

the physics community

Ramsey to head AIP board; Johnson is new secretary

Norman F. Ramsey, Higgins Professor of Physics at Harvard University, has been elected chairman of the American Institute of Physics Governing Board. The Board also has chosen John C. Johnson, professor of physics at Pennsylvania State University, as secretary of the Institute. Both men will continue in their present positions, dividing their time between their new and old duties.



RAMSEY

department. Ramsey has remained on the Harvard faculty since his arrival in 1947. His research has concentrated on the precise measurement of the electric and magnetic properties of nucleons, nuclei, atoms and molecules. For example, he and his associates discovered the deuteron electric quadrupole moment; they invented high precision methods of molecular-beam spectroscopy, including the atomic hydrogen maser, and they established low limits for the electric dipole moment of the neutron as a test of time



JOHNSON

Ramsey, a former president of The American Physical Society, succeeds Philip M. Morse, emeritus professor of physics at MIT. Morse has served as the Board chairman since 1975. He will continue his association with AIP as chairman of the new Committee for Public Policy, an advisory body established to coordinate the broad spectrum of AIP's public service activities. Ramsey will now head a Governing Board that has been reduced in size from 37 to 28 members by a constitutional amendment that became effective 1 January. Swelling membership among the nine societies had forced the Board to grow to a point where reductions were necessary.

In 1940 Ramsey earned his PhD from Columbia University for molecular beam studies of rotational magnetic moments of molecules. Cambridge University granted him an MA a year later and a DSc in 1954. Ramsey was an associate professor at Columbia from 1942 to 1947, but spent most of that period at the MIT Radiation Laboratory and Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. He was executive secretary of the group responsible for founding Brookhaven National Laboratory and served as the first head of its physics

reversal symmetry.

John Johnson succeeds Sidney Millman, formerly of Bell Laboratories, to the AIP secretaryship, a post Millman has held since October 1974. Johnson received master's and doctoral degrees in physics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1947 and 1950, respectively. During the following nine years he continued at Michigan as a research physicist, studying various topics in acoustics, including sound propagation in the air, sea and underground. From 1953 to 1959 Johnson directed the Acoustics and Seismics Laboratory there. Then in 1959 he joined Penn State as professor of engineering research and director of the Applied Research Laboratory. Johnson, a past president of the Acoustical Society of America, is currently president of the Institute for Noise Control Engineering/USA.

AIP offers list of graduate assistantships

In an experimental plan to augment the exchange of information between physics and astronomy graduate schools and prospective graduate assis-

stants, the American Institute of Physics has distributed a list of some 430 available assistantships (as of 25 April) to department chairmen at baccalaureate-granting institutions and to Society of Physics Students chapter advisers. For additional information contact Lewis Slack, Associate Director for Educational Services, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

AAS gives small grants to young astronomers

The American Astronomical Society has established a new program of small research grants (\$300 to \$1000) in an effort to support the research of young investigators and astronomers at "less well-endowed institutions." Funded with \$25 000 from NASA and \$5000 from the Society, the program provides money to astronomers whose research would be hindered by the costs of travel, computer use and page charges.

In February, the Society granted the first nine awards under the new program. The recipients are: Bryan C. Brown, Computer Science Corp, Silver Spring, Md.; John J. Cowan, University of Oklahoma; E. J. Grayzeck, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; James C. LoPresto, Edinboro State College, Edinboro, Pa.; William Penhallow, University of Rhode Island; Charles J. Peterson, University of Missouri, Columbia; Stephen J. Shawl, University of Kansas; Robert F. Willson, Tufts University, and Edith J. Woodward, William Patterson College, Wayne, N.J.

in brief

The Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Iztapalapa, Mexico has created the Manuel Sandoval Vallarta Chair for visiting physics professors, to honor the eminent Mexican theoretical physicist. Information about the chair may be obtained by contacting the Departamento de Física, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (Iztapalapa), Apdo, Postal 55-534, México 13, D. F. México.

NASA has established the Advanced Energetics Program at the Lewis Research Center to identify and fund the development of innovative energy technologies with space applications. Those interested in participating in the program should contact A. T. Chai, Project Manager, NASA Lewis Research Center, MS 501-8, Cleveland, Ohio 44135. □