

PREFACE

This 17th Annual Report of the National Science Foundation presents an account of major activities, and reports on funds obligated for support of science and science education in fiscal year 1967. Where it is necessary for understanding the context within which these activities in fiscal year 1967 took place, earlier and later events are also discussed. Unlike previous reports in which the discussion was arranged so as to correspond approximately with the administrative structure of the Foundation, this report attempts to group activities by scientific discipline and function. For example, in support for basic research, national research centers and programs, specialized facilities, and research accomplishments are grouped under the appropriate scientific discipline. In this way, the reader will find it easier to understand the flavor, scope, diversity, and interrelatedness of the basic research undertaken by the Foundation.

The financial statement for the year is presented as appendix B on page 199, and various component or supporting data are included where appropriate in the description of Foundation activities. During the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1967, the Foundation obligated \$465.1 million through 9,311 grants and contracts, primarily to colleges and universities. Distribution of funds by program activity and by support for the various fields of science is described in the chapter, Introduction and Summary.

In accordance with the custom of previous years, a listing of grants, contracts, and fellowship and traineeship awards is published in a separate volume entitled "National Science Foundation Grants and Awards, Fiscal Year 1967" (NSF 68-2).