Jones, Sitterly, Boynton honored by OSA

Three outstanding figures in the field of optics have been honored by the Optical Society of America. They are Robert Clark Jones, a research fellow in physics at the Polaroid Corporation, Charlotte Moore Sitterly, of the office of standard reference data at the National Bureau of Standards, and Robert M. Boynton, chairman of the department of psychology and director of the center for visual science at the University of Rochester. The awards were presented at the annual meeting of OSA held in San Francisco (17–20 October).

Jones received the 33rd Frederic Ives Medal, the Society's highest award, in recognition of the numerous and wide-ranging contributions he has made in the field of optics during the past 30 years. Among his achievements are a matrix calculus for analysis of systems containing polarizers, retarders and rotators; an innovative use of terminology in radiometry and photometry, two areas in which the nomenclature is badly confused; and his classification and specification of the responsivity of radiation detectors.

Sitterly was presented the William F. Meggers Award for her distinguished work in spectroscopy. She is widely known for her compilations of definitive tables of spectroscopic multiplets, solar spectrum wavelengths, and atomic energy levels derived from analyses of optical atomic spectra.

The Edgar D. Tillyer Award, given biennially in recognition of distinguished work in the field of vision, went to Boynton. He was cited for his "numerous research contributions toward the understanding and quantification of the process of vision."

JONES

SITTERLY

BOYNTON

Benedict receives Enrico Fermi Award

Manson Benedict of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the recipient of the Enrico Fermi Award for 1972. It is given by the Atomic Energy Commission in recognition of Benedict's pioneering role in the development of the first gaseous diffusion plant in the US, at Oak Ridge. The award consists of $25 000, a gold medal and a citation.

Educated at Cornell University and MIT, Benedict became a National Research Council fellow in chemistry in 1936 and a research associate in geophysics at Harvard University the following year. Prior to joining the AEC in 1951, he was employed by the M. W. Kellogg Company, where he headed the division that designed the Oak Ridge facility. Benedict has played a major role in the development of the nuclear reactor as a safe source of power, and in a large measure his leadership is responsible for the establishment of the prestigious school of nuclear engineering at MIT.

Jesse W. Beams cited by AEC

Jesse W. Beams, professor emeritus of physics at the University of Virginia, has received a citation from the US Atomic Energy Commission for his pioneering research in the separation of isotopes by the gas-centrifuge process. His innovative work in a variety of fields has covered a period of 40 years.

After receiving his doctorate from the University of Virginia in 1925, Beams joined the faculty in 1928 and became chairman of the physics department in 1948. During World War II his research involved work on jet-propulsion systems for guided missiles. He has served on the General Advisory Committee (1954–60), and he is a past president of the American Physical Society (1958–59). His honors include the National Medal of Science, the government's highest scientific award.

Astronautics Award goes to Reimar Lüst

The Daniel and Florence Guggenheim International Astronautics Award for 1972 has been given to Reimar Lüst, president of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science. The award, accompanied by a $1000 stipend, is given in recognition of Lüst's investigation of the movement of the extraterrestrial plasmas in the earth's ionosphere and magnetosphere and for his contribution toward the determination of the shape of the earth's magnetic and electric fields.

Lüst, who has gained a popular German following as a result of his television commentary during the Apollo moon missions, was scientific director of the European Space Research Organization from 1962 to 1964 and served as one of its vice-presidents from 1968 to 1970. He is the former director of the Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics of the Max Planck Institute for Physics and Astrophysics.