

The final topic develops the concepts necessary for the statistical description of a state of disorganized energy: temperature, internal energy and entropy. Kinetic theory is used as an example.

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Potential financial crises

I would like to draw the attention of physicists to a statement about national science policy. Although the statement appeared in the McGraw-Hill publication *Scientific Research*, I write to *PHYSICS TODAY* because I feel that *PHYSICS TODAY* reaches the audience whose attention I want.

The statement appeared in the "Washington Science Outlook" section of the 13 May *Scientific Research* under the inauspicious title, "Handler Proposes Way to Soften Crises in University Funding." It said:

"National Science Board Chairman Philip Handler has been trying to formulate a new national science policy to support higher education and research, particularly at the graduate level [SR, 1 Apr '68, 27]. To shield universities against the loss of funds during times of budgetary stress, he wants to return to the former grant-in-aid philosophy, which would substantially reduce total federal funds to the universities, but at least let them know how much money they can count on receiving.

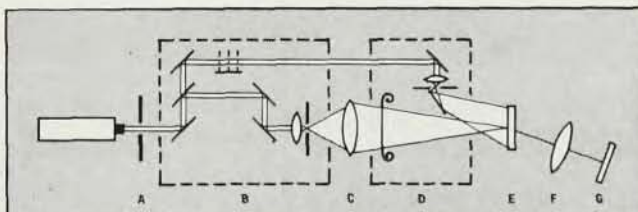
"Handler suggests that grants should no longer provide for faculty salaries, stipends to graduate students, and indirect costs and overhead now charged by the universities. Rather, he would have the universities pay for all salaries and provide modest support for your researchers. These shifts, he feels, would soften the blow of potential future financial crises."

If the fear of "potential future crises" is to be the philosophical foundation of national science policy in this country, I suggest a greater easing of tension would result if funds were cut off altogether; then there could be no blow to soften and we would all feel safe and secure. What is Philip Handler doing at Duke?

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