

Salpeter named Distinguished Professor

Cornell University has named Edwin E. Salpeter, professor of physics, astrophysics and nuclear studies, the first James Gilbert White Distinguished Professor in Physical Sciences. The professorship was established to honor James Gilbert White (who in 1885 received Cornell's first PhD in electrical engineering), and it is being financed by the White Foundation. The foundation is an organization that was established and supported by J. Dugald White, son of James Gilbert White and a 1910 Cornell graduate.

Salpeter's research has included nuclear theory, quantum electrodynamics, quantum theory of atoms and theoretical astrophysics. Most recently, he has studied the evolution and energy production of stars, models for pulsars and x-ray sources and the origin of complex molecules in interstellar space.

Although Salpeter has been a Cornell faculty member since 1949, he was also a visiting professor at the Australian National University (1953-54), a research associate at Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories (1959) and an Overseas Fellow at Churchill College, Cambridge,



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UK (1961 and 1968). Currently, he is a vice-president of the American Astronomical Society, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Society, he demonstrated a hand-held camera that would use apparently dry film to produce almost instantaneous pictures. A year later the first Polaroid Land camera and film were made publicly available.

Strassenburg receives Creative Teaching Award

The American Association of Physics Teachers' Robert A. Millikan Creative Teaching Award was presented to Arnold A. Strassenburg during the association's July meeting. Strassenburg is AAPT's new executive director and a professor of physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He was formerly director of the education division at the American Institute of Physics.

At Stony Brook, Strassenburg is a principal lecturer in freshman physics. However, he also directs a seminar for seniors planning to teach secondary-school science, and teaches a course for prospective secondary-school teachers

in the university's Center for Continuing Education.

Strassenburg's other contributions to education include serving as associate director of the "Physical Science for the Non-Science Student Project" and as chairman of its advisory board, and as a writer and editor of the text *An Approach to Physical Science*.

Civilian Service Award goes to Marvin Lasky

The Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award has been presented to Marvin Lasky, director of acoustic programs for the Office of Naval Research. He was cited for his contributions to both the pro- and anti-submarine warfare efforts of the US Navy, and was especially acknowledged for his development of the concept of a new type of sonar that operates with significant capabilities not possible in current operational equipment.

A fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, Lasky was previously the recipient of an award for his creation and design of the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center, which now provides the major testing of underwater acoustic equipment.

Five gravity essays receive recognition

The Gravity Research Foundation has presented its 1972 Awards for Essays on Gravitation to John Faulkner, Peter Kafka, P. E. Roe, Joseph Silk, P. M. Muller and W. L. Sjogren.

Faulkner, of the Lick Observatory of the University of California, Santa Cruz, received the first award of \$1000 for his essay "Gravitational Radiation as a Stellar Engineering Device." The second \$300 award was presented to Kafka, of the Max Planck Institute for Physics and Astrophysics, for his essay "Are Weber's Pulses Illegal?" "Observations of the Curvature of Space-Time" placed third, and Roe, of the Institute of Theoretical Astronomy in Cambridge, UK, received \$200 for this essay. The fourth gravitation essay award was given to Silk for his essay

Edwin Land receives Founders Medal

Edwin H. Land, president and director of research of Polaroid Corp and a visiting Institute Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has received the seventh Founders Medal of the National Academy of Engineering. He was cited for his development of cameras, films and processes for instant photography and for his invention of synthetic polarizers for light.

Land's interest in photography dates back to his freshman year at Harvard University—from which he dropped out twice in order to devote his full time to research on light polarizers. Although he never did receive his undergraduate degree, Land holds honorary doctorates from Harvard, Yale, Columbia and eight other institutions.

Among Land's accomplishments are the development of three-dimensional colored movies, nonglare automobile headlights, polarizing sun glasses and polarizing camera filters. During the 1947 meeting of the American Optical