

1988 award were solicited late last year via advertisements in the *AAPT Announcer* and *The Physics Teacher*, announcements at meetings, an AIP press release and informal conversations. The winners were recommended by an award committee made up of representatives of AIP member societies, and the award was administered this year by Sallie A. Watkins, the AIP senior education fellow in Washington.

The five 1988 winners and their projects are Mary Martinez Rozek, Madonna College in Livonia, Michigan, \$13 200 to enable 25 minority and female students to be trained in the use of calculators and the application of fundamental mathematical and physical principles; W. V. Stoecker and Susan Bates, Rolla Middle School in Rolla, Missouri, \$5000 to make interactive science exhibits and other science learning resources available to youngsters living in a rural area; Vijendra K. Agarwal, Moorhead State University in Moorhead, Minnesota, \$4000 to train 30 high school physics teachers in the use of hands-on activities, demonstrations and computer simulations; Joanne Langabee, Papillion LaVista High School in Papillion, Nebraska, \$1500 for a physics demonstration show that high school students will present to two junior high school classes; and William J. Boone, Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha, Wisconsin, \$1300 to develop lectures, materials and labs to introduce students to geophysical applications of basic physical principles.

The Meggers Project Award is supported by a bequest left by William F. Meggers, an NBS spectroscopist, and his wife, Edith R. Meggers, to further physics education (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, January 1987, page 73).

US TEAM GARNERS THREE SILVERS IN PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Participating for the third year in a row in the International Physics Olympiad, which this year took place in late June and early July in Bad Ischl, Austria, the US team put in its best-ever performance. The five high school students on the team won three silver medals and an honorable mention; in each of the two previous years the US team won three bronze medals. The gold medals were about evenly distributed among several teams, but a member of the British team achieved the highest score this year.

The US contestants were Michael Edwards of Houston, Texas; Hoyt Hudson of Winnetka, Illinois; Ian Lovejoy of San Francisco, California; Mark Schnitzer of Newton, Massachusetts; and Matthew Stone of Bristol, Rhode Island. Edwards, Lovejoy and Stone won silver medals, Hudson an honorable mention.

The US contestants were selected from a pool of 409 nominees, who sat for a first-round examination last February. Those scoring 67 percent or better took a second test, and 20 were selected for the team and brought to the University of Maryland, College Park, for intensive training during the last week of May. Arthur Eisenkraft, a high school teacher from Bedford, New York, once again served as an academic director of the team, and Larry Kirkpatrick of Montana State University served as codirector. For the third year in a row Jack Wilson, a professor at the University of Maryland and executive director of the American Association of Physics Teachers, was director of the US Olympiad program.

The US program received support this year from AAPT, the American Institute of Physics, The American Physical Society, the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the American Vacuum Society, IBM, the Office of Naval Research, Bell Communications, Comsat, Schlumberger-Doll Research, Ford Motor Company, Lockheed Corporation, the Optical Society of America, the Philosophical Society of Washington, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the International Society for Optical Engineering, Janis Research, Eastman Kodak, Hewlett-Packard, LeCroy Corporation and William Lehrfeld. The publishers Addison-Wesley and Allyn-Bacon donated textbooks.

The US Olympiad program met its budget this year, Wilson reports, but additional sponsors are sought for years to come. In particular, added funding is needed so that the US can host the Olympiad sometime in the early 1990s, Wilson says.

OSTERBROCK TAKES OFFICE AS AAS PRESIDENT

Donald E. Osterbrock of the University of California, Santa Cruz, has taken office as president of the American Astronomical Society, having served one year as president-elect (*PHYSICS TODAY*, May 1987, page 84). Osterbrock succeeds Bernard F.

Burke of MIT and will serve a two-year term.

Frank H. Shu of the University of California, Berkeley, has been elected to a three-year term as AAS vice president. Last year AAS increased the number of vice presidents from two to three and provided for a new vice president to be elected each year. J. Roger Angel of the University of Arizona is serving the second year of a three-year term, and Stephen E. Strom of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, the second year of a two-year term.

In other election results, Charles R. Tolbert was reelected to a second three-year term as education officer. The three newly elected councilors to the nine-member council are Roger A. Chevalier of the University of Virginia, Alan Dressler of Mount Wilson and Las Campanas Observatories, and Silvia Torres-Peimbert of the Autonomous National University of Mexico.

PHYSICS OF FLUIDS IS DIVIDED INTO A AND B SECTIONS

Starting at the beginning of 1989 the AIP journal *Physics of Fluids* will appear in two parts, with A covering fluid dynamics and B plasma physics. Both will appear monthly. The split results from the growth of the journal and reflects the existing division of responsibility between Andrew Acrivos of the City College of New York, who will now be in charge of A, and Fred Ribe of the University of Washington, Seattle, who will be editor of B. Subscribers who belong to AIP member societies will be able to choose to receive A or B or both. Nonmember subscribers, such as libraries and institutions, will be offered only the joint subscription.

IN BRIEF

A new brochure for middle-school and high school students called "Careers in Physics" is available from The American Physical Society and the American Institute of Physics. Individual copies are free and bulk orders are filled at 10 cents per copy. Contact Public Information, AIP, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017.

Construction of the 6-GeV European Synchrotron Radiation Source officially began on 1 January, following an agreement on financing by ten European countries. ■