# Wentzel receives 1975 Max Planck Medal

The German Physical Society has presented its annual Max Planck Medal to Gregor Wentzel. Three other GPS awards were also presented in 1975: the Physics Prize was given to Dieter Haidt of Switzerland, Karl-Heinz Zschauer of Germany was awarded the Walter Schottky Prize and Trevor Simpson Moss of England received the Max Born Prize (see PHYSICS TODAY, November, page 81).

Wentzel, who is known as one of the first physicists to treat collision processes quantum mechanically, received his doctorate from the University of Munich in 1921. Working at the same time as Hendrik Kramers and Louis Brillouin, but independent of them, he developed a method for approximating the energies of stationary states. (This method was first discussed by H. Jeffreys in 1924 and is now known as the WKB approximation). He has been a professor of physics at the University of Leipzig (1926–28), the University of Zurich (1928–48), and the University of Chicago (1948–69). He wrote the *Quantum Theory of Fields* (1949) and received an honorary doctorate from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in 1966. Wentzel retired from teaching in 1969 and now lives in Switzerland.

The Max Planck Medal was awarded to Wentzel on 3 September 1975. The medal is awarded annually by the GPS for achievements in physics particularly relevant to the work of Max Planck. Wentzel was cited for his contributions to quantum theory, including the classification of atomic spectra, the treatment of collisional and radiative spectra and the quantization and study of physical fields.

Haidt, the winner of the Physics Prize, was recognized for his contributions to the discovery of neutral weak currents in elementary-particle physics through the determination of neutron structure. The prize was conferred upon Haidt also at the September GPS ceremony.

The Schottky Prize for solid-state physics had earlier been awarded to Zschauer for his work in liquid-phase epitaxy. Also noted were his technical improvements in the construction of semiconductor components. He received the Schottky Prize in March 1975.

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## Liebmann Memorial and Zworykin Awards presented

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers presented the Morris N. Liebmann Memorial and Vladimir K. Zworykin Awards at the International Electron Devices Meeting in Washington, D.C. Each award consists of a certificate and $1000.

The Liebmann award was shared by three staff members of Bell Laboratories: Andrew H. Bobeck, Paul C. Michaelis, and H. E. D. Scovil. Established in 1919, the award honors important contributions to emerging technologies. This 1975 award was presented to Bobeck, Michaelis and Scovil "for the concept and development of single-walled magnetic domains (magnetic bubbles), and for the recognition of their importance in memory technology."

The Zworykin award was presented to E. I. Gordon, also of Bell Laboratories, and R. E. Simon of RCA Electrical Components. Gordon and Simon were recognized for "the invention and leadership in the development of the silicon camera tube." Established in 1950, the award honors outstanding contributions to electronic television.

## SPS presents Bendix and White awards

In appreciation of student research efforts, the Society of Physics Students presented Bendix and Marsh W. White awards to a total of fourteen SPS chapters. The White awards were established to encourage projects designed to promote both public and student interest in physics. The Bendix awards support student research.

Chapters receiving both awards were at: University of Central Arkansas, Conway; East Texas State University, Commerce; University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Other Bendix award winners were at Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield, Mich.; University of Lowell, Lowell, Mass.; Morgan State University, Baltimore, Md.; Principia College, Elsah, Ill. and Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.

Chapters receiving only White awards were at Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne; Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C.; Notre Dame College, Cleveland, Ohio, West Virginia University, Morgantown and University of Wisconsin, Platteville.

## Percus and Susskind win 1975 Pregel Awards

The New York Academy of Sciences has presented the 1975 Boris Pregel Awards to Jerome K. Percus for his research in chemical physics and to Leonard Susskind for his work in nuclear physics. Percus earned his doctorate from Columbia University in 1954 and is now a professor at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences of New York University. Susskind, a theoretical

physicist, is a professor at Yeshiva University's Belfer Graduate School of Science; he received his doctorate from Cornell University where he was an NSF fellow in 1965.

## Standards Institute votes second term for Landis

John W. Landis, senior vice-president of Stone and Webster Engineering Corp, has been reelected to a second one-year term as president of the American National Standards Institute. Allen F. Rhodes, president and chief executive officer of McEvoy Oilfield Equipment Co, has been reelected to a three-year term as vice-president. The other two vice-presidents, Frank J. Feely and Roger F. Ringham, continue in office.

