

we hear that

Technology and Science in Pilani, India.

Promoted to professors at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville were **Michael Fowler** and **Klaus O. H. Zioek**.

Richard E. Marburger has been promoted to dean of academic affairs at the Lawrence Institute of Technology.

At the University of Chicago's Enrico Fermi Institute, **James E. Pilcher**, formerly of Harvard University, has been appointed assistant professor. Also appointed as assistant professors are **Robert D. Carlitz**, who has been a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study and CERN for the past two

years, and **Mark B. Kislinger**, who has held a postdoctoral appointment at California Institute of Technology for the past two years.

Philip K. Chapman, a physicist, and **Anthony W. England**, a geophysicist, have resigned from NASA's astronaut corps. Chapman will be principal research scientist at AVCO Everett Research Laboratories, while also working as a senior research associate in the measurement systems laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. England has accepted a position with the regional geophysics group of the US Geological Survey in Denver, Colo.

Daniel F. Dempsey has been promoted to chairman of the department of physics at Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y.

obituaries

Gisela K. Oster

Gisela Kallmann Oster, a physicist and research assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the City University's Mount Sinai School of Medicine, died of cancer on 15 July. She was 45 years old.

Oster's most recent research included the study of the chemical effect of the copper used for intrauterine devices. Together with her husband, Gerald Oster, also a physicist, she had studied the dots, spirals and other patterns "seen" with closed eyes as an indication of how visual stimuli are organized in the retina or brain or both.

A native of Berlin, Oster graduated from the University of Berlin in 1948. She received MS and PhD degrees from Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1953 and 1956, respectively.

Peter A. Franken

Peter Allan Franken, divisional vice-president and director of architectural technology for Bolt, Beranek and Newman, died on 20 June after a brief illness. He was 41.

Associated with Bolt, Beranek and Newman since 1955, Franken was an acoustics authority. His research included wave propagation in gases and solids and theoretical and experimental acoustics. Franken received his PhD in physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1956.

Franken was a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and a member

of the Institute of Noise Control Engineering. He was also the cousin of Peter Alden Franken, an expert on optics and spectroscopy and a professor at the University of Michigan.

Rufus K. Reber

Rufus K. Reber, formerly a research physicist for the Navy Department's Bureau of Ships, died on 18 May, following an auto accident near Hollywood, Florida, where he had retired in 1965. He was 69 years old.

Reber's career with the Navy began in 1942 when, like many others at the universities, he joined the war effort. His background and skills were appropriate for theoretical studies and practical development methods for countering mines at the Bureau of Ships. Following the war, he stayed with the Bureau until his retirement, making important contributions that have been described in numerous classified patent applications and technical reports dealing with mines and countermeasures. In this field he was an internationally recognized authority. He was honored by several major Navy awards. One award cited his "responsibility for major and extensive improvements ... countermeasures," "theoretical work producing practicable and readily usable equipments and procedures" and dealing "with our NATO allies, enhancing NATO readiness and the prestige of the US Navy." Following his retirement, Reber served as a consultant to the US Navy Mine

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