

MacArthur doubles the money for research on arms control

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation of Chicago has established a major new program to fund research on international security and arms control. The program will provide \$25 million over the next three years to support work at institutions in the United States and overseas, which means that the MacArthur Foundation will be spending more on such research than any of the other major foundations, including Ford and the Carnegie Corporation (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, July 1984, page 69). As a result of the new program, total yearly spending by foundations on international security is roughly doubled.

The Program on International Security was set up after two years of planning by MacArthur Foundation board members Jonas Salk (Salk Institute for Biological Studies), Murray Gell-Mann (Caltech) and Jerome Wiesner (president emeritus of MIT). Ruth Adams served as staff director of the panel, while working concurrently as editor of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*; she left the *Bulletin* to manage the program, after it was established.

According to Wiesner, the general objectives of the program are to strengthen the financial position of the institutions that already do important work in the field and to draw additional institutions and individuals representing a wider array of disciplines into work on international security and arms control. By comparison with the natural sciences, Wiesner observes, programs in security and arms control never have been well funded, "except for those that are captive of the Defense Department."

Elaborating on the program, Adams says that funding is provided in the first round for five distinct components. The program:

- ▶ supports existing major centers of interdisciplinary research (Harvard, MIT and Stanford)
- ▶ encourages other centers to do more (University of Michigan, University of Maryland, University of Chicago and Cornell University)
- ▶ provides fellowships for young

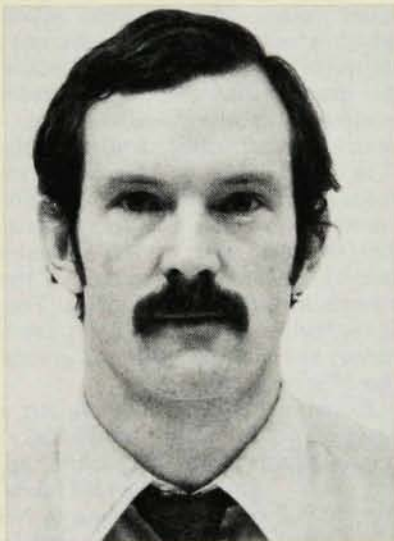
scholars

- ▶ funds a project at the Brookings Institution in Washington to explore the question of how interdisciplinary approaches to international security could be most fruitfully expanded
- ▶ gives some support to institutions

abroad, such as the Science Policy Research Unit at the University of Sussex in England, to encourage more international interaction on questions of global security.

The largest single grant made in the first round is for \$6.24 million and goes

Len Ackland succeeds Ruth Adams at *Bulletin*



ACKLAND



ADAMS

With the announcement last winter that Harrison Brown would take over as editor-in-chief of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, a series of sweeping personnel changes at the monthly magazine was complete. Last year, Len Ackland replaced Ruth Adams as editor, with responsibility for day-to-day management. Adams worked first as managing editor and then editor of the *Bulletin* from the mid-1950s, when Eugene Rabinowitch was still in charge, to the late 1960s. She left the magazine for a decade, to return as editor from 1978 to 1984. She met Ackland, a former science reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, when he was doing an anniversary story on the first chain reaction, and she strongly supported his candidacy for her job.

Brown, who has responsibility for planning the overall editorial direction of the *Bulletin*, replaces MIT physicist Bernard Feld, who was editor-in-chief from 1973 to

1985. Brown, a chemist with a doctorate from Johns Hopkins, worked on the Manhattan Project and was on the faculty at Caltech from 1951 to 1977. He has published extensively on nuclear weapons, resources and human destiny, and he would like the *Bulletin* "to embrace everything that has a bearing on war and peace."

Last year, the *Bulletin*'s directors established a five-member editorial board to help smooth the transition and advise on editorial policy. Board member Deborah Shapley, a science reporter currently at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies, says an important objective of the new advisory panel is to help bridge the generation gap between the physicists who founded the magazine and nurture it, and the younger generation of arms control writers and activists "who have made the *Bulletin* their forum."

—WS

to the Social Science Research Council to support 32 pre- and postdoctoral fellowships and two mid-career fellowships per year for five years.

Stanford, Harvard and MIT each get \$250 000 per year for three years. They are free to use the money much as they see fit, although of course the MacArthur Foundation will be keeping close tabs on what results from the expenditures. Allocation of funds from the grants will be handled at MIT by a newly established committee, which is headed by Eugene B. Skolnikoff, director of the MIT Center for International Studies, and Carl Kaysen, director of MIT's Program in Science, Technology and Society. Other members include Donald L. M. Blackmer (political science), Philip Morrison (physics), George W. Rathjens (political science) and Jack Ruina (electrical engineering).