One new member and four incumbent members have been appointed to the Board of Standards Review. The new member is Kenneth E. H. Backman, director of engineering services at the National Fire Protection Association. The reappointed members are P. F. Allmendinger of Rockwell International, Richard Lloyd of Underwriters Laboratories Inc, Melvin R. Myerson of the Institute for Applied Technology, NBS, and Melvin A. Rosen of Stone and Webster Engineering Corp.

## Woessner receives Doherty Award

Donald E. Woessner has received the 1975 W. T. Doherty Award of the Dallas-Fort Worth Section of the American Chemical Society. The award recognized Woessner's research achievements, particularly his utilization of the pulsed nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer to investigate molecular motions in liquids and adsorbed molecules. After receiving his PhD from the University of Illinois in 1957, Woessner joined the Mobil Research and Development Corp in Dallas, Texas, where he currently holds the title of research associate.

## AIAA awards honor Penner and Lunney

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics has selected Glynn S. Lunney and Stanford S. Penner as the 1975 recipients of two AIAA awards. Lunney, the manager of NASA's Space Shuttle Payload and Development Program, will receive the Louis W. Hill Space Transportation Award. The award consists of $5000 and a citation for "outstanding technical ability," and "pioneering efforts in manned space flights." Penner, a professor of applied mechanics and engineering science at the University of California at San Diego, will be given the G. Edward Pendray Award for his contributions to the literature of aerothermochemistry. The award consists of a certificate and $500.

## J. Robert Oppenheimer Prize awarded to Yoichiro Nambu

The eight annual J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Prize has been awarded to Yoichiro Nambu, professor of physics at the University of Chicago. The Oppenheimer Prize is given by the University of Miami's center for theoretical studies, and honors contributions to the theoretical natural sciences. The award consists of a gold medal, citation and $1000.

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Nambu, who received his doctorate from the University of Tokyo in 1952, is known for his work in high-energy physics. Among his many accomplishments is the formulation of the Bethe–Salpeter equation, a means of describing fundamental-particle interactions through fields.

**Edward Teller,** formerly associate director of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, has become a senior research fellow at the Hoover Institution of War, Revolution and Peace.

**Albert I. Schindler** has been appointed director for materials and general sciences at the Naval Research Laboratory.

**Nader C. Dutta,** formerly of the chemistry faculty of Harvard University, has joined the geophysics research department of Shell Development Co's Bellaire Research Center in Houston, Texas.

**Chen Ning Yang,** Albert Einstein Professor of Physics and director of the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and Rep **Mike McCormack,** member of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, have been elected to the board of directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Their four-year terms began 1 January.

**Willy Smith,** associate professor of physics at Lycoming College, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, has been appointed first chairman of the new department of astronomy and physics. The new department, successor to the college's former department of physics, now offers a major in astronomy, with an emphasis on planetarium education.

Earning promotion to full professor at Colgate University are **Anthony F. Aveni** in astronomy, and **Charles F. Holbrow** in physics.

**Thomas O. Passell,** formerly a staff scientist with Lockheed Missiles and Space Company, Inc, has joined the Electric Power Research Institute as project manager, nuclear systems and materials department.

The executive committee of the University Isotope Separator at Oak Ridge has elected **Frank T. Avignone** (University of South Carolina physics department) as chairman, and **Bernard D. Kern** (University of Kentucky physics department) as vice–chairman. Both were elected to one-year terms.

**George H. Morrison** of Cornell University was awarded the 1975 Medal of the New York Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. Morrison was cited for his contributions to atomic absorption and emission spectroscopy.

**Joshua N. Goldberg,** professor of physics at Syracuse University, has been appointed chairman of the physics department. Goldberg was the senior scientist for the Aeronautical Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for two years before he joined the Syracuse University faculty in 1963.

**Sundar L. Aggarwal** has been appointed vice-president and director of the General Tire and Rubber Co. Aggarwal earned his PhD in physical chemistry and has been manager of General Tire's materials research and technical services since 1968.