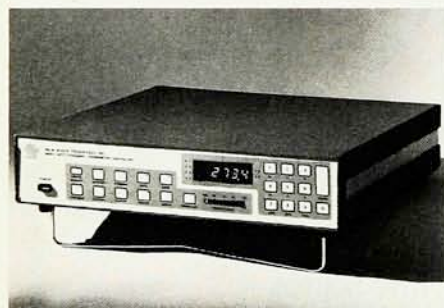


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nuclear quadrupole moment to nuclear shell structure (as indicated by the "magic numbers").

Gordy and his group used electron spin resonance to identify several free radicals within irradiated organic solids, including the important ethyl and methyl radicals, and he was among the first to apply the method to the study of irradiated single crystals. In addition, he initiated the use of electron spin resonance to study radiation damage to biological matter and to detect radiation-induced free radicals in proteins, DNA and RNA.

Gordy's work resulted in the publication of more than 250 research papers and four books: *Microwave Spectroscopy*; *Microwave Molecular Spectra*, with Robert L. Cook (Wiley, 1970); *Theory and Application of Electron Spin Resonance* (Wiley, 1970); and *Microwave Molecular Spectra*, again with Cook (Wiley, 1984). He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1964.

FRANK C. DE LUCIA
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Duke University
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Kotu B. Lulla

Kotu B. Lulla, executive vice president and chief physicist of EMS Development Corporation, died on 26 March 1986. Born on 19 September 1935 in Shikarpur, West Pakistan, and raised in India, he received a BS (1957) from Bombay University and an MS (1960) and PhD (1963) from New York University. His thesis work in atomic scattering was done under Benjamin Bederson. He was a NASA postdoctoral fellow for three years at the University of Pittsburgh and spent another three years at Howard University. He arrived at New York Institute of Technology in 1969, and was the chairman of the physics department from 1971 to 1976. Lulla joined EMS, which was then in its starting stage, in 1976. He worked on magnetic silencing equipment for the military, rising to head the magnetics laboratory that now bears his name.

Alfred B. Focke

Alfred B. Focke, first chairman of the physics department at Harvey Mudd College, in Claremont, California, 8 June 1986. He was 79 years of age.

Focke received his BS in physics from Case Institute of Technology and his PhD in physics from Caltech. He taught at Brown University from 1934 until he began work for the US Navy during World War II. Focke worked at

the Navy Electronics Laboratory in San Diego, ultimately becoming the scientific director of Operation Wigwam, the Navy project that culminated with the only underwater explosion of a nuclear bomb conducted by the US. Focke came to Harvey Mudd in 1959 as chairman of the physics department and held the chairmanship until his retirement in 1971. During his tenure he helped build a strong department and undergraduate physics program; in addition he founded the college's Edwards Geophysics Laboratory. He was a specialist in earthquake preparedness and gave a tremendous amount of his time to educating people in southern California about earthquake dangers.

Rogers D. Rusk

Rogers D. Rusk, professor emeritus in the physics department at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, died on 15 August 1985 at the age of 92.

Rusk was born on 17 November 1892 in Washington, DC, and grew up in McConellsville, Ohio, where his father owned and edited the local newspaper. His father's library and correspondence with many luminaries of the day inspired Rusk's interest in physics at an early age. Rusk attended Ohio Wesleyan University, graduating in 1916, and received an MA in physics, mathematics and philosophy from Ohio State University in 1917. After a year of teaching he entered the Army during World War I, serving as a member of the meteorological section of the Signal Corps. After his discharge in 1919, Rusk became head of the physics department at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. At the same time he continued his physics studies at the

RUSK



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Herbert L. Anderson, Editor-in-Chief

va-de me-cum (vā'dē mē'kəm, vā'dē mā'-) *n., pl. vade mecums*. 1. A useful thing that a person constantly carries with him. 2. A book, such as a guidebook, for ready reference. [Lat., go with me.]*

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*Source: *The American Heritage Dictionary*, 2nd ed. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1982), p. 1134.

