
The Institute

Research on Publishing Problems

DURING the past two years the Institute's Committee to Study Publishing Problems, established with the help of a grant from the Atomic Energy Commission, has been active in reviewing the adequacy of the physics journal publishing program and in laying the foundations for a broad study of the information needs of physicists and of such problems as abstracting and retrieval of information. The AIP, with a grant from the National Science Foundation and supplementary funds from the Atomic Energy Commission, has now embarked upon a program of research on documentation and publishing in physics. The study is being conducted under the direction of Robert E. Maizell, who joined the Institute staff in November.

Dr. Maizell was formerly in charge of the Research Library of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation's Industrial Chemicals Division in Niagara Falls, N. Y. Prior to joining the Olin Mathieson staff in 1950, he was a teaching assistant in science literature at Columbia University, where he received the BS, MS, and Doctor of Library Science degrees. He also has served on the staff of the New York State Library Association and in the Science and Technology Division of the New York Public Library. Originally trained as a chemist, he worked in that capacity on the Manhattan Project and for an industrial firm and for a time was teaching assistant in the Chemistry Department of the University of Maryland. He comes to the Institute with a valuable background in the techniques and practice of scientific documentation and is familiar, in particular, with the literature of chemistry and with the advanced data-retrieval and abstracting methods that



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have been employed by the chemical profession in its own efforts to ensure full and prompt dissemination of research information.

The AIP study will necessarily involve a survey of world-wide trends in the publishing of research results in physics. It will also benefit from a general understanding of the reading habits and literature searching procedures of physicists.

Dr. Maizell has indicated that he will welcome the comments and suggestions of physicists with regard to documentation and publishing problems and their possible solutions. He will also be grateful for any information concerning studies that may already have been made or are now underway in this area. All such communications should be addressed to Dr. R. E. Maizell, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th St., New York 17, N. Y.

Summer Employment for Students and Teachers

APPROXIMATELY eighty laboratories in the United States have indicated to the AIP Placement Service that they will welcome inquiries regarding summer employment in 1959 from college physics majors and from secondary-school and college physics teachers. Although most of the laboratories that have responded to a recent invitation to submit information concerning summer job openings are those of industrial organizations, some are laboratories of independent nonprofit research institutions, and a substantial number are operated by or for the armed services or other agencies of the federal government.

For the third straight year, a list of the responding laboratories has been compiled and may be obtained by writing to the Placement Service, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Assistantships and Fellowships in Physics

THE AIP Placement Service has also assembled and issued a fifty-page booklet containing information about graduate assistantships and fellowships in physics offered at 171 colleges and universities in the United States for the academic year 1959-60. A listing of the number of assistantships and fellowships, stipends, tuition payable if not included in the stipend, and service required was supplied at the request of the AIP by the physics department chairman at each institution. Occasional explanatory notes have been added to clarify the special conditions under which some of the assistantships and fellowships are given. The accumulated information is presented for the most part in the form of direct offset reproduction of the questionnaires that were completed by the chairmen of the respective physics departments.

The booklet, *Graduate Assistantships and Fellowships in Physics, 1959-60*, is available free of charge to present and prospective graduate students in physics and to their departmental advisers. It can be obtained by writing to the Placement Service, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y.