

SCIENCE EDUCATION

Fellowships

Nearly 3600 fellowships in the sciences, the majority for graduate study during the 1961-62 academic year, were awarded in March and April by the National Science Foundation. Of that total, approximately seventeen percent consisted of fellowships granted specifically for the study of physics.

The largest group, 1537 graduate fellowships for the next academic year, included 1156 grants in the physical sciences (314 in physics), 347 in the life sciences, and 34 in certain fields of the social sciences. The recipients were chosen from a total of 4875 applicants. Some solace was offered to nearly half of the 3338 disappointed applicants, for the Foundation, in announcing the awards, also released the names of 1588 persons who were accorded honorable mention. Of the latter group, 320 had applied for graduate fellowships in physics.

In another program, the Foundation announced the award of 1100 "cooperative" graduate fellowships for academic-year study at 160 cooperating colleges and universities. Here, 201 were in mathematics, 425 in the physical sciences (including 200 in physics), 256 in engineering, 186 in the life sciences, and 32 in the social sciences. The total number of applicants was 3241.

Awards were also announced in connection with two summer fellowship programs, one for college and university graduate teaching assistants and the other for secondary-school teachers of science and mathematics. In the first of these categories, 625 teaching assistants of the 1366 who applied were awarded fellowships for summer study—103 in mathematics, 259 in the physical sciences (including 61 in physics), 61 in engineering, 175 in the life sciences, and 27 in the social sciences. In the second summer fellowship program, 324 awards were made to high-school science and mathematics teachers to enable them to undertake individually planned six- to twelve-week summer programs of graduate study and research designed to improve their teaching competence. Of these fellowships, 157 were awarded in mathematics, 47 in the physical sciences (including 21 in physics), 105 in the life sciences, and 15 in general science.

Academic Facilities and Programs

Temple University's new physical science building, named Barton Hall in honor of astronomer Samuel G. Barton, a 1903 Temple graduate, was formally dedicated on April 7. The air-conditioned structure contains

31 standard-size classrooms, 25 instructional laboratories, 28 combination research laboratories and offices for faculty members, and 14 staff offices. Two lecture halls, seating 200 and 150 students, respectively, have complete facilities for visual aids, including hydraulically operated blackboards. A closed-circuit television system will operate from any room in the building to the lecture halls or from one room to another.

Other features include a roof-top weather station that transmits its data to a series of dials on the main floor, a copper-lined nuclear laboratory in the basement with special handling equipment and underground storage space for radioactive materials, an air-suspended anechoic chamber, a planetarium on the fourth floor, and a Foucault pendulum in the lobby.

An underground addition to the University of Wisconsin's physics building, Sterling Hall, will be constructed during the next three years with the help of a \$200 000 National Science Foundation grant which is to be supplemented by funds appropriated by the state of Wisconsin. The new wing, which will be entirely covered by a grassy courtyard, will be located south of Bascom Hall near the University's proposed mathematics building and will be constructed as a part of that project. The underground addition will provide new research space for the Physics Department to relieve the present overcrowded condition of Sterling Hall. It will also provide the solid foundation required for heavy research equipment and will be used, in part, as additional target space for the University's tandem Van de Graaff generator.

The Wisconsin Board of Regents has also approved plans and specifications and has authorized bidding on the University's proposed High-Energy Physics Laboratory which is to be constructed on the west campus near the US Barley and Malt Laboratory. Financed by grants from the NSF and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, the new laboratory will be used initially for the design and testing of a large bubble chamber which will be constructed by a research team of the Midwest Universities Research Association (MURA) for eventual use with the 12.5-Bev zero-gradient synchrotron now being built at the Argonne National Laboratory.

The University of Rochester has announced the consolidation of the University's Institute of Optics with the College of Engineering, effective September 1. In a joint statement, President C. W. de Kiewiet and

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Dean John W. Graham of the College of Engineering gave the following three reasons for the change:

1. The establishment of the Institute as the fourth department in the College of Engineering will greatly strengthen the science-oriented program in the College at the graduate level.

2. Technological advances in the nation's space program and the application of optical principles and research to that program demand an immediate and closer alignment between optics and engineering.

3. The optics and electronics industries are in such urgent need of trained optical engineers and optical scientists with broad backgrounds of research and experience in many disciplines that the University must move as rapidly as possible to help meet these needs.

A committee broadly representative of the University's faculty and administration is being formed to serve as an advisory group for the Institute and to further interdepartmental research programs. Existing Institute programs in optical physics will be transferred to a new physical-optics group in the Department of Physics and Astronomy in the College of Arts and Sciences.

A summer institute in dynamical astronomy open to college and university teachers of astronomy, physics, and mathematics, as well as to research workers from government and industry, will be held at the University of Arizona in Tucson from July 10 to August 4. The course is designed for persons desiring an intensive introduction to celestial mechanics. Those wishing additional information should write to Prof. Dirk Brouwer, Yale University Observatory, Box 2023, Yale Station, New Haven, Conn.

Tools for Learning

A new 57-minute color motion picture entitled "Industrial Applications of Radioisotopes", produced by the US Army Pictorial Center under the technical direction of the Atomic Energy Commission's Office of Isotopes Development, is available for loan from the Commission's overseas and domestic film libraries. Prints may be purchased from the Army Pictorial Center, 35-11 35th Ave., Long Island City, New York. Further information can be obtained from the Audio-Visual Branch, Office of Public Information, US Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

Arizona State University in Tempe has recently acquired the Nininger Meteorite Collection, containing 1220 catalogued specimens and several thousand small particles from 684 of the 1600 meteoritic falls known to world scientists. The purchase was made possible by funds from a private donor, the National Science Foundation, and the Arizona State University Foundation. The collection will be housed in the Nininger Meteorite Laboratory and will be made available for study by scientists, but will not be open to the lay public.