governmental communities;
- (4) provide understanding and reinforcement of the concept that science and technology are servants of mankind.

The symposium this year will include three keynote addresses, two concurrent sessions series which include laboratory visits, student research symposia, rap sessions, and two teacher workshops. The first keynote address will feature Professor Samuel J. Tuthill, Energy Advisor to the Governor of Iowa and State Geologist. Dr. Tuthill's presentation is entitled "Energy—Crisis and Ethic."

The second keynote address, "Science—Man's Contribution: Where It Begins and Ends," by Dr. L. James Lewis, will provide insight into the research and progress being made at the Cell Culture Laboratory.

at The University of Iowa. Dr. Lewis was a member of the Jonas Salk Vaccine Team and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. His recent research has resulted in a major breakthrough in the production of an enzyme which dissolves blood clots. This enzyme, uricase, will be used for treatment of patients who have coronary heart disease.

Dr. Edward Haug, research scientist for the Army Armament Command at Rock Island, Illinois, will be featured at the third general session. His topic will be "Advanced Technology in Engineering." In addition to the major addresses, University personnel will discuss "Opportunities for Intellectual Growth at The University of Iowa."

Various departments, such as engineering, chemistry, zoology, microbiology, physics, preventive medicine, and psychology, will host laboratory visits while explaining current research projects. This will provide student participants with the opportunity to interact with scientists and to observe some technical and scientific equipment as well as the facilities utilized in ongoing research. Rap sessions will be held to bridge the gap between science and the humanities. This array of discussion topics involving the humanities, science, and technology will tie the various aspects of the symposium together as related to the 1974 theme. In addition, two special workshops (Model Rocketry and the Energy Crisis) are special features for teachers.

At least twelve students will be selected to present research papers. These students will be competing for the honor of representing Iowa at the National Symposium in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 15-18, 1974. Six outstanding students will be invited to attend; however, only the paper judged "number one" will be presented at the national meeting.

Although the objectives of symposia, science fairs, and science youth conferences are closely allied, an activity such as the Science and Humanities Symposium held at The University of Iowa is unique for several reasons. First, the focus is on modern research in progress at a major institution. The visits made by students to research laboratories are not "walk-throughs." Secondly, insight is gained into the nature of scientific problems, uses of apparatus, and the triumphs and tribulations of the research worker. Third, academically oriented young people are acquainted with the atmosphere of The University of Iowa. These are experiences which cannot be gained at the local level. The Iowa Academy of Science and the Iowa Junior Academy of Science provide additional support for the symposium in terms of funds, publicity, and special programs for students throughout Iowa.

The symposium culminates the statewide effort to stimulate and accelerate student interest in scientific research. Other research programs which comprise the Iowa Junior Academy of Science calendar include the Fall Symposium at the University of Northern Iowa, regional workshops, and local symposia.

Attend the Convention and see the Big Rock!!

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