

asks for increased efforts toward "an equitable and verifiable agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union to limit strategic nuclear arms and to reduce significantly the numbers of nuclear weapons and delivery systems." In addition, it calls for "all practical measures" to curb the spread of nuclear weapons and "all practical actions" to reduce the possi-

bility of accidental nuclear war.

The preamble to the Academy statement recognizes that "science offers no prospect of effective defense" against the "unprecedented threat to humanity" posed by nuclear war. It also warns of the likelihood of any so-called "limited" use of nuclear weapons leading to general use and thus to nuclear war.

—JC

the physics community

AAS deplores creationist intrusions into public schools

At its January meeting, the Council of the American Astronomical Society unanimously adopted a resolution deploping "the attempt to force creationism into public schools" and urging "Congress, all state legislatures, local school boards and textbook publishers to resist such attempts."

The statement followed the successful challenge made last December to an Arkansas law that would have required educators to give "creation science" equal time whenever evolution and many topics in earth science and astronomy were taught in Arkansas public classrooms (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, February 1982, page 53).

The Society's statement also declared:

"We agree with the findings of Judge William Overton that the Arkansas creationism law represents an unconstitutional intrusion of religious doctrine into the public schools, that 'creation science' is not science, and that its advocates have followed the unscientific procedure of starting from a dogmatically held conclusion and looking only for evidence to support that conclusion."

Roderick M. Grant is new AIP secretary

Roderick M. Grant is the new secretary of the AIP Governing Board. He succeeds John C. Johnson, who died on 20 February (*PHYSICS TODAY*, May, page 96).

Grant, who will continue as Henry Chisholm Professor of Physics at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, received a BS from Denison in 1957 and, from the University of Wisconsin, an MS in 1959 and a PhD in physics in 1965. He joined the department of physics at Denison as an assistant professor in 1965, became associate professor in 1970 and professor in 1977. He was chairman of the department for four years beginning in 1970.



GRANT

His research has concerned medical physics, in particular, thermoluminescence and optical absorption, and applications of computers and films to the teaching of physics. He has been secretary of the American Association of Physics Teachers since 1977, chairman of its publications committee and member of several AAPT committees concerned with science education, awards, and personnel. He has also served on the AIP Governing Board from 1979 to 1980 and on AIP committees on publishing policy and electronic publishing.

AAPT selects Wilson to succeed Strassenburg

Jack M. Wilson, currently associate professor of physics and head of the division of chemistry and physics at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, is to be the new executive officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers. In August Wilson will succeed Arnold A. Strassenburg, who is retiring after holding the position for 10 years. Strassenburg will continue as professor of physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Wilson received a bachelor's degree from Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania, in 1967 and from Kent State



WILSON

University a master's in 1970 and a PhD in physics in 1972. He started teaching at Sam Houston in 1972 as an assistant professor and attained his present rank in 1978. Active in AAPT, he is vice-president of its Texas Section and chairperson of the Committee on Professional Concerns.

His research has involved the structure of sickle-cell hemoglobin, applications of physics to police science, and Mössbauer spectroscopy of liquid crystals.

in brief

DOE will provide \$430 000 in grants to 26 universities to identify, motivate and prepare secondary-school students for engineering and energy studies and careers. This Pre-Freshman Engineering Program (PREP) is expected to involve about 4000 students in grades 7 to 12 during this academic year. Funding is by the DOE Office of Minority Economic Impact and the Office of Energy Research. Outside matching funds in excess of \$1.5 million are expected. NSF has published *The Stock of Science and Engineering Master's Degree-Holders in the United States*, which summarizes estimates of that population by sex and field for 1960-78. Single copies of the report are available free from NSF, Washington, DC 20550. (Request No. NSF 81-302.)

For the preparation of career information booklets for young black, Mexican-American, Puerto Rican and Native-American women, the Office of Opportunities in Science of AAAS is requesting information, especially from women minority scientists. Contact Paula Quick Hall, S/E Careers Project, AAAS-OOS, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 467-5433. □