Joseph Rotblat -- physicist, Nobel laureate, and lifelong campaigner against proliferation of the atomic bomb which he had helped to create -- died recently in London at the age of 96.

He was, among other things, the last surviving Founding Fellow of the World Academy, and the last surviving member of the group of eleven scientists who signed the document, known as the Einstein-Russell manifesto, which called on scientists of all nations to meet and find ways of nuclear war.

Born and educated in Poland, Rotblat had emigrated to England in 1939 to work with physicist James Chadwick at Liverpool University. The defining moments of his career as a scientist were the brief period in the mid-1940s when he went to the United States to work on the top-secret Manhattan Project that was developing the first atomic bomb. When he learned that Germany was not capable of developing its own nuclear weapon, he resigned from the project – the only scientist to do so – and returned to England.

From then on, he concentrated on research concerning the medical applications of nuclear physics. In 1949 he joined the staff of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital Medical College (London University) and became a professor of physics there.

After signing the Einstein-Russell manifesto, he organized a meeting of scientists in Canada to carry out the work the manifesto had proposed. It was held in the remote Nova Scotia village of Pugwash, and evolved into an ongoing effort on behalf of arms control and disarmament.
Although he was regarded as subversive by British and American governments in the early Cold War years, he eventually became a world-famous and revered figure, honored by many awards including a knighthood and the Nobel Peace Prize which was awarded to him and the Pugwash Conferences. M. S. Swaminathan, current president of Pugwash, spoke of him as “a towering figure in the search for peace in the world, who dedicated his life to trying to rid the world of nuclear weapons, and ultimately to rid the world of war itself.”

Norfolk, VA., Oct. 2
Prince Hassan of Jordan Receives Special Award

HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan was presented with a Special Award for “leadership in thought which leads to action” and inducted into the World Academy at a ceremony at Old Dominion University. The award was presented by ODU President Roseann Runte during a two-day meeting of the Club of Rome, of which Prince Hassan is the current president.

The younger brother of the late King Hussein of Jordan, Prince Hassan was educated at Oxford University and served as his brother’s closest political adviser and was regent of the country during the king’s absences. He has been a leading Arab statesman for almost three decades, is a prolific author, and was founder of the Royal Scientific Society, the Arab Thought Forum, and the Jordan Higher Council for Science and Technology. He is also a founding member and vice-chairman of the Foundation for Interreligious and Intercultural Research and Dialogue.

Also present at the award ceremony were WAAS Fellows Ricardo Diez-Hochleitner of Spain, Ivo Slaus of Croatia, and Ernst von Weizäcker of Germany. WAAS President Emeritus Harlan Cleveland, originally scheduled to present the award, was unable to attend because of illness.

New Fellows

Sheldon Berlow
Real estate developer and patron of the arts; adjunct professor, University Honors Program, State University of New York, Buffalo.

Valery Chereshev
Head of the Department of Immunology and Microbiology, Perm State University, Yekaterinburg, Russia. Chairman of the Ural Branch and Vice President of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Paolo Cotta-Ramusino
Secretary general, Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs; professor of mathematical physics, University of Milano.

Dan David
Founder and member of the board, Dan David Foundation, Tel Aviv. Inventor of new photographic technologies. Member, Board of Governors, Tel Aviv University.

Herman Haeruman
Professor of Forest Economics and Management, Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia. Chairman, Forum on Policy and Sustainable Management of Tropical Forest Ecosystems.

James Hughes
Executive Director, World Transhumanist Association; executive director, Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies. Lecturer in public policy studies, Trinity College, Hartford, CT.
Stockholm, Sept. 22
Focus on Aging: The 2005 Biopolicy Seminar

This year’s Biopolicy Seminar, organized by Prof. Carl-Göran Hedén, was held in Stockholm at the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, and reviewed a wide range of issues and new scientific/technological developments relating to improving life quality for the elderly – especially those 80 and over.

The program featured a video-linked session in which members of the Academies in Stockholm and members of the Japan Science Council in Tokyo explored the pros and cons of using robots in support of old people. Dr. Lennart Levi, professor emeritus of psychosocial medicine at the Karolinska Institute, chaired the international discussion.

Unfortunately this year’s Biopolicy Award recipient, Dr. Victoria Hale of the One World Health Institute in San Francisco, was not able to accept her award in person and deliver the annual Biopolicy Lecture. (Dr. Hale and the work of the Institute will be featured in the next issue of this newsletter.)

Dr. Geoffrey Hamer of Dublin now takes over as director of the Biofocus Foundation, the World Academy’s biotechnology group for long-term technology assessment and technology transfer issues, which has provided networking support to the Biopolicy Seminars.

New Fellows

Dennis Jaffe
Clinical psychologist and management consultant; professor, Saybrook Graduate School, San Francisco; board member, World Business Academy.

