

improve the focus and effectiveness of communications about census 2000 and other programs. With response rates sliding downward in general and the Census Bureau's need to maintain and/or improve response rates to its various censuses and surveys, most especially the census 2000, it is imperative that we identify and develop effective mechanisms and communications that will help identify and to remove barriers to response. Equally significant to the Census Bureau's current plans for effective outreach and targeted promotions is the need for early identification and removal of barriers that limit or prohibit effective communications with the public. We also need to share these findings and recommendations about the public's mind set with Census Bureau management as they prepare to redefine customer-focused strategic goals and activities for the post-2000 era.

This research would complement and extend earlier research sponsored by the Census Bureau. These studies focused on the public's knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions about the Census Bureau and its practices. The 1998 POS will bridge the gap of information collected earlier about the specific public perceptions. This research will further define/refine for the Census Bureau the public's image of it in general, as a Federal Government agency, and as a statistics' collector and provider. To more effectively inform, educate, and reach the public with its communications, the Census Bureau needs to know how the public sees, hears, reads, gets, or uses statistics and how it can more effectively inform, educate, reach and/or involve them in forthcoming activities.

## II. Method of Collection

A contractor will conduct the national survey with telephone interviewing using an automated survey instrument and a list-assisted random digit dialing (RDD) sampling design. The RDD methodology will incorporate a number of peripheral survey techniques that have been shown to raise response rates. By applying results and recommendations from earlier research, the Census Bureau will collect accurate and reliable data with a maximal response rate and minimal bias.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* Not available.

*Form Numbers:* The automated survey instrument will not have a form number.

*Type of Review:* Regular review.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,200.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 300.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* The only cost to the respondents in participating is that of their time.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 United States Code, Section 193.

## IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 15, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-25153 Filed 9-18-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Census Advisory Committee of Professional Associations

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463 as amended by Pub. L. 94-409), we are giving notice of a meeting of the Census Advisory Committee of Professional Associations.

The Committee is composed of 36 members appointed by the Presidents of the American Economic Association, the American Statistical Association, the Population Association of America, and the Chairperson of the Board of the American Marketing Association. The

Committee advises the Director of the Bureau of the Census on the full range of Census Bureau programs and activities in relation to their areas of expertise.

**DATES:** The meeting will convene on October 22-23, 1998. On October 22, the meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. On October 23, the meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 12:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place at the Francis Amasa Walker Conference Center, Bureau of the Census, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Census Bureau Committee Liaison Officer, Ms. Maxine Anderson-Brown, Room 1647, Federal Building 3, Washington, DC 20233. Her phone number is 301-457-2308, TDD 301-457-2540.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The agenda for the meeting on October 22, which will begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m., is the following:

- Introductory Remarks by the Acting Director, Bureau of the Census.
- Census Bureau Responses to Committee Recommendations.
- Census 2000 Updates.
- How Do We Provide Maximum Access to Census 2000 Data While Maintaining the Perception as Well as the Reality of Confidentiality?
- What are the implications of implementing the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in Census Bureau Programs?
- Evaluation of Communications/Marketing Plans for Geographic Products, NAICS, and Foreign Trade Statistics.
- The Census Bureau's Role in Improving the Quality of the GDP Estimates.
- Update on Census 2000 Research and Experimentation Program.
- Customer Services for a Post-2000 Internet Environment.
- Developing NAICS Time Series for Back Years.
- Factors to Consider in the Shift from Products to Reimbursable Services (Post-2000).
- Linking Economic and Demographic Data Sets at Census.
- How Do We Redesign the Census Bureau Website to Better Meet Census and User Needs?
- The agenda for the meeting on October 23, which will begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 12:30 p.m., is the following:
  - Census 2000 Data Products and Dissemination.
  - Applying Cognitive Survey Methods to the Study of Statistical

# Reporting by Large Multiunit Establishments.

- Activities of the Office of Chief Economist.
- Develop Recommendations and Special Interest Activities.
- Closing Session.

The meeting is open to the public, and a brief period is set aside, during the closing session, for public comment and questions. Those persons with extensive questions or statements must submit them in writing to the Census Bureau Committee Liaison Officer. Individuals wishing additional information or minutes regarding this meeting may contact the Officer as well. Her address and phone number are identified above.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should also be directed to the Committee Liaison Officer.

Dated: September 15, 1998.

**James F. Holmes,**

*Acting Director, Bureau of the Census.*

[FR Doc. 98-25168 Filed 9-18-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Cornell University; Notice of Decision on Application for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instrument

This decision is made pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

**Docket Number:** 98-035. **Applicant:** Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. **Instrument:** Scanning Tunneling Microscope, Model JAFM-4500XT. **Manufacturer:** JEOL Ltd., Japan. **Intended Use:** See notice at 63 FR 40473, July 29, 1998.

**Comments:** None received. **Decision:** Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as it is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States. **Reasons:** The foreign instrument provides: (1) operation at temperatures to 500°C and (2) measurement of the motion of the cantilever tip in the plane of the sample (frictional interaction). A domestic manufacturer of similar equipment advised August 28, 1998 that

(1) these capabilities are pertinent to the applicant's intended purpose and (2) it knows of no domestic instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument for the applicant's intended use.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument which is being manufactured in the United States.

**Gerald A. Zerdy,**

*Program Manager, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*

[FR Doc. 98-25114 Filed 9-18-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651; 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301), we invite comments on the question of whether instruments of equivalent scientific value, for the purposes for which the instruments shown below are intended to be used, are being manufactured in the United States.

Comments must comply with 15 CFR 301.5(a)(3) and (4) of the regulations and be filed within 20 days with the Statutory Import Programs Staff, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230. Applications may be examined between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. in Room 4211, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

**Docket Number:** 98-043. **Applicant:** University of Pennsylvania, Electron Microscopy Core Laboratory, B-110 Richards Building, 36th and Hamilton, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6085.

**Instrument:** Electron Microscope, Model JEM-1010. **Manufacturer:** JEOL, Ltd., Japan. **Intended Use:** The instrument will be used to study the effects of various agents or disease conditions on cellular morphology determined by routine ultrastructural analysis. In addition, the instrument will be used to teach the techniques of electron microscopy and ultrastructural analysis to graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty members.

**Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:** August 28, 1998.

**Docket Number:** 98-044. **Applicant:** University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences, Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology, 501 North Columbia Road, Box 9037,

Grand Forks, ND 58202. **Instrument:** Electron Microscope, Model H-7500. **Manufacturer:** Hitachi, Japan. **Intended Use:** The instrument will be used for biological studies including observations of normal and diabetic human eye and kidney tissues, laboratory animal central nervous system tissues and scleral tissues from the posterior portion of the eye globe in newborn chicks. In addition, the instrument will be used in the training of undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students in the use of transmission electron microscopy for biological research. **Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:** August 28, 1998.

**Gerald A. Zerdy,**

*Program Manager, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*

[FR Doc. 98-25115 Filed 9-18-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081398A]

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Retention of Species on Candidate Species List Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of retention of Atlantic sturgeon on list of candidate species.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS retains Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*) on its list of candidate species. In a notice published today in the **Federal Register**, NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Services) found that listing Atlantic sturgeon under the ESA is not warranted at this time. The finding summarizes the Services' concerns regarding the species. NMFS encourages Federal agencies and other appropriate parties to take Atlantic sturgeon into account in project planning.

**DATES:** September 15, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marta Nammack or Terri Jordan at (301) 713-1401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In a separate **Federal Register** document published today, the Services find that listing Atlantic sturgeon in the United States as a threatened or endangered species is not warranted at this time. The finding also summarizes the