We have received a lot of response to the questionnaire which was mailed to you earlier this year regarding topics for the discussion groups at the March 18-19, 1980 CAS Interim Meeting. Three of the topic areas listed were overwhelmingly chosen by you as subjects of interest and concern:

1. Development of Policies to Assure an Adequate National Research Effort
   The biomedical research force is growing faster than the funds available for support of their research. The resulting competition for funds is causing strains within the system ranging from tension and uncertainty among researchers to an overload of the peer review system and mounting paperwork. This discussion group will discuss how adequate research funds can be assured, how those funds can best be allocated, and what role the research community can play in promoting a national research effort which is adequate and less plagued with tension and competition.

2. Health Manpower
   The Congress and the Administration are gearing up for the renewal of health manpower legislation since PL94-484 expires this year. Senator Schweiker (who will be speaking at the CAS Interim Meeting on March 19) has introduced a bill; Senator Kennedy's staff has circulated specifications of a bill to be proposed by the majority side of his Committee. Legislative proposals are also being developed by the House and the Administration. Important issues will be debated and resolved in health manpower development: institutional support, student assistance, specialty and geographic distribution, etc.

3. Essentials of Research Training Programs
   We have carefully described essentials of residencies. Is it desirable to identify and require certain elements for research training programs as well? If so, what kind of training should all research trainees receive?

These topics will certainly generate lively discussions in the small group sessions on March 18. Please indicate on the attached form which group you would most like to attend, as well as your second choice.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

**March 18**
- Plenary Session
- Discussion Groups
- Dinner - Alfio's La Trattoria
  5100 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

**March 19**
- Speaker - Senator Richard S. Schweiker*
- Meeting - Reports from Discussion Leaders

*Senator Richard S. Schweiker (Republican-Pa.) is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on DHEW and Related Agencies of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He is also the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources.