

## Council adopts statement on US-Soviet scientific cooperation

At its meeting on 2 November 1986 in Baltimore, the APS Council adopted a statement on US-Soviet cooperation in physics. The statement evolved from a paper by Ernest Malamud of Fermilab (which is available from Edith Rees at the APS New York office). The APS Subcommittee on International Scientific Affairs requested the paper in anticipation of the new protocol agreement for scientific cooperation between the US National Academy of Sciences and the Soviet Academy of Sciences (PHYSICS TODAY, June, page 67). The draft statement went through several revisions by members of SISA with advice from the APS Committee on the International Freedom of Scientists. The final wording was agreed to by SISA, CIFS and the APS Council. Last month APS President Val Fitch sent the statement with a cordial cover letter to Guri I. Marchuk, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

The American Physical Society has considered the complex issues associated with US-USSR physics exchanges and adopts the following position:

We believe in the principle that science belongs to all humanity and transcends national boundaries. Science should serve, and has served in the past, as a bridge for mutual understanding and peace in a divided world.

We believe that good science requires open communication. Committed to international scientific exchanges, we also affirm our traditional strong concerns for human rights and for freedom of expression in the conduct of science.

1. APS stresses that science of the highest quality is important for successful international collaboration. With specific reference to international conferences and workshops, APS urges governments of host countries to furnish visas to all invited delegates and to do so in timely fashion. We also urge responsible authorities in all countries to facilitate the travel of invited speakers to major conferences at home or abroad and we strongly oppose any

substitution of participants except by specific agreement of the meeting organizers.

2. APS deplores actions of any government that deprive scientists of the right to pursue their profession, to meet openly with their colleagues or to attend and participate in conferences at home or abroad. Such actions seriously erode the willingness and interest of many US physicists to become involved in exchanges and cooperative endeavors.

3. While recognizing that national security and human rights issues are

involved in the consideration of cooperative ventures in physics with the Soviet Union, APS believes that it is important at this time to maintain cooperation and strive for a more open dialogue among scientists of our two countries. At the same time, we shall continue to take action in support of the professional and human rights of our Soviet colleagues, as we do for the rights of scientists in other countries. Furthermore we shall continue to encourage individual scientists and groups to take conscientious and responsible action to further these aims.

### Drell telegram to Gorbachev hails Sakharov move

On 19 December Sidney Drell, APS president in 1986, sent the following telegram to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev: "Greatly appreciate important action by Soviet government granting permission to the Sakharovs to return to Moscow and resume normal academic work. I expect this to contribute to improving scientific cooperation." Drell sent the telegram to Gorbachev immediately after learning that Andrei Sakharov and Yelena Bonner would be allowed to return to Moscow from internal exile in Gorky.

Over the years APS presidents and committee members have written to Soviet officials frequently on behalf of the Sakharovs. Sakharov was elected an APS Fellow in 1984, and the APS Forum on Physics and Society honored him with the Szilard Award in 1983.

## APS, Japanese Physical Society offer reciprocal privileges

APS and the Japanese Physical Society have agreed to extend reciprocal privileges to encourage communication among individual members of the two societies.

The official APS position is that the best way for individual JPS members to be fully informed about APS activities is to join the society. The position of JPS vis-à-vis APS members is the same. The two societies have decided none-

theless to offer each other's members reciprocal privileges, so that APS members who have not joined JPS may now

- ▶ submit papers to JPS meetings on the same terms as JPS members
- ▶ register at JPS meetings at JPS member rates
- ▶ subscribe to the *JPS Journal* at JPS member rates.

Similarly, JPS members who have

not joined APS may now submit papers to APS meetings on the same terms as APS members, register at APS meetings at APS member rates and subscribe to APS journals at the same rates as members of other American Institute of Physics member societies.

For more information about the agreement, write to W. W. Havens Jr, APS Executive Secretary, 335 East 45th Street, New York NY 10017. □