Science Names New Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Feb. 8, 1995)--Science, the world's leading peer-reviewed general science magazine, has a new editor-in-chief: prominent neuroscientist Floyd E. Bloom, M.D. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), which publishes the weekly journal, announced the news today.

A 33-year veteran from the front lines of basic research, Bloom comes to Science from The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, where he will continue to serve as chairman of the Department of Neuropharmacology. Previously, he worked at the National Institute of Mental Health in Rockville, Maryland, and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla. Bloom's distinguished research accomplishments include the first demonstration of a brain synaptic action attributable to norepinephrine and the first mapping of pituitary and brain endorphin peptides.

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Bloom's selection caps an intensive year-long search prompted last year by the retirement of editor-in-chief Daniel E. Koshland, Jr. Bloom will oversee the editorial, research and news content of the weekly journal.

"Dr. Bloom is an accomplished neuroscientist with a cultivated vision of science as a whole," said Richard S. Nicholson, publisher of Science and AAAS executive officer. "That broad, multidisciplinary view is a hallmark of Science as well as AAAS, and I am very pleased that Dr. Bloom will be putting his particular vision to work for us."

Bloom joins Science at a notable period in the magazine's 115-year history. Global circulation is at a peak, with more than 143,000 individual subscribers; international research authorship has increased to nearly 30 percent of the journal's contents; close to one-third of the scientists who review manuscripts for the journal are from outside the United States; and the Washington, D.C.-based magazine now includes a satellite office in Cambridge, United Kingdom. The journal's rapid globalization arose under the 10-year leadership of Koshland, who is retiring from Science to return to full-time research at the University of California in Berkeley.

Bloom officially assumes his new role at Science in the spring of 1995. "I plan to maintain the excellent quality and superiority of Science," said Bloom, "while seeking improvements that reflect the ever-changing, exciting world of scientific research and discovery." In addition to his research, Bloom's professional activities and memberships have included the Society for Neuroscience (where he served as president), the Council of the Institute of Medicine, and the AAAS Board of Directors.

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Each Friday Science publishes peer-reviewed research in the physical and biological sciences, as well as news and policy statements. Prominent papers in 1994 included the identification of a breast cancer gene, discovery of the first planets ever found outside our solar system, and the development of a simple eye test for Alzheimer’s disease. The journal is distributed to AAAS members and others around the world.

Founded by Thomas Edison in 1880, Science has the largest paid circulation of any scientific journal in the world. It reaches nearly three times the readers of the next largest peer-reviewed general science magazine. Reflective of the multidisciplinary mission of AAAS, Science research articles cover the full range of disciplines from astronomy to zoology.

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Note: To schedule an interview with Dr. Floyd Bloom, contact:

Robin Goldsmith  
Director of Public Affairs  
The Scripps Research Institute  
619-554-8134 (phone)  
619-554-6317 (fax)  
groldsrm@scripps.edu (Internet)