

to the public, so that those with the responsibility for overseeing the funding of science, and who are our friends, have the kind of information that they need to support those sympathies.

"I think that the responsibility on the scientific community itself is that they be critical, selective and professional in their communication with their colleagues, because that is where the basis lies for the next level of communication with the general public. And I'm not altogether convinced that this care and critical self-evaluation is as complete as it ought to be.

I think that we have a great resource to contribute to the society and to the economy, and that the way in which we carry out our affairs and talk about them should match the intrinsic quality and importance that we believe is attached to science."

—CBW

in brief

Journals in Translation, a listing of more than 500 foreign journals for which

English translations are available, may be purchased at a cost of £2 from the British Library Lending Division, Boston Spa, Wetherby, Yorkshire, UK LS 23 7BQ.

Stephen R. Mosier, space scientist at the Goddard Space Flight Center, has been appointed the program manager for the US-Japan Cooperative Science Program established by the NSF international-programs division. The joint program provides funding to support cooperative research projects, seminars and visiting-scientist programs.

the physics community

Study shows bachelors' job situation improves

More graduates from baccalaureate programs in physics who sought immediate employment in 1976-77 found jobs, and a small increase was recorded in the number of students going on to further graduate study in physics. For astronomy bachelors, a decline was noted in the percentage of students electing to continue their study in astronomy, indicating the possibility that more students who major in astronomy in undergraduate programs go on to earn advanced degrees in other disciplines, most notably physics. These results and others appear in the *Survey of 1976-77 Physics and Astronomy Bachelor's Degree Recipients*, published by the Manpower Statistics Division of the American Institute of Physics.

The *Survey* also noted that the recent decline in the overall number of bachelor's degrees granted in physics has levelled off at 75% of its 1969 high, though the percentage who choose to enroll in non-physics graduate programs has increased from 16% in 1968-69 to 28% in 1976-77.

The improvement in job opportunities for physics bachelors is reflected by the increase among degree recipients who receive multiple job offers. This group, the largest it has been this decade, increased from a low of 12% in the summer of 1971 to 37% in the summer of 1977.

The shifting towards a brighter employment situation for physics bachelors is also showing up in the types of jobs those who seek immediate employment accept, with less "straying" away from physics taking place this year: Of those responding to the *Survey's* questionnaire, only 14% said that their positions made no use of their physics training, compared with 19% the previous year.

It appears that the situation is not quite so encouraging for those graduating with a bachelor's degree in astronomy, although the uncertainty about the actual number of such graduates makes any definite conclusions difficult. Each year

the number of astronomy respondents to the *Survey's* questionnaire has increased, possibly indicating a rising trend in the number of astronomy degrees granted. However, in this, the third year to include astronomy majors in the *Survey*, more students elected *not* to continue the study of astronomy in graduate programs: 46% of the class of 1976 chose to continue their astronomy educations in graduate programs, while only 28% of the class of 1977 made similar plans.

Copies of the *Survey* can be obtained by writing Susanne D. Ellis, American Institute of Physics Manpower Statistics Division, 335 East 45th Street, New York.

AIP seeks editor for J. Math. Phys.

A new editor is being sought for the *Journal of Mathematical Physics*, which is published by the American Institute of Physics. The present editor, Morton Hamermesh of the University of Minnesota, who has served in the post for eight years, has indicated his desire to resign once a replacement can be found.

Nominations should be sent to Joel L. Lebowitz of Rutgers University, who is chairman of the search committee.

HEW calls for comments on laser regulations

The Bureau of Radiological Health of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has prepared a set of "Suggested State Regulations for Lasers" that HEW will offer to the governments of the 50 states for adoption. These could have a major impact on all users of lasers in the US. Public comments on these revised regulations are called for by 30 June 1978. Physicists who use lasers who are interested in the proposed regulations may write for a copy to John C. Villforth, Director, Bureau of Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, Public

Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Rockville, Md. 20852.

The Optical Society of America has appointed a committee to review the suggested standards and comment to the Bureau of Radiological Health. The chairperson of the committee is Paul L. Kelley of Lincoln Laboratories.

The American Association of Physics Teachers has referred consideration of the regulations to its Apparatus Committee, which is headed by Richard Fuller (Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn.).

Strassenburg elected president of $\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$

Arnold A. Strassenburg, the executive officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers and physics professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, was elected to a two-year term as the president of Sigma Pi Sigma, the physics honor society.

Re-elected to the Council of the Society of Physics Students for three-year terms are C. Daniel Cole of the University of Lowell, Peggy A. Dixon of Montgomery Community College and R. Charles Ivey of Abilene Christian University. Ram P. Chaturvedi of the State University of New York at Cortland was newly elected to a three-year term as Councillor.

in brief

A listing of conference proceedings from meetings sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics has just been published. Designed to overcome the traditional difficulties in the broad distribution of such proceedings, the IUPAP list can be obtained by writing the Associate Secretary General of IUPAP, c/o Institute of Theoretical Physics, Fack, S-402 20, Goteborg 5, Sweden. □