

many years with the physics program at the National Science Foundation and is now on leave from his job with the Commerce Department in Washington.

**W. Lewis Hyde**, provost of University Heights of New York University, is president-elect of the Optical Society of America, effective 1 Jan. New directors-at-large are **James L. Harris** of the University of California at San Diego, **William L. Wolfe** of Honeywell Radiation Center and **Peter Franken** of the University of Michigan.

Elected vice-president-director of research for General Telephone & Electronics Laboratories is **Paul E. Ritt**.

**John W. DeWire** has been named associate director of the Cornell University Laboratory of Nuclear Studies. DeWire's emphasis will be on coordination of research activities at Cornell's 10-GeV synchrotron.

At the University of Rochester **Albert Simon** was appointed professor.

**Gordon A. Newkirk** was appointed associate director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research and director of the NCAR High Altitude Observatory. He is also professor adjunct at the University of Colorado.

**H. A. Sandmeier** is on a six-month leave from the University of California,

### **John Wheeler Receives AEC 1968 Enrico Fermi Award**

The 1968 Enrico Fermi Award, given by the Atomic Energy Commission, will go this month to **John Archibald Wheeler**. He is the Joseph Henry Professor of Physics at Princeton and is honored for his pioneering contributions to understanding nuclear fission and to developing the technology of plutonium-production reactors and his continuing broad contributions to nuclear science.

The award, which includes \$25 000, a gold medal and a citation, is named

for **Enrico Fermi**, who helped achieve the first sustained controlled nuclear reaction.

Wheeler served in 1943 as consultant and guide to the du Pont Company in the design and construction of the Hanford reactors. He urged a conservative design to overcome the  $\text{Xe}^{135}$  poisoning which appeared when reactors began to operate in 1944. He also worked on reactor shielding theory, reactor control and problems of reactor heating. After the war, at Los Alamos and Princeton, he made fundamental contributions to the work on thermal fusion, both explosive and controlled.

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University of Massachusetts, Amherst, dept of physics and astronomy promoted **Leroy F. Cook** and **Phillips R. Jones** to professor. Appointed associate professors are **Dietrich Freytag** and **Gerald A. Peterson**, formerly of CERN and Yale respectively. **Richard G. Huguenin** of Harvard was appointed associate professor of astronomy; **Allan R. Hoffman** of Brown and **James F. Walker** of MIT are assistant professors and **William A. Dent** is assistant professor of astronomy.

**Everett M. Hafner**, previously with the University of Rochester, has become dean of the School of Natural Science of Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass.

An associate chemist for Argonne National Laboratory, **Donald L. Horrocks**, was named assistant editor of *Applied Spectroscopy*.

**Brian J. Thompson** has become director of the University of Rochester Institute of Optics and professor of optics. He was formerly general manager of the West Coast branch of Technical Operations, Inc.

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**R. WALTER CUNNINGHAM**, one of the three astronauts on the 11-day Apollo 7 earth-orbital flight, is a physicist. Marsh W. White, Sigma Pi Sigma president, tells us he is a member of that organization and the American Geophysical Union. Cunningham took his bachelor's and master's degrees in physics at UCLA and had nearly completed his doctorate when he entered the space program as a civilian astronaut.

**Donald P. Burcham** has been promoted to manager of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory space sciences division.

**Kuo Wei Chang** was appointed senior scientist at Space Sciences Inc.

effects of rotational and vibrational degrees of freedom in accounting for low-lying excited states of nuclei. Wheeler also studied the application of optical dispersion relations to elementary-particle physics.

### **ASA Honors Hale Sabine For Architectural Acoustics**

The Acoustical Society of America has honored **Hale J. Sabine** with its Wallace Clement Sabine Award. The award recognizes Sabine's contributions to the theory and practice of architectural acoustics, his studies of the theory of sound absorbing materials and his leadership in the development of standard procedures for measuring acoustical properties of materials.

The award is given every two years



**WHEELER**