we hear that

terials Production Divison of the Department of Energy. Dillon succeeded **Robert S. Walleigh,** who had been acting deputy director since July 1975. Walleigh has been appointed senior adviser on international affairs at NBS.

Ming-Chang Lin and George Sigel Jr are the 1978 recipients of the Pure Science and Applied Science awards from the Naval Research Laboratory's Chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society of North America.

The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency has named the following scientists as new directors:

Vitaliy Frolov (USSR) as director of the division of research and laboratories. Frolov is the vice-president for science at the Engineering and Physical Institute in Moscow.

Hans-Juergen Laue (Federal Republic of Germany) as director of the division of nuclear power and reactors. Since 1970 he has been head of the division on planning, implementation and coordination of cooperation projects within bilateral contracts at the Gesellschaft für Kernforschung in Karlsruhe.

Harold E. Pryor (USA) as director for the division of scientific and technical information. Pryor is deputy assistant administrator for industry affairs and technology utilization.

Krishna Sundaram (India) as director of the division of life sciences. Since 1972, Sundaram has worked as director of the biomedical group at the Bhabha Atomic Research Center.

obituaries

Theodorus Niemeijer

The statistical physics community lost one of its talented members when Theodorus Niemeijer, associate professor at the Technological University of Delft, died on 27 August 1977 at the age of 40. Niemeijer studied theoretical physics in Leiden and obtained his PhD under the direction of T. W. Ruygrok at the University of Utrecht on a thesis dealing with the dynamics of the XY model. This work, in which he studied the time-dependent correlation function of the spins in a linear chain, attracted considerable attention at the time, since it contained one of the first exact expressions for a non-trivial time-dependent correlation function. Indeed, this thesis has acquired renewed relevance because the XY model turns out to be not only a model of mathematical interest but a prototype of a class of systems that can be realized in nature. After his doctorate Niemeijer worked for a year at the University of Toronto and subsequently for a year at the FOM Institute for Atomic and Molecular Physics in Amsterdam. In 1970 he came to the Technological University of Delft, where he was the theoretician of the low temperature section. As a result of his efforts there, together with several students, he published a series of articles on dipolar salts. This research brought him in contact with P.H.E. Meijer of the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, which led to a fruitful collaboration and frequent mutual visits. In addition he was a visiting professor at Temple University and the University of Alberta.

Although Niemeijer came to Delft to support the experimental low temperature group, his heart went out to pure theory. His study in the summer of 1972 of the renormalization theory of Wilson was meant as a small excursion back to his old love, spin systems. His contributions to the real space renormalization theory of critical phenomena, however, was so successful that this research became his main interest. It is therefore even more tragic that he died at the time when recognition for his work was becoming world-wide.

Although possessing a strong and critical personality, Dorus collaborated with many on an amicable basis. If he were interested in a problem he worked day and night on it. This interest extended far beyond physics and was manifest in a deep sense of culture, especially classical music. His love of the flute gave him particular pleasure and relaxation. When the news of his death reached the IUPAP Statistical Physics conference in Haifa, it came as a severe blow to many. We will remember Dorus both as a good physicist and a good friend.

J.M.J. VAN LEEUWEN
Delft Technological University

J. D. GUNTON
Temple University

Bronislaw Kuchowicz

Bronislaw Kuchowicz, noted physicist and astrophysicist at the N. Copernicus Astronomical Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences, died 3 June 1978 in Warsaw, Poland at the age of 46. Kuchowicz carried out his undergraduate and graduate studies in physics at universities in both Poznan and Warsaw, receiving his MA in 1955 from Warsaw and his PhD in 1967 from Poznan. Over his career he worked at Dubna, in the Department of Radiochemistry at Warsaw, and at the Lebedev Institute prior to assuming his present position at the Copernicus Center. Over the past few years he has been a visiting fellow at the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge (UK) and a visitor at Aspen, Chicago, Princeton, Brookhaven, Irvine and Urbana.

Kuchowicz worked in a broad range of fields, from general relativity, cosmology, and neutrino physics to cosmo- and radiochemistry. To each he brought his imaginative ideas. He is probably best known in the US for his comprehensive bibliographic references, *The Bibliography of the Neutrino, (1967), Nuclear Astrophysics, a Bibliographic Survey, (1967),* and *Nuclear and Relativistic; Astrophysics and Nuclidic Cosmochemistry,* (1971, 4 vols.). He was the author of more than 110 scientific papers. Bronislaw Kuchowicz will be remembered by all with whom he came in contact for his extreme generosity and kindness.

DAVID N. SCHRAMM
University of Chicago
BOHDAN PACZINSKI
N. Copernicus Center
Warsaw, Poland

William Wei-Nien Yu

William Wei-Nien Yu, senior scientist and application engineering manager of The Hamamatsu Corporation, died in New York on 21 June.

Yu, a native of China, received his BS degree in physics with honors from the City College of New York. He received his PhD in physics from Columbia University in 1971, having worked under Haskell Reich on helium-3. He spent several years as a physics instructor first at Columbia and then at CCNY.

In 1972 he joined me as a research associate establishing the picosecond laser and spectroscopy laboratory at CCNY. He became fascinated with the possibility of using the picosecond laser to unravel some of the more subtle mysteries of nature—in particular, some of the primary processes in photosynthesis. His work at the picosecond laboratory at City College opened a new era in photosynthesis research. In this connection Yu published numerous scientific papers and presented many lectures. He was a brilliant scientist. In 1977, he joined the Hamamatsu Corporation, directing their research and sales efforts in picosecond laser techniques and devices such as the temporal dispenser.

Those who worked with him will always remember his warm and helpful personality. He was a loyal and true friend. He was a born teacher who tried to explain the most complex physical concepts in the simplest terms. He would spend many untiring hours with students sharing his vast knowledge.

To work with him was a great pleasure; we shall miss Bill very much.

ROBERT R. ALFANO
The City College of New York □