

finally adopted a strong statement in favor of the organization late last year. The council, based in Washington, D.C., represents university and college presidents.

Overall, it is difficult to avoid the

impression that there is a crescendo—a restrained crescendo, to be sure—of scientific and professional opinion in favor of the United States's getting back into UNESCO. If Bromley reports the situation objectively to the White

House, which seems to be his intention, he will contribute to the mounting pressure for a serious review of the US position and the return by the US to the organization.

—WILLIAM SWEET

WIEDERSICH AND ROTHMAN ARE NEW EDITORS OF AIP'S APPLIED PHYSICS JOURNALS

Hartmut Wiedersich and Steven J. Rothman of Argonne National Laboratory have been chosen to succeed Gilbert J. Perlow and Lester Guttman of Argonne as editors of *Applied Physics Letters* and the *Journal of Applied Physics*, respectively. *APL* and *JAP* are both published by the American Institute of Physics, and Wiedersich and Rothman were recommended as the new editors by a search committee headed by Sokrates T. Pantelides of IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York (PHYSICS TODAY, May 1989, page 66).

Perlow edited both *Applied Physics Letters* and *Journal of Applied Physics* from 1970 until 1974, when Guttman took charge of *JAP*. Perlow remained editor of *APL* and Guttman of *JAP* until 1 January, when Wiedersich and Rothman took over. Editorial management of the two journals remains at Argonne, and both Perlow and Guttman will continue to serve as consulting editors.

Wiedersich received his doctorate in physics and metallurgy from the University of Göttingen in 1954 and subsequently joined the research laboratories at Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as a research engineer. From 1960 to 1962 he was a research specialist at Atomics International in Canoga Park, California. From 1962 to 1971 he worked at the Science Center of North American Rockwell Corporation in Thousand Oaks, California, first as a member of the technical staff and then as a group leader.

Wiedersich joined Argonne as a senior scientist in the material science division in 1971. He served as a group leader from 1971 to 1982 and as associate division director from 1982 to 1989. His research interests have included non-equilibrium precipitation, crystal growth, plastic deformation, the Mössbauer effect, magnetic structures, fast ionic conductors, crystal defects and effects of irradiation on structure and processes in solids.

Rothman earned a bachelor's de-



Hartmut Wiedersich

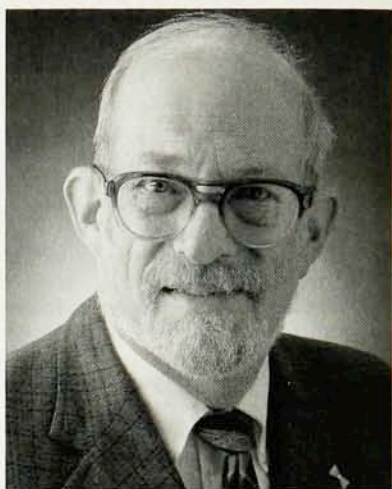
gree at the University of Chicago (1947), and a BS (1951), an MS (1953) and a PhD (1955) in metallurgical engineering at Stanford University. He has been associated with the materials science division of Argonne since 1954.

Rothman's principal research interest has been the application of tracer diffusion measurements to the study of point-defect behavior in crystals in a wide range of materials.

Perlow earned his BA (1936) and his MA (1937) at Cornell University and his PhD in physics (1940) at the University of Chicago. After teaching at the University of Minnesota in 1940–41, he worked as a physicist at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in 1941–42 and at the Naval Research Laboratory from 1942 to 1953. He was a research associate at the University of Minnesota in 1952–53, and joined Argonne as an associate physicist in 1953. He became a senior physicist at Argonne in 1958.

Perlow's research has been in x rays, cosmic rays, nuclear physics and the Mössbauer effect.

Guttman earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry at the University of Minnesota in 1940 and a PhD in chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1943. He was an assistant chemist at the University of California from 1940 to 1942 and an



Steven J. Rothman

associate scientist with the Manhattan Engineering District from 1943 to 1946. He was a research associate in the Institute for the Study of Metals at the University of Chicago from 1946 to 1947 and a faculty member at the University of Chicago from 1947 to 1955. After a year as a Guggenheim fellow with the United Kingdom's Atomic Energy Authority in 1955–56, he joined the General Electric Company's research laboratory as a physical chemist in 1956. He moved to Argonne in 1960 as a senior chemist.

Guttman has studied the statistical thermodynamics of alloys, x-ray diffraction from alloys and the structure of covalent glasses.

GRAD STUDENTS TAKING LONGER TO EARN PhDs

Students enrolled in US physics graduate programs are taking longer to earn their PhDs, according to the latest American Institute of Physics survey of graduate students. From 1978 to 1988 the average time spent completing a physics doctorate increased from 5.2 to 5.7 years.

The survey's principal author, Susanne D. Ellis of the AIP education

and employment statistics division, says the lengthening study time may be attributable to the fact that more students now do their PhD work as members of teams, especially in such subfields as elementary particles. In general an experimenter takes longer to earn a PhD than a theorist in the same subfield, Ellis notes, because a higher proportion of experimenters work in groups and considerable time is spent designing and constructing experimental apparatus.

