



Clifford M. Will (left), winner of AIP science writing prize, is congratulated at the AIP corporate associates meeting by his editor at Basic Books, Richard Liebman-Smith; Roland Schmitt of GE is in the background.

of Technology. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Chicago from 1972 to 1974. From 1974 to 1981 he was an assistant professor of physics at Stanford University. He joined the faculty at Washington University

in 1981 and became a full professor in 1985.

Will's previous book, *Theory and Experiment in Gravitational Physics*, was published in 1981 by Cambridge University Press.

MUSEUMS MARK TERCENTENARY OF NEWTON'S PRINCIPIA

A number of museums paid tribute this year to the tercentenary of Isaac Newton's *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, popularly known as the *Principia*.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History hosted an exhibit entitled "Isaac Newton and the *Principia*: 300 Years," which ran from 23 March to 5 October. The exhibit is scheduled to open at the IBM Gallery of Science and Art in New York on 24 November and run through 30 January. It features a display of eight cases containing copies of first editions of the *Principia* as well as copies of some of Newton's work on optics; published works by authors such as Pierre Simon Laplace and Joseph Louis Lagrange highlighting 18th-century scientific reaction to the *Principia*; theological and philosophical literature praising or excoriating the mathematical determinism of Newton's logic and the materialism of his science, and more popular literature such as Voltaire's interpretation of the *Principia* and a book entitled *Isaac Newton's Philosophy*

Explained for the Use of the Ladies by an Italian author named Algarotti. Portraits and engravings of Newton adorn the show, which also displays an early 19th-century model of an orrery—a mechanical model of the Solar System—and a Franklin static-electricity machine.

According to Paul Theerman, curator of the exhibit, the display was centrally located and well attended.

Many of the books featured at the Smithsonian were contributed from the private collection of Bern Dibner, a Connecticut industrialist whose lifelong interest has been to collect precious volumes spanning much of scientific history. In 1936 he founded the Burndy Library, now located in South Norwalk, Connecticut, and at age 90 he is still its director. Since March the Burndy Library has displayed, in seven cases, a copy of the first edition of the *Principia*; the first French- and English-language editions and early commentaries; a financial statement dated 1711 and signed by Newton; numerous portraits of Newton and a marble bust of

him.

According to Philip Weimerskirch, the assistant director, the library has published several historical works on Newton including, this year, *The Newtonian Revolution* by I. Bernard Cohen.

In Cambridge, England, the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, which is part of the science history department at the University of Cambridge, also paid its respects to Newton and his contribution to science. The exhibit, consisting of ten cases, opened on 5 May and closed on 4 December. It included all early editions of the *Principia*, books from Newton's library, prisms that Newton may have used in optical experiments and a lens that belonged to the scientist. It also featured 18th-century manuscripts that focused on the *Principia*'s historical background, scientific achievements of the age and reaction to the *Principia*.

With funding from Shell, the Whipple produced a set of ten wall charts condensing and outlining the exhibit. The posters, containing both text and illustrations, were sold at low prices to educational institutions in England and, to a lesser extent, in the United States. Only 500 sets remain of the 2000 sets originally produced. Although the posters have not been publicized in the United States, the Whipple is willing to make them available abroad. For a price of £13 or the dollar equivalent, the museum will ship the charts airmail; the cost is £6 for normal freight. Write to James Bennett, Whipple Museum of the History of Science, Free School Lane, Cambridge CB2 3RH, Great Britain.

—RICHARD HART

GELATT, KIRKPATRICK HONORED BY AIP FOR INDUSTRY RESEARCH

C. Daniel Gelatt Jr, president of Northern Micrographics Inc in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and E. Scott Kirkpatrick, manager of the workstations systems laboratory at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, were honored this year with AIP's 1987-88 Prize for Industrial Applications of Physics. The prize recognizes their discovery and development of a new method to optimize the layout of complex integrated circuits, called "simulated annealing." AIP Executive Director Kenneth W. Ford presented the \$5000 prize to Gelatt and Kirkpatrick on 1 October during the joint meeting of IUPAP and the AIP corporate associates in Washington.