

The wording of the article seems to indicate that I've minimized the importance, as well as the accuracy, of these experiments. Since my remarks were not in the least calculated to give this impression, I hope you can publish this correction.

P. W. Anderson
Murray Hill, N. J.

Salaries and Degrees

In the article, "Results of Preliminary Study of National Physics Roster" [S. Barisch, *Physics Today*, December 1959], Table V, page 32, contains a peculiarity not referred to in the text. It shows that holders of BS degrees usually draw higher salaries than holders of MS degrees. Those with MS degrees start at higher salaries, but as the years of employment increase, those with BS degrees pull far ahead. I am curious to know why.

David Sinclair
Manville, N. J.

I note on page 32 that MS degree people make less per year than BS degree people. I think your data is invalid and that you are jeopardizing the profession by publishing such inaccurate data. How could you play into the Unions better than you have done? Is that your purpose; getting physicists into the Unions? You should try to advance professional people rather than try to undercut them.

Charles G. Cruzan
Bartlesville, Okla.

The numbers are correct. The data in question (covering the 2½-year period from September 1956 to February 1959) are based directly upon information concerning individual educational backgrounds, employment experience, and salaries as submitted to the Physics Register by more than 17 000 full-time employed physicists in the United States. The results indicate that, among physicists having fifteen or more years of working experience, more than half of those whose formal training ended with the master's degree are employed in teaching or research positions where it may be speculated that salaries are lower than in other areas of employment. Of the total number who took part in the Physics Register, 2878 (or 37.2%) of the PhD's, 1605 (or 29.5%) of the masters, and 1066 (or 24.2%) of the bachelors had fifteen or more years of experience after their last earned academic degree. The following table shows the percentage distribution of these physicists at each degree level in various occupational functions.

Primary Occupation by Degree of Education

	PhD	MS	BS
Research	51.3	34.3	27.9
Teaching	22.1	22.2	7.3
Design & Development	6.3	20.6	30.7
Consulting	1.8	2.8	3.1
Management (R & D)	14.8	11.4	12.0
Management (other)	2.4	2.8	4.1
Technical Writing	0.2	0.9	2.8
Inspection & Testing	0.3	2.3	6.4
Production	0.1	0.8	2.3
Sales	0.1	0.8	2.2
No Response	0.6	1.1	1.2

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