

ROSTER OF MINORITY MEMBERS IN PHYSICS AND NEWSLETTER ARE AVAILABLE

A roster of physicists who are members of minority groups was initiated a year ago by Stephen C. McGuire, 1988 chair of the APS committee on minorities, and by James Stith of the American Association of Physics Teachers committee on minorities in physics education. Stith and McGuire sent roster enrollment forms to members of the National Society of Black Physicists and to other minority physicists. Currently the roster lists addresses, academic credentials and research interests of approximately 260 blacks, Hispanics, and native Americans. Confidentiality has been promised to the individuals listed.

A number of institutions that actively encourage minorities to apply for faculty openings have asked about distributing announcements of positions to people on the minority roster. At its January meeting the committee on minorities decided to provide a service for these institutions similar to the one offered by the committee on the status of women in physics, which maintains a roster of women in physics. For a fee of \$100, plus postage, an institution can have its job announcement packages distributed by the committee to everyone on the minority roster. This procedure safeguards the confidentiality of the roster. It is not yet possible to mail to a selected subset of the minority roster, but the committee expects to offer customized searches later this year when its software is altered. Walter Lowe (AT&T Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill), the 1989 chairman of the minorities committee, is overseeing the format and development of the minority roster.

In addition to instituting the roster, the committee on minorities has begun its own newsletter, edited by Lowe and committee member Luz Martinez-Miranda of the University of Pennsylvania. The newsletter, called "C.O.M.-munications," is sent to everyone on the roster, as well as to physics department chairpersons and other interested parties. The editors plan two issues a year: The first

appeared last September, and the next is expected late in the spring. The newsletter covers the activities of the committee and provides information and editorial comment on matters of particular interest to minorities working in physics. Readers are encouraged to make written contributions. Each issue also will include a brief article by the editors on a topic of current interest in physics.

Charlene Borsack of the APS New York office staff is assistant newsletter editor, and she maintains the minority roster and the newsletter mailing list. For further information, write to her at APS Headquarters, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017.

For information about the roster of women in physics, write to Amy Halsted at the same address.

REPORT ON DEMOGRAPHICS OF BLACK PhDs TO BE PUBLISHED

A report on the current demographics of black PhD physicists was presented to the APS committee on opportunities in physics at its meeting last spring. The study was conducted by committee member Ronald E. Mickens; it surveyed approximately 175 individuals, all of them US citizens.

Fifty-four percent of these black physicists are employed at four-year colleges and universities. Government laboratories employ 19%, another 22% work in the private sector and 5% are self-employed.

Of the academics, 69% hold positions in colleges and universities that have historically been black. Of these, 68% are professors, 16% are associate professors and 16% are assistant professors. The balance of the academics (31%) are at predominantly white institutions, where 48% are professors, 15% are associate professors and 37% are assistant professors. Nearly 60% of the sample received their undergraduate degrees from historically black institutions.

Nearly half of the sample (45%) were located in the Northeast, 27% in the Southeast, 13% in the West, and approximately 8% each in the Midwest and Southwest. The research interest or activity most often mentioned by those in the sample was material sciences (24%). Other major areas were atomic and molecular (19%), and nuclear and elementary particles (16%). The remaining 41%

were distributed among relativity, astrophysics, plasma physics, optics, acoustics and other fields.

At its meeting in October the APS Council voted to publish a detailed report of these statistics and their interpretation in a future issue of the *Bulletin of the American Physical Society*.

NOMINATIONS FOR COLLEGE FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD

The selection committee for the award to a faculty member for research in an undergraduate institution is seeking candidates for the 1990 award. The award is presented to a faculty member whose research in an undergraduate setting has contributed significantly to physics, and who has inspired and encouraged participating college students.

Sponsored by the Research Corporation, the award consists of \$3000 and a travel allowance to attend the award ceremony at an APS meeting.

Flyers providing guidelines for nomination will be distributed to physics departments this spring and can be obtained from APS Headquarters, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017. The deadline for nominations is 1 September 1989. ■