Nominating committee announces slate of candidates

The nominating committee has completed a slate of candidates for the elective offices of the society for the coming year. Vacant offices include those of vice-president elect, two councillors-at-large, and chairman and chairman-elect of the nominating committee.

Eugen Merzbacher (University of North Carolina) and Norman Ramsey (Harvard) are candidates for the office of vice-president elect. Candidates for the two posts of councillor-at-large are D. Allan Bromley (Yale), James Cronin (University of Chicago), Joel Primack (University of California, Santa Cruz) and Marshall Rosenbluth (Princeton). Mildred Dresselhaus (MIT) and Peter Carruthers (LASL) have been nominated for the office of chairman of the nominating committee, and Henry Barschall (Lawrence Radiation Lab) and Burton Fried (UCLA) are the candidates for the office of chairman-elect.

The committee, operating under its new charge (see PHYSICS TODAY, January, page 115), solicited nominations for elected officers and standing-committee members from the divisions, the Forum and the membership-at-large and made its decisions during the April meeting in Washington. The pool of candidates developed thus far greatly exceeds the number of offices and appointments to be filled.

Candidates this year were asked to volunteer brief statements of purpose or platforms. The committee has decided to continue this practice. Information about the candidates—stature in their fields, availability, reliability, previous service to the professional community and to the society, statements of purpose and their geographical locations—was available to the committee before its meeting.

The nominating committee will meet again in New York in September to discuss policy issues for society appointments and to prepare a list of prospective appointees.

"Concurrent conferences" planned for APS meetings

The committee on applications of physics has planned a series of "Concurrent Conferences" to be held during regularly scheduled 1976 APS meetings. The first, organized by Alan Chynoweth (Bell Labs), is on the physics of materials technology and will be held in January during the annual meeting in New York. The March meeting in Atlanta will be the site of a conference on heterogeneous catalysis and surface physics, organized by Homer D. Hagstrum (Bell Labs). Physics and fluids in the environment is the subject of a conference organized by Daniel Bershader (Stanford University), to take place during the April meeting in Washington.

These conferences are designed to respond to growing recognition within the society that applications of physics will be increasingly important to the future development of the science, as will the physicists who are engaged in such work. Issues that the committee plans to consider during its Washington meeting in October are cooperation with the committee on education to influence physics curricula and increase the visibility and prestige of applied physics in education, and a study by each APS division of the extent and nature of applied work characteristic of its physics subfield, identification of persons in the division involved in such work and of institutions where the work is being done.

Speakers at the conference on the physics of materials technology plan to discuss the physical basis for anticipating limits to materials growth; prospecting and materials-supply technology; durability and recycling; performance limits and materials substitution and performance limits and functional substitution.

To bridge the gap between physics and chemistry in the field of heterogeneous catalysis and surface physics, symposia will be arranged focusing on specific surface phenomena or characteristics such as chemisorption; surface-atom coordination, surface electronic structure and specific chemical reactions.

Topics that have been suggested for the symposia on physics and fluids in the environment include meteorology; waves in the atmosphere; flow through porous media; stratified flow and its instabilities; fluid dynamics of fire; fluid mechanics of hurricanes, aeroacoustics and the separation of isotopes by fluid-dynamical means. □