AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY ESTABLISHES DIVISION OF PHYSICS OF BEAMS

Last November, The American Physical Society's council approved the formation of a division of physics of beams. The objectives of the new division are to advance and diffuse knowledge regarding the nature of beams (including particle and photon beams) and the instruments used in beam research; to promote research and development in the field, including applications; and to encourage scholarly publication and education in beam science and technology.

The new division grew out of the particle beam physics topical group, established in 1985. During the last year, Melvin Month of Brookhaven National Laboratory, Andrew M. Sessler of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and Martin Perl of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center led the drive to establish the new division. In previous years, James E. Leiss of the US Department of Energy (retired) and Edward A. Knapp of Los Alamos National Laboratory played a major role in developing the case for divisional status.

The primary advantage of forming the division is that it will now be represented on the APS council by a divisional councillor. Burton Richter, director of SLAC, was elected divisional councillor last fall; he represented the division at the 21 January council meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. The division's officers are the same as those of the topical group: Sessler is chairman, Richard J. Briggs of the SSC Laboratory is vice chairman and Month is secretary-treasurer.

In a recent interview Month observed that because beam physics and accelerators have been closely tied to national laboratories, the field is not strongly represented in academia. To help remedy this, college courses and degrees in beam physics need to be established and publication in refereed journals needs to be increased, he said. More funding for research in fundamental beam physics is also a priority, Month said.

The division of physics of beams will hold its first annual meeting at the spring APS meeting in Washington, DC. Eight invited paper sessions on beam physics are scheduled, of which six are being organized jointly with other divisions. In all, 46 invited papers and 250 contributed papers will be presented. Division leaders hope to make the spring meetings a forum for papers on accelerator physics. The division will also participate in the November meeting of the plasma physics division.

APS members wishing to join the new division should indicate this on their next dues bill, which will be mailed this month. Each division's activities are supported by a $5 dues charge to its members.

APS STRENGTHENS TIES TO PHYSICS SOCIETIES IN JAPAN AND THE PACIFIC

To increase awareness of developments in physics in Asia and the Pacific, the APS council has approved relationships with two international organizations: the Japan Society of Applied Physics and the Pacific Polymer Federation.

JSAP, which is open to scientists of all countries, is a leading academic society covering all fields of applied physics, including electronic, optoelectronic and superconducting materials and devices. JSAP has over 15 000 members and a number of divisions. It holds two general meetings each year, sponsors international conferences and publishes two journals, one of which is in English.

The APS–JSAP arrangement, which was first suggested by 1989 JSAP president Takuo Sugano of Tokyo University, allows members of the JSAP: to submit papers to APS meetings with the same rights and restrictions as members; to register at APS meetings at member rates; and to subscribe to APS journals at the same rates as members of other American Institute of Physics member societies. In return, JSAP has offered APS members the same privileges vis-à-vis JSAP. Notice of JSAP meetings will appear in future issues of *The Bulletin of the American Physical Society*.

APS has had an identical arrangement with the Physical Society of Japan since 1985 (see *The Bulletin*, December 1988, page 2339).

The Pacific Polymer Federation is an organization of societies, including the Society of Polymer Science of Japan, the division of polymer chemistry of the American Chemical Society and the polymer division of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. The Federation promotes polymer science and technology, facilitates interaction between polymer organizations in the Pacific basin and participates in national polymer meetings.

The motion approved by the APS council calls for APS to establish an affiliation with the Federation, with the high polymer physics division responsible for reporting to the council on this relationship. ■