

the physics community

Come to the meeting of AIP Corporate Associates

The annual AIP Meeting of Corporate Associates will be in Washington during 2-3 October; the main theme is the adequacy of today's physics for tomorrow's technology. The meeting brings together AIP's Corporate Associate representatives, heads of graduate physics departments, leaders in government—and, for the first time, other interested members of the physics community—to discuss topics of mutual interest.

To provide a broad view at the meeting, there will be several speakers from disciplines other than physics, including sociologist Daniel Bell (Harvard) speaking on the role of science in the "post-industrial society," and economist Eli Ginzberg (Columbia), who will talk about the impact of changing national objectives on science and engineering manpower. These will be followed by three talks on the future of industrial technology by J. E. Goldman (Xerox), R. E. Goodson (Purdue) and Lewis M. Branscomb (IBM).

On the second day there will be discussion groups to consider a variety of topics. That afternoon, "Frontiers in Physics" papers will be given by Keith Brueckner (University of California, San Diego) on laser-induced fusion and by Mortimer L. Mendelsohn (Lawrence Livermore Laboratory) on biological cell parameter analysis.

Facilities permit opening the meeting to members of the physics community on a first come, first served basis. Those who have not already received official notice of the meeting can request to attend; advance registration is necessary. Contact Dorothy Lasky, AIP, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017 for details.

Physics-student numbers decline at all levels

A decline in the number of students at all levels of physics education is the salient finding of AIP's latest "Survey of Enrollments and Degrees" in physics and astronomy. The number of physics doctorates granted will level off at about 950 per year during 1977-80, according to projections based on first-year graduate enrollment at PhD granting institutions. First-year graduate enrollment and the number of bachelor's degrees granted are stabilizing at 2600-2700 and 4600, respectively.

Relatively few undergraduates study physics as an elective, the survey indicates. Of the one million freshmen entering degree programs at US four-year

colleges and universities each Fall, approximately 25% enroll in introductory physics courses. Less than 5% of these have chosen physics as an elective; the remainder have signed up to fulfill general distribution or degree requirements.

This year's survey is the second to incorporate figures gathered during the past three years from both combined physics-astronomy and separate astronomy departments, including information on their observational equipment. Introductory astronomy courses for non-science majors draw 91% of all astronomy enrollment, while courses geared to science majors are chosen by 9%. Women comprise 20% of all students receiving bachelor's degrees in astronomy and less than 7% of all physics bachelors.

Details on the number of Blacks and other minority degree recipients are provided and an expanded table, available on request, breaks down by state and sex the number of degrees granted. Tables and graphs show ten-year trends in degrees and enrollments, and also classify students according to the highest degree granted at their institution and its geographical region.

For a free copy of the survey, No. R-151.12, write to Susanne Ellis, Manpower Division, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

SPIE joins OSA as associate member society

The Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers has become an associate-member society of the Optical Society of America. This relationship allows SPIE members to attend OSA scientific meetings, present papers, participate in planning meetings and in the activities of OSA's technical groups, and send a representative to the Optical Society Board of Directors.

OSA invites other optics-related groups to become associate-member societies. For further information, contact Jarus Quinn, OSA, 2000 L St, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

German abstracts journal covers physical sciences

A recent addition to the ranks of abstract journals is *Physikalische Berichte*, which carries each month approximately 6700 abstracts in English or German from some 1200 physical-science journals. Abstracts appear within three months of publication of

the original work, which may be on general, mathematical, nuclear, solid-state or atomic and molecular physics, mechanics, acoustics, heat, physics of electromagnetic fields, elementary particles, plasmas, gases, liquids or geophysics. Each issue contains an author index and information on the system of classification used. For further information contact Physik Verlag, D 6940 Weinheim, Postfach 1260/1280, West Germany.

Bueche replaces Hannay as IRI president

The annual election and elevation of officers has taken place at the Industrial Research Institute: Arthur M. Bueche, vice-president for R&D at General Electric, is now president, succeeding N. Bruce Hannay of Bell Labs. Last year's vice-president, Donald J. Blickwede (vice-president and director of research for Bethlehem Steel) is the new president-elect and Frank H. Healey, research vice-president for Lever Brothers, has been elected IRI vice-president. Healey has been at Lever since 1956, first as section chief for physics and physical chemistry and since 1964 in his present position. He received his PhD in physical chemistry from Clark University in 1949 and was on the faculty of Lehigh University from 1949 to 1956.

Bueche, the current IRI president, is a physical chemist. He graduated from Cornell with his doctorate in 1947 and joined the staff of General Electric Research Laboratories in 1950. He became a GE vice-president in 1965.

in brief

The Smithsonian Institution is soliciting ideas for topics that can be made into educational units from material housed in the national collections. It is for a new project being developed, called "Aids for educational and cultural enrichment." Ideas may be submitted to "Aids for Educational and Cultural Enrichment," Photographic Services, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

The National Science Foundation and the University of Wyoming have announced plans for construction of an 84-inch infrared telescope near Laramie. The \$1.6 million instrument should be operational in 1977.

An undergraduate curriculum in nuclear engineering will begin this fall at the University of Illinois, Urbana.