Otto Kinne
Zoologist and marine biologist; president, Inter-Research, Science Center, Oldendorf/Luhe, Germany. Publisher of scientific books and journals.

Asim Kurjak
Chairman, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School University of Zagreb; president, World Association of Perinatal Medicine; president, Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia.

Bozidar Matic
Professor of electrical engineering, University of Sarajevo; president, Academy of Arts and Sciences and chairman, Council of the Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Stjepan Mesic
President of the Republic of Croatia.

Ramez Naam
Group program manager, Microsoft, Seattle; author of More Than Human: Embracing the Promise of Biological Enhancement. Author of 9 awarded or pending US patents.

Ingram Olkin
Professor of statistics and education, Stanford University. Editor of journals in US, Poland and Serbia.

Nebojsa Radunovic
Professor and director, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University Clinical Center, Belgrade University School of Medicine. Adjunct professor, NYU Medical Center, New York.

New Associate Fellows

Asokan Natarajan (India)
Research Associate, The Mother’s Service Society

Robert van Harten (Netherlands)
International Center for Peace and Development
Books by Fellows

Jonty Driver’s fifth novel, *Shades of Darkness*, was reviewed in the *Mail & Guardian* (Johannesburg) as “a tragic story of love and loss, an Orpheus and Eurydice story rooted in the very familiar South African backdrop of struggle and exile, return and reconciliation.”

books@clarkebooks.co.za.

Kai Falkman has edited *To Speak for the World*, a collection of the speeches and statements of Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations secretary-general from 1953 to 1961. The writings reflect Hammarskjold’s thinking about global issues, as well as his interest in literature and poetry, philosophy and religion, art and music.

www.atlantisbok.se.


Ted Trzyna has edited *The Urban Imperative: Urban Outreach Strategies for Protected Area Agencies*. The book argues that conservationists and urban leaders are “natural allies” and illustrates with detailed examples from places as diverse as Cape Town, Chicago, Hong Kong, Mumbai, and Rio de Janeiro. IUCN – The World Conservation Union. www.iucn.org/bookstore or www.Interenvironment.org/cipa/tui.htm.

News of Fellows

Pushpa Bhargava has been appointed vice-chair of India’s new National Knowledge Commission by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The commission’s charges are to make India a leader in the generation of new knowledge, a knowledge-based society – with effective, efficient and transparent governance; and productive and ethical industry.

Yehezkel Dror received the Israel Prize for 2005 in Administrative Sciences for his outstanding original work in public administration. The prize was awarded on the Israeli Day of Independence, May 12, 2005, before the president, prime minister, speaker of the Knesset and Supreme Court of Israel.

Hamid Shrivani, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Chapman University, has been named as the new president of California State University, Stanislaus. In his more than 25 years in education, Dr. Shrivani has successfully led the complete restructuring of several colleges and universities.

New Fellows

Naim Afgan
Visiting professor and UNESCO chair holder, Technical University of Lisbon. Member, Academy of Science and Art of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Member, Islamic Academy of Science.

Sir Arnold Burgen

Maria da Graca Martins da Silva Carvalho
Professor, Technical University of Lisbon. Director-general, GRICES (Office for International Relations in Science and Higher Education), Portugal.
In free society
art is not a
weapon...
Artists are not
engineers of
the soul.
John F.
Kennedy

New Fellows

Pieter Drenth
Director of All European Academies (ALLEA). Former rector, Vriji Universiteit, Netherlands. Former general secretary and president, Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Virginia Dwan

Gerard Fairtlough
Founder and former CEO, Celltech. Author of several books on theory and practice of organizations. Adviser, Science and Policy Research Unit, Sussex University.

William Haseltine
President, William A. Haseltine Foundation for Medical Sciences and the Arts. Founder, Human Genome Sciences. Professor, Scripps Research Institute

Mohamed Hassan
Executive director, Third World Academy of Sciences. President, African Academy of Sciences. Former dean, School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Khartoum.

Ian Pearson

Herwig Schopper
President, SESAME (International Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory), Jordan. Former director-general, CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research), Switzerland.

Gregory Stock
President and CEO, Signum Biosciences, New Jersey. Former director, Program on Medicine, Technology and Society, UCLA School of Medicine.

Hiroyuki Yoshikawa
Former president, University of Tokyo; former president, International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

General Assembly Registration

_____ I plan to attend the 2005 General Assembly and will require a room at the Westin Zagreb Hotel for the following nights: ___________________________. I will be accompanied by a spouse or partner______.

_____ I plan to apply for full/partial travel support (please circle one).

_____ I plan to pay for my own travel and hotel accommodations.

_____ I plan to attend the conference, but will not require a room at the Westin Zagreb.

Name of Fellow____________________________.

Current e-mail address:______________________.

Name of accompanying spouse or partner____________________________________________.

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By e-mail to:  waltt@well.com