

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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Defense Laboratory (now the Coastal Systems Laboratory) at Panama City, Florida.

Before joining the Bureau of Ships, he taught mathematics at City College of the City University of New York, and with several colleagues he investigated the magnetic susceptibilities of liquids and vapors.

Reber received his MS degree in 1929 from Rutgers University, where, with George Winchester, he measured the variation of surface tension of lubricating oils with temperature. In 1933 he received his PhD from Yale University. His dissertation, done under L. W. McKeehan, dealt with the effects of atomic hydrogen on the magnetic properties of iron (*Physics* 5, 297, 1934).

A generous, peace loving man with a superior mind, Reber will be greatly missed by his many friends and associates.

WILLIAM J. SETTE
Washington, D. C.

Don H. Byers

Don H. Byers, newly appointed alternate division leader of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory theoretical design division, died on 1 July in an automobile accident at Los Alamos. He was 42 years old.

Byers was recognized in the defense community as a leader in the field of nuclear-weapons effects and vulnerability. He received his BA degree in 1952 from Wichita State University and his MA and PhD degrees in physics in 1954 and 1958 respectively from



BYERS

the University of Kansas. After receiving his PhD degree, he joined Los Alamos.

He was active in the neutron cross-

section program using underground nuclear explosions. In addition, he was a driving force in many of the weapons-effects experiments, both at Los Alamos and at the Nevada test site. Byers also played an active role in several major committees and panels, including the US Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, and in 1967 was a member of the Research Advisory Council of the US Army Nuclear Defense Laboratory.

Los Alamos and the scientific community have lost a valued and respected friend and colleague.

R. G. SHREFFLER
J. C. HOPKINS

Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory

Stanley C. Fultz

Stanley C. Fultz, a research scientist at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and a pioneer in photonuclear research, died on 18 June, following a brief illness. He was 53 years old.

At Livermore, he worked briefly on a high-current proton accelerator, and then became the group leader at the Linear Accelerator Laboratory when the latter machine was built in the late 1950's. His research interests at the linac centered on the development and instrumentation of a monochromatic photon beam facility for use in the study of photonuclear reactions, achieved by the acceleration and subsequent annihilation in flight of a beam of positrons from the linac. He showed that such a system could be exploited for systematic studies of the giant dipole resonance and related photonuclear problems, and over the course of the next decade he and his colleagues mapped out the photoneutron cross sections for over 50 nuclei throughout the periodic table. The pioneering work he carried out helped put the entire field of photonuclear research on a firm grounding.

In the course of his work on photonuclear reactions, Fultz contributed significantly to the development of neutron detectors and other nuclear instrumentation, and performed experiments in neutron and fission physics as well. He carried the major responsibility for the design and acquisition of the new 100-MeV Livermore Electron-Positron Linear Accelerator, and when it began operation in 1971, he became its operations manager and continued his research in photonuclear reactions with the more intense monochromatic photon beams made possible by the new accelerator.

Born in Winnipeg, Canada, Fultz received his BS and MS degrees from the University of Manitoba and his PhD degree in physics from Ohio State University in 1954. Before coming to