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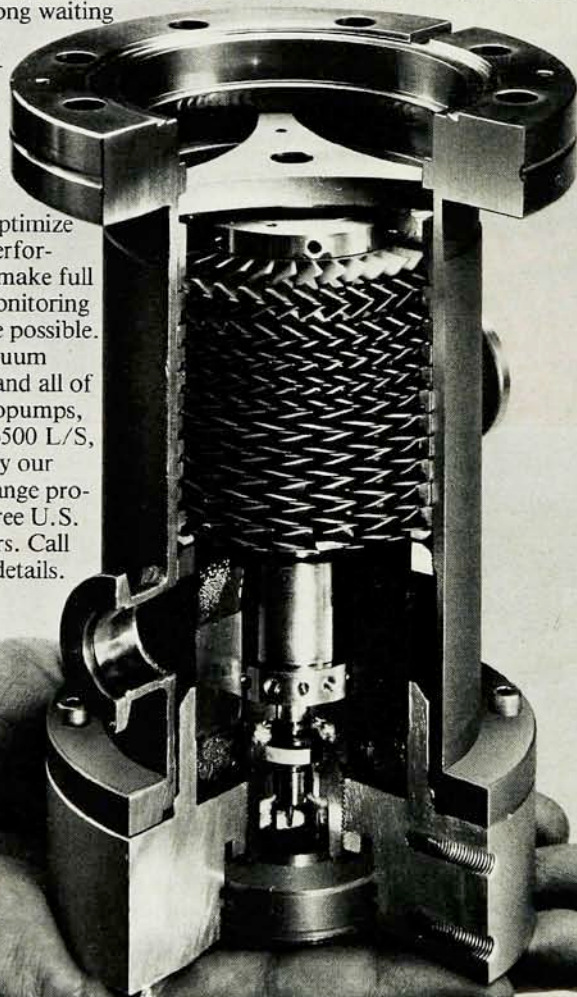
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University of Chicago, where he received his PhD in 1925. At Chicago he studied under Arthur Compton and Albert A. Michelson and did his thesis on molecular activation by electron bombardment under Arthur Demster.

In 1925 Rusk returned to North Central College and strengthened the physics department to a point where it was rated fourth in the country in number of students becoming career physicists. In 1928 he accepted a position at Mount Holyoke, where he remained until his retirement in 1958. During those years he was very active in research with his students, publishing primarily in the areas of electrical discharges and detection of mesons.

Rusk was a very successful writer of both textbooks and popular books on science. His first book, *How to Teach Physics* (1923), his *Introduction to College Physics* (1954) and his *Introduction to Atomic and Nuclear Physics* (1960) (the latter two published by Appleton-Century-Crofts) were widely used in colleges and universities across the country. His two books for the general public were *Atoms, Men and Stars* (Knopf, 1937) and *Forward with Science* (Knopf, 1943). They received very favorable reviews in *The New York Times* and were near best-sellers.

Rusk was also the first head of the physics department at Holyoke Community College when the school was founded after World War II, combining this new responsibility with his full-time duties at Mount Holyoke. Upon retirement from Mount Holyoke in 1958, Rusk received a John Hay Whitney Fellowship as a visiting professor, and chose to fulfill this position at Furman University. A year later he held a visiting professorship at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Three years later, in his final teaching activity, Rusk served as chairman of the physics department at the newly constituted State University of New York at Oswego.

Rusk was very active in many fields outside physics. He was an excellent artist, having won two first prizes in national competitions held by the Springfield Art League. His watercolors were exhibited at the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington, DC, and in the New York and American Watercolor Club shows in New York, and he continued to exhibit annually to the last year of his life. He also loved music and played the flute frequently. He was an accomplished magician and rope spinner and often used these skills to enliven his lectures and demonstrations to his students.

JAMES R. RUSK

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