

POPA takes its first steps

The APS Panel on Public Affairs has elected its steering committee, recommended extension of the 1974 summer study on efficient energy utilization and formed four subcommittees to study ideas for society activities. The panel held its first meeting on 2-3 March.

POPA members elected Fay Ajzenberg-Selove (University of Pennsylvania), Ronald Geballe (University of Washington) and N. Richard Werthamer (Bell Labs) to serve on the steering committee along with Philip Morse (MIT), POPA chairman, and George E. Pake (Xerox), APS vice-president elect.

The panel passed a resolution recommending to the council that APS encourage the extension of the 1974 summer study on efficient energy utilization entitled "Improving energy utilization in commercial buildings."

Subcommittees were formed to examine and recommend, after action by the full panel, programs to the council:

► Policies for APS Study Programs. Milan Fiske (GE), chairman, John A. Armstrong (IBM), Ernest Henley (University of Washington), Seymour Koenig (IBM), Rolf Sinclair (NSF) and James E. Young (MIT). This group will prepare guidelines and policies for

society-sponsored studies and devise procedures for their financing, supervision and endorsement by the society.

► Liaison with APS Divisions and the Forum on Physics and Society. Fay Ajzenberg-Selove, chairman, Robert Parr (Johns Hopkins University) and Rolf Sinclair (NSF). They are responsible for determining how the various APS divisions and the Forum can best assist POPA.

► Interaction with Government. Sanborn C. Brown (MIT), chairman, Benjamin S. Cooper (Senate Interior Committee) and James E. Young. This subcommittee will investigate the problems involved in the interaction between the society and the federal government, determine how the society can provide assistance to Congress and to the executive branches and inform the membership about such opportunities.

► Membership participation. Peter Eisenberger (Bell Labs), chairman, Raymond Emrich (Lehigh University), Martin Perl (SLAC) and Ernest Henley. This group has been instructed to work with the nominating committee to prepare a roster of APS members interested in contributing to public-affairs activities.

Joseph A. Burton (Bell Labs), treasurer, recommended in his report that there be no increase in APS membership dues, in the request for voluntary contributions or for member subscriptions for the 1976 fiscal year beginning 1 July. Dues bills for the new fiscal year will include billing for arrears whenever appropriate. Persons who have been members of the society for ten years and who are now retired may ask to be placed on the "retired" list and exempted from payment of regular dues. Retired members do not receive journals or membership subscriptions from the society but still receive the *Bulletin* and other mailings upon payment of \$1.00. Physicists whose memberships have lapsed may be reinstated by applying to the executive secretary and paying the current year's dues.

Representatives of the division of biological physics will now share with the Biophysical Society some editorial responsibilities for the *Biophysics Journal*. APS members now have the

opportunity to order this journal at a member subscription rate of \$15 for the yearly volume of twelve issues. As a special inducement to charter subscribers, the issues published in the last half of 1976 will be sent free to them.

Recommendations for continuing action led the council to establish the manpower committee as a standing subcommittee of the committee on professional concerns. It will review yearly the usefulness of existing programs, work closely with statistical surveying offices in planning surveys of the supply and demand for physicists and present an evaluation of AIP manpower activities to the council each year. Chien-Shiung Wu and William A. Fowler, society president and vice president respectively, called a special meeting of the education and professional concerns committees to develop programs for action during the coming year.

Rules proposed to avoid conflicts of interest

Does the society need regulations dealing with possible conflicts of interest for its officers and others involved in its activities? President Chien-Shiung Wu (Columbia University) has appointed an ad hoc committee to study a proposal calling for institution of such rules and procedures. Committee members are Louis Rosen (LASL), chairman, Herman Feshbach (MIT), Seymour Koenig (IBM), George E. Pake (Xerox), Martin Perl (SLAC) and Felix Smith (Stanford Research Institute). The proposal also calls for establishment of rigorous requirements regarding disclosure of information in a number of areas by both the society as a whole and its officers. Charles Schwartz (University of California, Berkeley) presented the proposal to the council during the annual meeting in Anaheim (see the May issue of the *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* for a detailed report).

The committee is seeking APS members' advice, opinions and suggestions about this matter. Advice is particularly desired regarding the need for such rules and procedures and the appropriateness of those proposed.

All replies should be directed to Louis Rosen at LASL, PO Box 1663, Los Alamos, N.M. 87544 before 30 June. They will be carefully considered by the committee before recommendations are brought to the council. □

Treasurer, study groups and committees report

Activities during the January council meeting in Anaheim included reports from two summer-study groups, the treasurer and the committees on education, professional concerns and manpower. The council authorized the division of biological physics to sponsor the *Biophysics Journal* jointly with the Biophysical Society.

John Bardeen (University of Illinois), chairman of the review committee for the summer study on radiation effects on materials, notified the council that the committee had approved the report, which is now being considered for publication in *Reviews of Modern Physics*.

Approval of the report from the summer study on technical aspects of efficient energy utilization was sent to the council by James Comly (GE), chairman of the review committee. The report will be published in the AIP *Conference Proceedings* series.