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New Guidelines for Advanced Science Education Program

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New Guidelines for Advanced Science Education Program

Developing alternative approaches to doctoral-level degrees in science is a goal of the National Science Foundation's Advanced Science Education program.

This objective is contained in new guidelines for the program released today by the Foundation. Universities may propose entirely new programs (which may or may not be labeled Ph.D.) or the restructuring of existing programs. In either case, a significant element of experimentation should be involved, resulting in a meaningful departure from traditional Ph.D. programs. Projects supported in this effort are intended to serve as models for the development of graduate science programs at other universities.

In preparing the new guidelines NSF carefully considered recent studies that called for a critical analysis of higher education, stated Dr. Keith R. Kelson, acting assistant director for education. He cited reports by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, *Less Time, More Options*, and the Task Force *Report on Higher Education* chaired by Dr. Frank Newman of Stanford University.

The "Newman Report" declared that "graduate schools have become steadily more inner-directed and less responsive to the needs of society. . . . There has been little shift toward needed curriculum changes, or the addition of external work experiences, or any attempt to teach graduate students the skills and attitudes needed for serving society rather than perpetuating the ingrowth of a professional discipline."

The Advanced Science Education program of the Foundation fosters the planning and implementation of experimental approaches to graduate science education. Through its new guidelines, it also seeks proposals for the development of master's-level science programs, especially for those which involve cooperative arrangements with industrial concerns or state and local government agencies. In addition, the program plans to support continuing science education projects at the graduate level which emphasize the trial implementation of new instructional technology, and for interdisciplinary graduate-level student-originated research training projects. The program will continue to support innovative course-development projects at the graduate level.

NSF has allocated \$1.5 million for Advanced Science Education program activities during fiscal year 1972. The new guidelines for proposal preparation (E-71-G-4) may be obtained from:

Advanced Science Education Program
Division of Graduate Education in Science
National Science Foundation
Washington, D.C. 20550

SEEKING THE MEANING OF THE MISSING BONES

What a scientist doesn't find at an archeological dig can be just as important as what he does find, if he can figure out what is missing and why.

The search for just such missing evidence and its meaning has set University of New Mexico archeologist Lewis R. Binford roaming Alaska's Brooks Range, interviewing Nunamiut Eskimos and exploring ancient Eskimo