

Hammond, and Candice Nelson of American University, Professor Christopher Deering of George Washington University, and Professor Roger Davidson of the University of Maryland. Among the new political scientists addressing the Fellows will be Professor and former Fellow Larry Evans of William and Mary and William Koetzel, a Fellow from the 1997-98 class who has remained within the House Republican leadership on the staff of Majority Deputy Whip Rep. J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL).

So Fellows receive the journalists' perspective, November orientation speakers will also include *The Washington Post's* David Broder, *The Wall Street Journal's* Al Hunt, ABC News and National Public Radio's Cokie Roberts, former Congressional Fellow and current political editor for *USA Today* Ron Elving, *NBC News'* Andrea Mitchell, and *Los Angeles Times* bureau chief Doyle McManus.

Helping the Fellows bridge the not entirely distinct worlds of academe, the press, and politics will be a two-day orientation on legislative mechanics sponsored by the Library of Congress' Congressional Research Service that will include presentations by Dan Mulhollan, Walter Oleszek, Stan Bach, Lou Fisher, and Judy Schneider. Other authoritative orientation voices will include Alan Ehrenhalt's, editor of *Governing*; Alton Frye's, senior vice president of the Council on Foreign Relations and a former Fellow; Gary Hymel, senior vice president at Hill and Knowlton and former chief-of-staff to Speaker Tip O'Neill; Brian Lamb, C-SPAN CEO; Celinda Lake, president of Lake Research; and the staff of the Heritage Foundation.

Among the most essential aspects of any orientation program are those current congressional staffers and former Congressional Fellows who form a series of panel discussions focused on the everyday life on "The Hill." Blessed as the CFP is with a cast of well-known experts, there are few people better prepared to offer advice on the nitty-gritty of serving as a congressional staffer than our own former Fellows. The goal of the orientation, after all, is to prepare Fellows for their re-

## Washington Insider

### **More Words on Affirmative Action Bans in College Admissions**

Thirty-five students from underrepresented minority groups, nine of whom are black, entered law school at the University of California, Berkeley in the fall of 1998. In 1997, only 15 minority students, one of whom is black, enrolled. Cut another way, minorities constituted 13% of the incoming class in 1998, down from the 20% in 1996 (before the affirmative action ban was put in place), but substantially higher than the 6% they comprised in 1997. School administrators attribute the increase in minority enrollments to aggressive recruiting and flexible admissions criteria that call for less consideration of standardized test scores. Programs similar to UC's are being implemented in Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, and several other states.

### **House Report on Status, Future of Science Policy Leaves out Social Science**

On October 7, the U.S. House declared *Unlocking Our Future: Toward a New Science Policy* should "serve as a framework for future deliberations on congressional science policy and funding." A year in preparation and authored by Vern Ehlers (R-MI), the report is being touted as replacement to Vannevar Bush's seminal 1945 call to action, *Science: The Endless Frontier*. The new report's theme is that the U.S. "must maintain and improve its preeminent position in science and technology in order to advance human understanding of the universe . . . and to improve the lives, health, and freedom of all people." Calling science "a critical driver of the nation's economy," the report urges Congress to "make stable and substantial federal funding for fundamental scientific research a priority" and praises public-private partnerships, stresses the need for better science education at all levels, and asks for greater reliance upon sound science when making policy. With the exception of a single footnote indicating that the definition of science used for preparing the report includes social science, the report contains no mention of social science. In a press release accompanying the report, Committee member George Brown (D-CA), decried the narrow focus and noted that "an argument can be made that the most pressing issues facing our society—crime, education reform, social justice—are likely to be addressed through investment in the social sciences rather than in the hard science." The report is available for review and comment on the Science Committee's home page ([www.house.gov/science/science\\_policy\\_study.htm](http://www.house.gov/science/science_policy_study.htm)).

### **Republicans Win Initial Cases to Block Sampling in 2000 Census**

On August 24, a three-judge panel of the District Court for the District of Columbia unanimously ruled that the Clinton administration's plan to use statistical sampling in the 2000 Census did not meet the requirements set for "an enumeration" of the country's population as the term is defined in the Constitution and Title 13 of the United States Code. An identical ruling was issued by a three-judge panel in a case brought by the Southeastern Legal Foundation before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The challenge in the first case was filed in the name of the U.S. House of Representatives by Census Subcommittee Chairman Dan Miller (R-FL). The U.S. Department of Justice filed an appeal and secured an agreement from the U.S. Supreme Court to expedite consideration of the case. Arguments will be heard on November 30, 1998, and a decision has been promised by March 30, 1999. In the interim, the Census Bureau is proceeding with a "dual-track" planning process for the upcoming census-preparing plans for a count that uses statistical sampling and another that does not.

### **House Passes Digital Database Copyright Bill, But It's Killed in Conference**

In early August, the U.S. House passed the "Collections of Information Antipiracy Act" (H.R. 2652). Widely criticized as inimical to legitimate research efforts, the "database bill" imposes a narrow interpretation of fair use onto collections of data archived and available in electronic format. The summary of the Bill, which was referred to the Senate in August but was dropped from the slew of copyright legislation passed in mid-October, which included the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and Copyright Term Extension Act, states, in part, that the Act "amends Federal copyright law to make person who extract, or use in commerce, a substantial part of a collection of information gathered or maintained by another person . . . so as to harm the other person's . . . actual or potential market for a product or service that incorporates such information and is offered or intended to be offered in commerce liable to the person . . . for [civil] remedies under this Act." Exemptions to the Act specifically include "extraction or use of individual items of information or extraction or use of information for verification, nonprofit educational, scientific, or research, or news reporting purposes." The full text of the Act, along with summary and referral reports, can be found on the U.S. Copyright Office web site (<http://lcweb.loc.gov/copyright/penleg.html>). It will be reintroduced in the next Congress.