

Conference to study graduate education

Physics graduate education will be the subject of study at a joint conference being planned by the APS Forum on Physics and Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers. The Conference on Tradition and Change in Physics Graduate Education will be held at Pennsylvania State University during 19-24 August 1974.

The new employment market and substantial changes in the funding now available to the physics community suggest that a review of the graduate education process is appropriate. The conference will look at present-day graduate education in order to determine whether or not changes ought to be made and to make practical proposals for changes that are needed.

A tentative agenda calls for invited and contributed papers on five general topics:

- ▶ Present attitudes and traditions in physics—What are they and how did we get here?
- ▶ Economic outlook
- ▶ What is expected of a young graduate today?
- ▶ Present-day values and goals—What should they be?
- ▶ How can changes be made?

A bulletin containing abstracts of all papers will be published before the conference, and a paper summarizing conference discussions will be prepared afterward.



The chairmen of the organizing committee are Martin L. Perl of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center and Roland H. Good Jr of Pennsylvania State University. Local arrangements will be handled by Stanley J. Shepherd of Penn State.

to visit institutions throughout the New York area collecting information and sampling opinions on issues of concern to physicists. Future programs on these issues will be organized and presented, and mechanisms examined for providing information and speakers for local educational, social and political organizations.

APS members testify before Feshbach panel

An advisory panel, headed by Herman Feshbach of MIT, has been set up by the Committee on Nuclear Science of the National Research Council in re-

sponse to a request from the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Physical Research.

Several representatives of the APS Division of Nuclear Physics recently testified before the Feshbach panel, which is considering the nature of heavy-ion physics and the characteristics of heavy-ion facilities permitted by available technology. The group representing APS consisted of Bernard L. Cohen (University of Pittsburgh), Gerald T. Garvey (Princeton University), Donald A. Lind (University of Colorado), Donald Robson (Florida State University) and Fay Ajzenberg-Selove (University of Pennsylvania).

Before testifying, the representatives of the Division solicited opinions from colleagues on such topics as the feasibility of investigating important and promising areas of heavy-ion research with existing heavy-ion facilities, the creation of a national heavy-ion facility and reallocation of present funding to provide support for new projects in heavy-ion physics.

The Feshbach panel will present a written report on this and other testimony.

in brief

Walter Gordy of Duke University has been elected Councillor of the newly organized Division of Biological Physics.

Bernard L. Cohen (University of Pittsburgh) and John A. Harvey (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) have been elected vice-chairman and secretary-treasurer respectively of the Division of Nuclear Physics. Gerald T. Garvey (Princeton University), James R. Nix (Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory) and Ernest Warburton (Brookhaven National Laboratory) were elected to 2-year terms on the Executive Committee of the Division.

The APS Division of Cosmic Physics will meet jointly with the Division of High Energy Astrophysics of the American Astronomical Society in Tucson, Arizona, on 6-8 December. A slate of speakers will review significant developments in high-energy astrophysics during the past two years. □

New York area MAC group formed

The New York area Member Advisory Committee (see PHYSICS TODAY, September, page 75) recently held its organizational meeting. The chairman is Peter Eisenberger of Bell Laboratories.

The committee set as its initial goal the development and implementation of programs designed to present a broader spectrum of opinion to existing APS committees. To better accomplish this goal, the committee will expand its membership from seven to fifteen.

Recognizing the need for improved communications with the general public as well, the MAC group made plans