

The Jesse Wakefield Beams Medal is given annually to recognize distinguished research in physics within the region. Meyer was noted for devising "exceptionally sensitive methods for measurements of pressure in fluids and solids." In addition, "he has advanced the understanding of the thermal excitations in magnetically ordered crystals, the magnetic susceptibility of liquid and solid He^3 , the behavior of molecules trapped in enclosure compounds, the magnetic and quadrupolar interactions in crystals of H, D, and He, and the scaling laws for critical phenomena in He liquids at the critical point, tricritical point and lambda transition."

Meyer joined the faculty of the Department of Physics at Duke University in 1959, after graduating from the University of Geneva and the University of Zurich, and after research and teaching appointments at Oxford and Harvard.

in brief

The Gravity Research Foundation has announced the winners of its 1983 awards for essays on gravitation. **Jeeva Anandan**, of the Max Planck Institut Für Physik und Astronomie, has won \$1500 for "New Relativistic Gravitational Effects Using Charged Particle Interferometry"; **Lee Smolin**, of the Institute for Advanced Study, has been awarded \$500 for "The Thermodynamics of Gravitation Radiation"; **Pawel Oskar Mazur**, of Jagellonian University in Poland, has won \$200 for "Black Hole Uniqueness from a Hidden Symmetry of Einstein's Gravity"; **E. Gunzig** and **P. Nardone**, of the Université Libre de Bruxelles, have jointly been awarded \$150 for "From Unstable Minkowski Space to the Inflationary Universe"; and **Bahram Mashhoon**, of the Institut Für Theoretische Physik in Cologne, has won \$100 for "On a New Gravitational Effect of a Rotating Mass."

Timothy Ingoldsby, formerly associate executive officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers, has become an educational specialist at Wang Laboratories' Atlantic Area Educational Center in New York.

New members elected to the **National Academy of Sciences** include: Felix H. Boehm, California Institute of Technology; Leopoldo M. Falicov, University of California, Berkeley; James L. Flanagan, Bell Labs; Carson D. Jeffries, University of California, Berkeley; Melvin Lax, City College of the CUNY; William C. Lineberger, University of Colorado; Allan McCormack, Tufts University; Norman F. Ness, Chiefs

Laboratory for Extraterrestrial Physics, Goddard Space Flight Center; Morton S. Roberts, director, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Charlottesville; Isadore Rudnick, University of California, Los Angeles; Gareth Thomas, University of California, Berkeley; Alar Toomre, MIT; George H. Trilling, University of California, Berkeley; David T. Wilkinson, Princeton University. In addition, the Academy has elected Michael E. Fisher of the United Kingdom, who is currently Horace White

Professor of Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics at Cornell University, to be a foreign associate of the Academy.

John P. Schiffer, senior physicist and associate director of the Physics Division of Argonne National Laboratory, has been appointed chairman of the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee.

Frank N. Bash, chairman of the astronomy department at the University of Texas, Austin, has been appointed to



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the William David Blunk Memorial Professorship. **David L. Lambert**, professor of astronomy in the same department, has been named the first holder of the Isabel McCutcheon Harte Centennial Professorship.

Ilya Prigogine, Regental Professor at the University of Texas, Austin, has been appointed a foreign member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Philip M. Morse, professor of physics emeritus, former director of the Computation Center, and director emeritus of the Operations Research Center at MIT, has been presented with the Case Alumni Association Gold Medal.

obituaries

Joel Henry Hildebrand

Joel Henry Hildebrand, dean of US chemists and professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, died 30 April, having achieved the remarkable age of 101.

He had a varied, long and distinguished career as a chemist and research scientist, teacher and educator, administrator, author, skier and photographer.

Hildebrand attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he received both BS and PhD degrees, after which he spent a year in Germany studying the new science of physical chemistry under J. H. van't Hoff and Walter Nernst. He then became the first person to teach this new science at his alma mater. During this period he developed the hydrogen electrode as a

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