

tions of basic solid-state, plasma, atomic and molecular physics.

Although regretting current cuts in R&D funding by the Government, he considers that basic research is actually receiving more emphasis than before in the competition for funds. On this score he cites Administration statements and budget requests, and the favorable handling—compared with R&D in the mission agencies—of the fiscal-year 1971 NSF budget by Congress. —JBP

Davis likely to succeed

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port in the future. He claims that scientists, although justifiably concerned with money cuts, often overlook the extent to which Congressmen, necessarily concerned with their own re-election, must respond to pressures for economy and the demands of their constituents. In his own district he has no group of constituents who would benefit directly from increased Congressional support of basic scientific research. However, he did realize that scientific "spill-over," as he termed it, from such research would be of value not only to his district but "to my state, my region, the country as a whole."

Over the last decade, Davis says, the work of the Science and Astronautics Committee has shifted from aerospace issues toward various science-policy questions. He expects this trend to continue. Davis believes that his com-

mittee homework has given him "a liberal education" in science matters, and that he has probably spent more time studying science questions in Congress than he spent in studying law in Georgia. —JBP

Total R&D spending is level; federal support declines

US spending for basic and applied research and engineering will be about \$27 300 million this year, compared to \$26 300 million in 1969, according to the National Science Foundation. This apparent gain is almost entirely due to increased R&D spending by industry. But if allowance is made for inflation, the total R&D growth rate in the last five years is negligible, and Federal funding has slightly declined. These and other data are contained in *National Patterns of R&D Resources, 1953-70* (available from the Government Printing Office).

Sandweiss and Cork head AEC high-energy physics subpanels

Two subpanels have been added to the High-Energy Physics Advisory Panel of the Atomic Energy Commission, which is headed by Victor F. Weisskopf of MIT. The subpanel on future patterns of high-energy physics research is headed by Jack Sandweiss of Yale Uni-

versity and is studying the changing character of particle physics in view of the advent of large-scale accelerators and in view of prospects for limited financial support. Bruce Cork of Argonne National Laboratory is chairman of the subpanel on accelerator technology. This subpanel plans to advise the AEC division of research on multi-GeV accelerator developments that should be more fully supported and to study the cost and time scale of the next generation of high-energy accelerators. Both chairmen would welcome the advice and the opinion of anyone who has an interest in these problems.

in brief

The General Advisory Committee of the Atomic Energy Commission is soliciting nominations until the end of October for the 1971 Ernest Orlando Lawrence Memorial Award. Eligible individuals must be US citizens and born on or after 1 July 1925. *American Science Manpower, 1968*, is the final report of the 1968 National Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel. Copies of the 277-page report are available at \$2.00 from the Superintendent of Documents.

In this fiscal year, NSF plans to allocate \$300 000 for 30 interdisciplinary postdoctoral fellowships to be awarded to new doctoral-degree holders.

the physics community

Texas project enlists PhD's as high-school teachers, advisers

In response to the tightening job market for new PhD's, a new approach has been started titled "Texas Project in Science Education," which plans to place PhD's as instructors in high schools and as regional science and mathematics advisers. The advisers would have a university affiliation and would teach in-service courses to high-school teachers on a regional basis.

Originated by Robert B. Clark and F. W. de Wette of the University of Texas, Austin, after the Chicago meeting of the American Physical Society in January, the project already lists 12 employers with available positions, with salaries varying from \$7000 to \$9500 for 10 months. Over 50 applicants were interviewed during the APS Washington meeting and recently several of the school districts have received 10 to 20 applications from PhD's.

Clark said that "the university affiliation... was found to be the most attractive feature by the applicants and it invoked considerable enthusiasm." For

the regional program, the "affiliation of the advisers would allow the in-service courses to be offered on a credit basis." Salaries would be paid by local or regional authorities, but university-research groups are being encouraged to support each adviser's and teacher's part-time research.

D. W. J. Shea new SPS director; Tendam heads honor society

Dion W. J. Shea is the new director of the Society of Physics Students and Donald Tendam has become president of Sigma Pi Sigma, the SPS honor society. They succeed Cecil G. Shugart and Marsh W. White, respectively.

Shea, who received his PhD from the University of Colorado in 1968, taught at Creighton University before becoming a postdoctoral research associate at the Environmental Science Services Administration laboratory in Boulder, Colo., in late 1968. He assumed his new position as of 1 July when Shugart

The National Science Foundation has said that the adviser program can be supported under its Cooperative College-School Science Program. The NSF is also presently considering the possibility of supporting the part-time research. For further information contact Clark at the University of Texas.

left to become head of the physics department at Northeast Louisiana State College. Shugart became director in 1968 when SPS was formed from the union of AIP student sections and Sigma Pi Sigma. Since then, SPS chapters have become active in over half of the colleges offering physics majors, and Sigma Pi Sigma now has more than 200 chapters. Shugart will continue working with the SPS as the elected representative of the Southeast on the national council.

The new president of Sigma Pi