

detriment of more productive smaller programs, often supported by the National Science Foundation. As it happened, Brinkman had been one of the first to blow the whistle on NCAM when details on the 1.3-GeV storage ring for the proposed LBL synchrotron light source came before the Research Council's Solid State Sciences Committee, which he now heads.

Maintaining balance. Another critic arguing forcefully for increased support of small materials laboratories is Theodore H. Geballe of Stanford, who led a panel of the Academy's Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy to that finding in a report issued last year. Geballe observes that materials research, because of the diversity of disciplines involved, flourishes when it is cultivated in many places. The report, prepared for Keyworth's office, says: "Choices must be made between emphasis on large national facilities versus small institutional-based research. Both are essential, but the balance must be continuously monitored. The ability to develop and bring large-scale facilities to fruition must be maintained even at the expense of phasing out or reducing the scope of still valuable facilities that are no longer competitive in producing exciting new science."

At the committee's first meeting on 20-21 January, Keyworth made it clear he did not want the members to tangle with the obviously controversial issue of big versus small materials research facilities. Instead, he expects them to concentrate on the research needs in the next five or ten years for such facilities as pulsed and steady-state neutron sources, vacuum ultraviolet and x-ray synchrotron light sources and high-voltage electron microscopes, while bearing in mind the virtues and defects of such existing facilities as the High Flux Beam Reactor at Brookhaven, which has been used for neutron-scattering applications over the past 20 years, and the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source at Argonne, used for experiments since 1981.

The study is expected to run nine or ten months, so as to be useful to DOE and NSF in preparing their budget requests for fiscal 1986—which begins 1 October 1985. During the course of the study, the committee will consider the following:

- ▶ Importance and usefulness of existing facilities for "frontier research" in materials science, atomic physics, biology, chemistry, earth sciences and medicine
- ▶ Availability of less capital-intensive alternatives for achieving comparable scientific and educational goals
- ▶ Quality of scientific leadership and skilled technical support staff at various facilities, as well as the personnel and equipment available in other de-

partments of the laboratory or university for use in materials research

▶ Access to a facility and ease of use by both academic and industrial scientists, along with the potential for training new scientists as well as producing significant research in various fields

▶ Capability of existing and proposed facilities for applied research and technology to advance the nation's economic growth and defense requirements.

The committee chairman is Frederick Seitz, former NAS president and president emeritus of Rockefeller University, and vice-chairman is Dean E. Eastman of IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center. The other members are Richard B. Bernstein of UCLA; Robert J. Birgeneau and Mildred S. Dresselhaus of MIT; Jerome B. Cohen of Northwestern University; Harry G. Drickamer of the University of Illinois; Donald Engelman of Yale; Peter Jesson of duPont; Walter Kohn of the Institute

for Theoretical Physics at the University of California, Santa Barbara; William D. Nix of Stanford; Ed Rubenstein of the Stanford Medical Center; John J. Rush of the National Bureau of Standards; Albert I. Schindler of the Naval Research Lab; William P. Slichter of Bell Labs; Joseph V. Smith of the University of Chicago; Richard Stein of the University of Massachusetts; H. Guyford Steyer of the Universities Research Association (which operates Fermilab); and John M. White of the University of Texas at Austin.

Two members have headed DOE panels on NCAM and light sources, respectively: Peter Eisenberger of Exxon Research & Engineering and Albert Narath of Sandia. Another member, David Lynch of Iowa State University and Ames Laboratory, was chairman of a Research Council study on the status of synchrotron radiation research, published last year. —IG

Chicago provost to be Smithsonian chief

Robert McCormick Adams, provost of the University of Chicago, was named on 22 January as the next secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, having been selected by a search committee from among 300 nominees in a process that began last May. An anthropologist and archeologist who has spent his entire academic career as student, professor, director of the Oriental Institute and provost at the University of Chicago, Adams became a serious candidate for the Smithsonian post only three weeks before he was chosen. Once his name was put forward, says William G. Bowen, president of Princeton University and head of the 18-member search committee, "Adams was the flat first choice of each of us." The vote by the Smithsonian's Board of Regents was also described as unanimous.

Upon the retirement of S. Dillon Ripley on 17 September, Adams will become the ninth secretary in the 137-year history of the Smithsonian, the world's largest complex of museums. Besides the 13 museums around the Mall in Washington, D.C., which attracted some 25 million onlookers last year, the institution operates several research facilities, including the Harvard-Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. All told, the Smithsonian has a staff of 4700 and an annual budget of \$292 million in combined Federal and private funds.

Adams is described by Hanna Holborn Gray, president of the University of Chicago, as "a distinguished scholar of great range and imagination, con-

cerned with the basic questions of the humanities and sciences and interested in the public understanding of those issues." He is an authority on early agricultural and urban societies of the Near and Middle East. A council member of the National Academy of Sciences, Adams has been active in affairs of NAS and its National Research Council. Between 1978 and 1982 he was vice chairman and acting chairman of the NAS Committee on Science and Public Policy. He is married to the former Ruth Salzman Skinner, editor of *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*. —IG

RIPLEY (LEFT) AND ADAMS

