

- Each of the other three finalists will receive an honorarium of \$500.
- Each student nominee will be granted a free APS Student Membership for one year upon receipt of the completed application.

Nominations for the 1985 Apker Award are open to students at colleges or universities in the United States who were enrolled as undergraduates during at least a part of the 12-month period preceding the 15 June 1985 deadline. Only one candidate may be nominated by an institution. The candidate should have completed the requirements for an undergraduate degree with an excellent academic record and should have demonstrated exceptional potential for scientific research by an original contribution to physics.

The applications should include: a letter of nomination from the head of the physics department; a copy of the student's academic transcript; documentation written by the student, including a 1000-word summary describing the original contribution to physics submitted for this award, such as a research publication or senior thesis; and two letters of recommendation from physicists who know the candidate's individual contribution to the work submitted. The deadline for completed applications is 15 June 1985.

The Selection Committee, to be headed in 1985 by Robert E. Marshak (Virginia Polytechnic Institute), will review the applications and select the winner from among four finalists invited for interviews in September or October.

Interested students or faculty should contact J. A. Burton, Administrator, Apker Award Selection Committee, The American Physical Society, 335 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017; telephone (212) 682-7341.

APS joins in appeals for Orlov and Shcharansky

APS has given its support to the International Campaign for Orlov and Shcharansky. This support was offered via a letter from APS president Mildred Dresselhaus to Israel Halperin, secretary of the Canadian Committee of Scientists and Scholars. The letter gives permission for the campaign to use the APS name in a listing of scientific organizations that have joined together in calling upon the Soviet authorities to grant personal freedom to these two physicists, who have been incarcerated for seven years. Individual readers who wish to give additional support should contact Israel Halperin, Secretary, The Canadian Committee of Scientists and Scholars, 39 Elm Ridge Drive, Toronto, Ontario M6B 1A2, Canada; (416) 782-8087.

Electronic newsletter is extended for six months

The APS Council has voted to extend "What's New" (see PHYSICS TODAY, June 1984, page 81), the experimental electronic weekly newsletter, through 30 June 1985. This page of news items is written by Robert L. Park, Executive Director of the APS Office of Public Affairs in Washington.

"What's New" may be accessed by those people registered on the GTE Telenet system who, at the first sign-on @ prompt, use Telemail as the connecting address. All such people can access "What's New," regardless of whether they are APS members. The following format should be used:

Command? CHECK WHATSNEW/AMERPHYS

Response: Now using bulletin board
Command? SCAN SINCE [Date expressed as 00/00/00]. (Always scan since the previous Friday, and always pick up before the next Friday, because the previous "What's New" is purged every Thursday at midnight.)

Response: BULLETIN BOARD contains...

Command? READ 1

Any APS member who does not have institutional access to GTE Telenet may obtain the access instructions and password to use the APS AMERPHYS system by a request to:

"What's New"
c/o APS
335 East 45th Street
New York, NY 10017

STEP travel grants send ten students to plasma conference

Ten foreign graduate students studying physics in the United States have been awarded \$250 travel grants to attend the Plasma Physics Division Meeting in Boston, 29 October through 2 November 1984. These travel grants were provided by the "Short Term Enrichment Program" (STEP) of the Office of Student Support Services of the US Information Agency and were awarded to the following students: Ru-Ling Chou, Hunter College (China); Andrew Holland, Columbia University (United Kingdom); E. J. Iglesias, University of

Maryland (Venezuela); Soo Yong Kim, Columbia University (Korea); Mounir Laroussi, University of Tennessee (Tunisia); Wloder Nakonieczny, University of Tennessee (Poland); Gun-Sik Park, University of Maryland (Korea); Manju Prakash, Columbia University (India); Ebo Uchimoto, University of Wisconsin (Japan); Fu Goul Yee, Columbia University (Taiwan).

It is expected that similar STEP travel grants awards will be available for APS meetings in 1985, including the March meeting in Baltimore, 25-29 March, the April meeting in Washington, 24-27 April, and the Plasma Physics Division Meeting in San Diego, 4-8 November.

Applications are encouraged from foreign nationals who are full-time graduate students at US universities and are nominated by their department heads. First priority will be given to authors of contributed papers at the meeting. The deadline for STEP applications is one month before the meeting date.

Completed applications should be sent to: STEP Travel Grant Program, The American Physical Society, 335 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017; telephone (212) 682-7341.

Council increases APS dues and confirms expanded benefits

The APS Council at its meeting on 28 October 1984 passed a motion to increase APS dues from \$30 to \$40 effective at the beginning of the next APS fiscal year, 1 July 1985.

The APS bylaws require that "a motion to change the dues shall be passed at two successive meetings of Council. An announcement of such a motion by Council shall appear in an issue of the Bulletin published before the second vote is taken." The Council will consider this motion again at its meeting on 20 January 1985 as announced there.

The motion passed by Council reads as follows: "Resolved: That the Annual Dues for APS Regular Members and Fellows be increased from \$30 to \$40 effective 1 July 1985."

No change is proposed for the special \$10 student membership rate in Fiscal Year 1986. Bills sent to members will continue to solicit a \$10 voluntary contribution over and above regular dues. Members will receive automatically and free of charge PHYSICS TODAY, the Bulletin, The APS Membership Directory and the AIP Directory of Physics and Astronomy Staff Members. On request, members are also entitled to receive, free of charge, Physical Review Abstracts and General Physics Advance Abstracts. □

Clarification on directories

APS members recently received free copies of the 1984-85 AIP Directory of Physics and Astronomy Staff Members, which was sent out as a supplement to the December issue of the APS Bulletin. The AIP Directory should not be confused with the directory of APS members, the next edition of which will appear in December 1985.