The survey polled all graduate physics and astronomy students studying in the United States in 1987-88 to determine their educational background and employment prospects; of the 13 000 students, about 7300 replied.

Far and away the most popular physics subfield among graduate students is condensed matter, in which 32% of respondents chose to concentrate. A distant second is elementary particles, with 13%, and third is nuclear physics, with 8%. The survey also found that nearly 85% of all physics grad students, both American and foreign citizens, now receive some type of financial aid. The most common form of aid is assistantships: 44% hold research assistantships, 32% teaching assistantships. Other sources of financial support include fellowships (8%) and full-time employment (8%). Very few need to fall back on student loans or family support, the survey found.

PhD students are opting for postdoctoral fellowships more frequently than did their predecessors: 59% of American physics PhDs chose postdocs in 1988, a 20-point rise from 1978. Ellis says postdoc positions have become more attractive because they allow graduates to remain flexible for a year or two before deciding on more permanent work and are the customary route to tenure-track positions. The median monthly salary for a postdoc rose somewhat in 1988 to \$2150, compared with \$1900 in 1985, which was less than one could earn on average with just a physics bachelor's degree. Current postdoc salaries still don't quite match those for master's degree recipients (\$2600) or those for PhD recipients entering permanent positions (\$3400).

About a third of the 1988 doctoral recipients chose permanent employment, with 42% of that group entering jobs in industry, 20% at universities, 15% in US government laboratories, such as the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC, and 10% in federally funded research centers. Of the nearly 700 students ending their graduate study at the

master's level, about half said they would take jobs in industry, 20% opted for employment in US government labs or Federal research centers and only 3% said they would work at universities.

The 1987-88 graduate student survey is available free from the Education and Employment Statistics Division, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017.

—JEAN KUMAGAI

AIP BOARD TO WEIGH MOVING NEW YORK OPERATIONS

The question of whether the Manhattan operations of the American Institute of Physics should be relocated, either to a less expensive site in New York City or to some other city, continues under active consideration by AIP's governing bodies. AIP currently has staff at two locations in midtown Manhattan (one of which also houses staff for some member societies), two locations on Long Island and two locations in Washington, D.C. Consolidation of at least some of the staff is considered a high priority by AIP management.

When the location question was under consideration in 1986-87, discussion centered on whether all or some of AIP's New York and Long Island operations should be moved to Washington, and the issue was submitted to AIP's 10 member societies for advice (PHYSICS TODAY, December 1987, page 75).

After the societies split rather evenly, with five against moving and five in favor of moving at least some of the divisions of the Physics Programs Branch (PHYSICS TODAY, May 1988, page 89), AIP management commissioned an independent consulting firm to prepare a report on the location question. The report, by Moran, Stahl & Boyer, recommended that Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York/Long Island be considered as possible future sites for consolidated AIP operations and found significant cost advantages in moving operations to Baltimore or Philadelphia. In preliminary discussions, city agencies in both Baltimore and Philadelphia expressed interest in hosting AIP and in having AIP establish some kind of local physics center.

After the MSB report was submitted to the AIP Governing Board last fall, AIP Board Chairman Hans Frauenfelder of the University of Illinois convened a meeting of member-society leaders in Chicago. Nine

of the ten societies were represented at the meeting on 28 November near O'Hare Airport. According to a report on the meeting that AIP Executive Director Kenneth W. Ford subsequently made to AIP staff, "It was the unanimous view of those present ... that AIP's publishing center should not move from Long Island in the foreseeable future." At a meeting in December, AIP's Executive Committee confirmed by vote its recommendation that publishing operations should not be moved from Long Island.

The location question now centers on whether AIP's Manhattan operations should be moved to some other site in New York or to another city. The operations currently are divided between a main building on East 45th Street near the United Nations, a valuable piece of real estate that AIP owns in full, and expensive rental space in an office building three blocks away on 45th Street. An ad hoc committee is reporting to Frauenfelder on financial aspects of the question. According to Frauenfelder, his immediate objective is to build as strong a consensus as possible in the Executive Committee in February, in preparation for the next meeting of the Governing Board on 30-31 March.

AAPT AND APS REORGANIZE MEETING SCHEDULES

The American Association of Physics Teachers and The American Physical Society are restructuring their meetings to replace their joint January meeting with a joint April meeting. APS will no longer participate in the January meeting after 1991; instead, AAPT probably will participate in the APS April meeting, which traditionally has featured policy-related talks, in addition to the usual agenda of scientific papers.

As plans currently stand (subject to approval by the AAPT council in January), the last joint AAPT-APS January meeting will take place next year in San Antonio, and the first joint April meeting will be held three months later. AAPT plans to move its summer meeting, which traditionally has been held in June, to August, so that it will have three meetings per year spaced at roughly four-month intervals. It hopes to beef up the January meeting to make up for sessions, papers and speakers that APS has contributed in the past.

The reasons for the revised meetings schedule are somewhat complex.