

*Statement from
TAAC chairman,
Neil E. Harl*



It has been my great pleasure to serve on the Technology Assessment Advisory Council and especially to assume the responsibilities of Chair of the Council in the past year.

OTA has remained a strong and important analytical organization. I am confident that OTA will continue to play a vital role in providing high quality information and analysis for the remainder of the decade and into the twenty-first century. The dramatic political happenings of recent time, the continuing economic and social pressures of the world, and the on-rush of technical and technological developments assure that OTA's unique niche will be an

important one to the Congress and to the country generally. The shifting political, economic, legal and technological maelstrom creates an ever-changing relationship between technology and public policy. The dissolution of the former Soviet Union, the revolutions occurring in biology and information technology and the conversion of our domestic economy in a post-Cold War setting into an economy capable of sustained economic growth in an environmentally responsible manner are greatly increasing the need for sound advice on technology, policy to the Congress. OTA has shown itself to be an objective, dependable source of advice and counsel and, I believe, will continue to be so.

I congratulate Roger Herdman on being appointed Director of OTA in the past year. I believe Roger will continue to provide the same valuable leadership that Jack Gibbons demonstrated during his tenure. The Council looks forward to working with Dr. Herdman in the future.

Neil E. Harl