

TASK FORCE REPORTS

During the Presidential term of David Goldstein (1972), the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology appointed a committee to identify topics of critical concern to the needs of the hearing impaired and the professions serving those needs. This committee was chaired by John J. O'Neill. After thoughtful analysis and deliberation this committee enumerated fourteen areas of concern.

In order to involve the Academy in the development of innovative action-oriented research and service programs dealing with the resolution of these relevant problems, the Executive Committee approved the naming of a Task Force Committee for each of these topics. A Chairman for each committee was selected and the general membership was encouraged to volunteer for work on committees of their choice. Between November 1972 and April 1973, each committee attempted to prepare a report on their topic and to produce some conclusions and recommendations that could be implemented in some fashion. Each committee was asked to give their report at the Institute on Rehabilitative Audiology held on April 26, 27 and 28, 1973, at the Lost Valley Resort Ranch, Bandera, Texas.

The reports of these committees are included in the next few pages. As will be seen, the committees had variable success in dealing with the issues, however, the papers do indicate a sincere desire to take "a first step." The papers are presented here to mark the beginning of what the Editor hopes will be the beginning of a ambitious program encouraging research and the development and refinement of aural rehabilitation services.

Editor