

and the professional societies as stated in Secretary Weinberger's letter of 4 January 1985:

We [DOD] have a long-standing policy regarding the open nature of unclassified basic research and have encouraged the free and open exchange of such information through all channels, including presentation at open conferences.

Secretary Weinberger also stated concern about unclassified scientific and technical information that might become subject to Export Administration Regulations. In his letter to the IEEE, Secretary Weinberger stated that:

Some professional societies have attempted to address this issue by independently adopting "US only" conference policies. DOD does not support this approach because it fails to recognize our national obligation to work with our friends and allies toward mutual attainment of national security.

The American Institute of Physics will continue to facilitate efforts by its membership to disseminate scientific and technical information that has not received national security classification. Moreover, AIP places no security or nationality criteria on publication in its journals or participation in its scientific and technical conferences.

The responsibility for the integrity of scientific communication lies with the individual authors, who must determine whether disclosure of their material presented at its meetings or submitted to its publications is properly available for general dissemination.

New Smithsonian exhibit observes laser's 25th birthday

A new exhibition celebrating the 25th anniversary of the laser, "The Laser at 25," has begun to tour the United States. The exhibit consists of photographs, artifacts, graphic illustrations and working models. It was assembled with a grant from the Optical Society of America and the Lasers and Electro-Optics Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers; its curators are Bernard Finn (Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American History) and Robert Friedel (University of Maryland). The exhibit is being circulated by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

Following a four-day showing 21-24 May in Baltimore during the Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics, the exhibit opened at the end of June at the Rubin H. Fleet Space Theater and Science Center, San Diego, California. This month it opened at the National

Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. Next it goes to the Alabama Space and Rocket Center, Huntsville, Alabama, in November; then to the Tampa Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa, Florida, in January 1986; to the Exploratorium, San Francisco, California, in March; to the Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, Indiana, in May; the Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, Maryland, in July; and in November to the Cleveland Health Education Museum, Cleveland, Ohio.

In 1987 the exhibit goes to the Discovery Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in January; the Cranbrook Science Institute, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, in March; the Catawba Science Center, Hickory, North Carolina, in May; the MIT Museum, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in August; Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, in October; and in December, the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum, Logan, Kansas.

Student Pugwash promotes science and public policy

Student Pugwash, an infant effort conceived and birthed without direct involvement of the elder Pugwash, appears to be growing rapidly into a strapping young organization. Founded in 1979, Student Pugwash held its fourth biennial meeting at Princeton University in late June, and the conference attracted 90 students from 25 countries. It was the largest of the Student Pugwash meetings to date, and it featured an unusually impressive array of speakers and panelists, including NSF Director Erich Bloch, Edward David of Exxon Research and Engineering, Philip Morrison and Jerome Wiesner of MIT, Princeton's own Henry Smyth (author of the scientific report on the Manhattan Project) and Herbert Leifer (Rockwell International).

Student Pugwash was founded in 1979 by Jeffrey Leifer, who happens to be a son of Herbert Leifer, who as Rockwell chief scientist is deeply involved in laser research for the Strategic Defense Initiative. Jeffrey's younger brother David served from 1983 to 1985 as executive director of Student Pugwash and helped incorporate the organization and establish a Washington office in 1982.

The general theme of this year's conference, which was supported by a grant from the NSF Ethics and Values in Science and Technology program, was "Science, technology and individual responsibility." There were five themes, among them the military uses of space, in which physicists were

especially active. In an afternoon session on 26 June, for example, Smyth and Leifer discussed "The lessons of the Manhattan Project for SDI researchers." That evening, Morrison spoke about "Nations and weapons: morality and consequences." The following afternoon, Wiesner delivered the keynote address on "Individual responsibility in a military culture."

No doubt, Student Pugwash was able to bring highly accomplished speakers to its conference because it also has been attracting students of promise. Participants this year included physics students David Noever (a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford), Christian Holm (a West German currently at Georgia Tech), Johan Swahn (Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden), and Cheryl Lynn Morrow (University of Colorado).

Student Pugwash is supported mainly by grants from private foundations, and it publishes a directory of internships available to students who are interested in science, technology and public policy. The *Technology and Society Internship Directory* sells for \$12 and is available from Student Pugwash, 505-B Second Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002.

Caltech's television physics course starts to air this month

This month "The Mechanical Universe," the two-year college-level physics course produced at Caltech, will begin airing on public network television and "Learning Channel" cable stations around the country (see PHYSICS TODAY, September 1984, page 73, and December 1982, page 67). The date the first show appears will vary on public television, but it was scheduled to start on 2 September on some 700 Learning Channel stations.

To take the course for credit this year, there must be a corresponding college in the area. To find out whether there is a suitable institution, one can contact a local PBS or Learning Channel station, or call (800) LEARNER. Information on how to get the textbook for the course also can be obtained from local stations or the 800 number.

The textbook should be available at the bookstore of the local corresponding institution, but it also can be ordered directly from Cambridge University Press. The order should specify whether the regular or advanced edition (designed for engineering majors) is desired. Orders should be addressed to Paul Wehn, Cambridge University Press, 32 East 57th Street, New York, NY 10020. □