

New APS newsletter available to members via Telemail system

Recently APS has been making very successful experimental use of an electronic mail system known as Telemail to enhance communication among its officers, committee chairpersons and other principals. Meanwhile, Robert Park, Executive Director of the Office of Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., has been producing and distributing newsletters (to a somewhat limited group) covering those happenings on the Washington scene that affect physics.

It has been decided to make a somewhat abbreviated version of Park's newsletters available to interested APS members and physics departments via the APS Telemail system AMERPHYS. The one-page news summary, called "What's New," will be edited by Park and issued each Monday noon (Eastern Time), beginning 2 July 1984. It can be accessed by almost any terminal equipped with a telephone modem, using the proper instructions and password.

During an experimental period, APS will pay the costs. Funds for this experiment will be limited. If the experiment is successful, the system will continue on a subscription basis. Physics departments are encouraged to use photocopies for distribution. Instructions and password for this free trial can be obtained by sending a copy of an APS mailing label (from the *Bulletin* or some other APS journal) to: "What's New"; APS, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Memorial resolutions for Bloch and Mayer

At the April 1984 meeting, the Council voted to recognize the accomplishments of two recently deceased distinguished scientists by issuing memorial resolutions in their honor. These resolutions, to be delivered to their next of kin, are to be issued in the names of Felix Bloch and Joseph E. Mayer.

A commemorative and congratulatory certificate was sent to the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary.

AIP Directory of staff members to go free to APS members

APS members will be sent automatically a free copy of the biannual American Institute of Physics *Directory of Physics and Astronomy Staff Members* in the fall. This useful publication, which was sold for \$60 last year, will augment the Directory issue of the APS *Bulletin*. It contains a listing of staffs of North American Colleges and Universities, Federally Funded R&D Centers, Government Laboratories, Industrial Laboratories and Not-for-Profit Laboratories.

It is planned that the AIP directory will be produced in alternate years with the APS directory.

Ramavataram fund to bring teachers from India to US

The APS Council at its November 1983 meeting in San Francisco accepted a proposal by the widow of Kilambi Ramavataram. She has donated funds to APS for the establishment of the "Kilambi Ramavataram Fund," to award travel grants that would enable Indian high-school and college teachers of physics to visit the US. Administration of this grant will require the creation of an official APS selection committee, to work with Mrs. Ramavataram in selecting applicants.

RAMAVATARAM



Council begins life-membership category

At its April 1984 meeting, the APS Council approved the establishment of a category of membership called "life membership." By paying a fee equal to twelve times the normal annual membership dues, any regular APS member can become an APS member for life, without ever having to pay additional dues. This new feature will begin with the 1985-86 membership year.

Council considers criteria for APS fellowship

The question of criteria for fellowship awards was discussed at the April 1984 Council meeting. Traditionally, nominations have come from the APS Divisions, and they have been based on technical contributions to the subject matter covered by the Divisions. With the advent of important groups that are not organized according to technical activities (for example, the Forum on Physics and Society, the Panel on Public Affairs, and the International Physics Group), criteria for fellowship have become more nebulous.

Council has now established an Ad Hoc Fellowship Committee to consider nominations coming from outside the technical Divisions. In addition, it approved special fellowship criteria that had been submitted by the Forum.