

Revisions to the Constitution head for final stages

The revised version of the Constitution of The American Physical Society, which was approved by the Council at its meeting on 1 February, is now to be presented to the membership of the Society as required by the present Constitution. The full text is printed in the May issue of the *Bulletin of The American Physical Society*, in a format where the present text, the revised version, and the Comments (discussing the reason for a change) are printed side-by-side. Any member of the Society may ask for reconsideration of any provision in the proposed Constitution, by writing to the Council in care of the Executive Secretary, The American Physical Society, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017, before 1 July.

After these suggestions have been reviewed and the text has been modified accordingly by the Committee on the Constitution and Bylaws, headed by Vera Kistiakowsky (MIT), the next version of the Constitution will be mailed to every member of the Society, together with a ballot form to be returned to the Society office. Approval by two-thirds of the members who vote is required for adoption of the revised Constitution.

The Committee on the Constitution and Bylaws began work on the revisions to the Constitution following the annual meeting in February 1975, at which time the Council charged the Committee with the task and Kistiakowsky was appointed chairperson.



KISTIAKOWSKY

A proposed set of Bylaws appears in the May issue of the *Bulletin* and members of the Society are invited to comment on these as well, by writing to the Council in care of the Executive Secretary. The Council has not as yet voted on the Bylaws. If the revised Constitution is adopted, the proposed Bylaws, revised by the Committee in accord with suggestions received from the membership, will be presented to Council and put to a vote. A vote of two-thirds of the members of Council present at the meeting is required to carry the motion to accept the proposed and revised Bylaws.

The revision of the present Constitution, Bylaws, and Council Regulations is

designed to accomplish the following:

- ▶ incorporate mechanisms within the Society structure, for the efficient operation of the new member-service programs and the public-service projects that have been undertaken;
- ▶ encourage the participation of a larger number of Society members in the affairs of the Society;
- ▶ replace the present governing instruments—Constitution, Bylaws, and Council Regulations—by a Constitution and set of Bylaws only (with a concomitant simplification in the method of amendment of the Bylaws);
- ▶ incorporate into these documents certain changes that have been found desirable in the operation of the Society under the present Constitution, and
- ▶ delete those provisions for which there is no longer a need.

All sections of the present Constitution and Bylaws are included in the revised documents unless deleted; in the latter case they are explicitly discussed in the Comments column. The substance of all except six of the present Council Regulations has been incorporated into either the proposed Constitution or the proposed Bylaws; those Council Regulations that have been deleted are also discussed in the Comments column. The six regulations not included are either superfluous, or deal with matters that are more appropriately acted upon by Council by means of resolutions.

Members invited to self-nominate in 1976

Members of the Society have again been offered an opportunity to nominate themselves for consideration as candidates for elective officers or appointments (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, December 1975, page 61). Directions and forms were printed on pages 490–92 in the April issue of the *Bulletin*. The self-nomination forms will be used in preparing slates of candidates for office or for appointment to committees and panels of the Society. The forms will be held in the files of the Nominating Committee for two years. Members who have submitted forms previously are encouraged to do so again (because additional information is requested on the 1976 forms); if they do not, their forms from last year will be held

until such a time as self-nomination is solicited in the future.

The self-nomination information has been entered into a computer data bank and can be retrieved as needed by using a system called "The Morse Code," developed by POPA chairman, Philip M. Morse of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Burton will join APS staff

Joseph A. Burton will join the staff of The American Physical Society following his retirement this spring as director of the Physical Research Laboratory at Bell Laboratories. Burton, Treasurer of the Society, will have augmented responsibilities for the supervision of Society programs.

APS Council establishes physics-manpower panel

During its 1 February meeting, Council authorized the establishment of a Panel on Physics Manpower to be headed by Milan D. Fiske (General Electric Co, Research and Development Center) and charged it to identify and quantify long-term trends in the supply and demand for physicists, to develop systems for the periodic collection of necessary information, and to recommend appropriate methods for presenting this information regularly to those who need it. The Panel is to recommend also those actions to Council that it can take to improve the training of physicists and to discern those changes that may be needed in the training of physicists to prepare them better to meet future occupational demands. □