Generally, the many small "public interest groups" and activist organizations that do work pertinent to international security were not recipients of MacArthur funds in the first round, partly, Wiesner says, because there are just too many of them. The only clear exception is the Federation of American Scientists Fund, which received \$100 000 per year for three years. —ws

Education

AAPT receives NSF grant for summer teaching workshops

The American Association of Physics Teachers has received a grant of \$477 000 from the National Science Foundation to support a three-week workshop for teachers this summer and followup activities during the following year. The program is being co-directed by Donald Kirwan (University of Rhode Island) and Jack Wilson (AAPT executive officer). AAPT received more than 800 applications for the Physics Teaching Resource Agents Program, and from that pool it selected 105 teachers. The teachers will attend a workshop at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff from 10–28 June and participate in the AAPT summer meeting that is to take place 19–21 June in Flagstaff.

During the three weeks in Flagstaff, teachers will be trained to conduct many of the existing AAPT workshops on lecture demonstration, computers, laboratory techniques, and audio-visual materials. The teachers also will be given briefings on current research in physics and physics education.

Following the sessions in Arizona, teachers are to conduct workshops in their home regions for less well-prepared teachers. AAPT will provide

scheduling and support services for the regional workshops. Followup programs for the 105 teachers selected to go to Arizona will be held at the AAPT-APS annual joint meeting in Atlanta in January 1986, and at the AAPT meeting at Ohio State University in summer 1986.

Corporate support grows for Young Investigator program

The Presidential Young Investigator program, established in 1983 and managed by the National Science Foundation, has garnered support from a number of major corporations, currently including Exxon Education Foundation, IBM, General Motors, Xerox and several chemical companies. The basic award in the Young Investigator program is \$25 000 per year for a period of five years, but NSF is authorized to match additional funds provided by industry up to a level of \$37 500, so that selected awardees can get as much as \$100 000 per year. The awards supplement rather than replace salaries, which nominating institutions are required to guarantee over the lifetime of the grants. Funds are to be used for equipment, postdoctoral salaries, research-related travel, and so forth.

In 1983, IBM set up a faculty development awards program of its own, which currently provides two-year grants of \$30 000 each year to 100 untenured faculty members. Recipients of these awards include 16 Presidential Young Investigators, who are able to use the money as matching industrial grants in the NSF program.

Exxon Educational Foundation announced last fall that it would make 20 annual grants of \$10 000 each for up to five years. Xerox has provided funds to support 13 awards, according to NSF, and General Motors also has made a sizable contribution.

The Council for Chemical Research Inc, an organization of leading chemical companies and universities with chemistry faculties, has been publicizing the Young Investigator program and urging its corporate members to provide support. After circulating the names of the 1983–84 awardees among its members, some 35 chemical companies put up over \$1 million to supplement awards.

Some significant changes have occurred in the Young Investigator program. The program originally called for NSF to make 200 five-year awards each year for a period of five years, so that the total number of awardees at any one time eventually would come to 1000. NSF made 200 awards in fiscal 1984 and 1985, but for fiscal 1986, the number has been cut to 100.

Eligibility requirements have been

tightened because of unhappiness at the Office of Science and Technology Policy about the ages of the awardees selected in the first round. In fiscal 1983, an awardee could be as much as seven years past the doctorate, and the median age of the 200 awardees turned out to be 4.5 years past the doctorate. Eligibility was cut to 3.5 years past doctorate in 1985 and 2.5 years past doctorate in 1986. To be eligible for a 1986 award, a candidate must have earned the PhD no later than 1 January 1982.

SURA selects Grunder to build and direct CEBAF

Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) has announced the appointment of Hermann A. Grunder as director of the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility, which is to be built at Newport News, Virginia, by a group of 34 colleges and universities in the Southeast. Grunder was unanimously recommended for the job by a search committee that included former NSF director Edward Knapp (chairman), D. Allan Bromley (Yale), Ernest M. Henley (University of Washington), Leon Lederman (Fermilab), John Schiffer (Argonne National Laboratory), Thomas Sugihara (Oregon State), and George Wheeler (University of Tennessee). Grunder, who previously was deputy director for general sciences at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, assumed his new position on 1 May.

in brief

The University of Pittsburgh has dedicated a new \$3-million Surface Science Center. The Center is part of the university's chemistry department and has as its nucleus the Gulf Surface Instrumentation Laboratory, which was established with a grant of \$500 000 from Gulf Oil Foundation. The director of the center is John T. Yates Jr.

Five \$2500 awards for the purchase of science teaching equipment by colleges have been made available by The Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy Inc. To be eligible, a college must have a student enrollment of less than 2500 and receive less than 25% of its operating budget from the Federal or state governments. Inquiries should be addressed to Richard Obrycki, Koppers Company Inc, 440 College Park Drive, Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146. □