

For instance, important discoveries such as stimulated emission or tunneling in semiconductors would submit to an historical analysis in which their concepts would be traced, by means of a citation index or other method, back to their many antecedents. Conversely one could take the papers of individual researchers and determine the impact of their research on other workers in the field. In these and other ways federal officials hope to arrive at a better understanding of just how efficient is their funding of basic research. For undoubtedly many officials acknowledge that an undetermined proportion of federally sponsored research is not fruitful.

Societies to Assist in AIP Information Program

The American Institute of Physics has organized an advisory committee that will enable AIP member societies to review and evaluate the institute's information program as it develops. To this end, members from each APS division as well as scientists from each of the other member societies have been selected by the society presidents to form the group. Additional roles of the committee may include examining the relation of physics information programs to the national scientific information network and to international cooperative projects as well as providing advice to the AIP staff through procedures of the committee.

During the first committee meeting on 3 Feb., AIP presented its program activities involving electronic composition, comprehensive indexing and informal communications. Also discussed were the MIT/TIP and British IEE programs. The committee scheduled another meeting for 16, 17 Apr. and elected Sanborn Brown of AAPT as its chairman. Other committee members include Paul Cross, Philip Morse, Walker Bleakney, David McCall, Thomas Lauritsen, Sam Treiman, Thomas Stix, Conyers Herring (American Physical Society), Edward David (Acoustical Society of America), Marshal Wrubel (American Astronomical Society), Robinson Burbank (American Crystallographic Association), Lucien Biberman (Optical Society of America), Elliot Kearsley (Society of Rheology). □



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