

AIP HEADQUARTERS TO BE MOVED FROM MANHATTAN TO WASHINGTON AREA

Meeting in Rye, New York, on 30–31 March, the governing board of the American Institute of Physics voted 20 to 10, with 4 abstentions, to move the headquarters of AIP from New York City to the Washington, DC, area.

The question of whether to move AIP headquarters has been a major preoccupation of the institute's management and governing bodies for several years, and the decision to move headquarters was not taken lightly. "The decision is very important," says Judy Franz, current president of the American Association of Physics Teachers and a member of the AIP board. "It will have a big impact on physics and AIP for a long time to come."

AIP is an umbrella organization that does publishing and provides services for ten member societies. It currently maintains a staff of about 550 at locations in Manhattan, in Washington and on Long Island, where 55 physics journals are produced. The institute is the world's largest publisher of physics journals.

Moving AIP's headquarters will involve transferring approximately 100 staff positions from two locations on East 45th Street in Manhattan to the Washington area. The present best estimate is that the transfer will not begin for at least two years.

The staff currently located in midtown Manhattan includes individuals with advanced training in physics, history, sociology and statistics, as well as experienced professionals in publishing, journalism, advertising, marketing, accounting and finance. Several of AIP's member societies also maintain professional staffs at the New York headquarters, and AIP has promised to continue providing services to those societies that choose to remain in Manhattan and desire such services.

AIP management hopes to decide within a month which operations might remain in New York. Some

managers are expected to argue in favor of keeping their divisions in Manhattan, but the presumption is that nearly all divisions will be moved to the Washington area. Relocation benefits will be provided to those who choose to move, and incentives will be provided to encourage staff members to stay with AIP until the move takes place. The AIP staff has been told by management that all of AIP's professional employees in New York and

some of its clerical staff will be invited to move.

College Park site

The site that is under most serious consideration for AIP's new headquarters is located in an undeveloped area of College Park, Maryland, near the University of Maryland (but not actually on the campus). The suburban site would provide good access to the District of Columbia's subway

Board Resolutions on Relocating AIP Headquarters

The following resolutions were adopted by the governing board of the American Institute of Physics on 30 March:

General motion

In order (1) to respond to the need to consolidate AIP operations into fewer locations with adequate space for current operations plus anticipated growth, (2) to respond to the future needs and interests of the Washington, DC-based member societies, and (3) to maintain a level of AIP operations needed to support those New York City resident societies that wish to remain in New York City, it is resolved that AIP operations shall be consolidated at three sites located on Long Island, in New York City and headquarters within a 50-mile radius of Washington, DC. Member societies that colocate with AIP shall be offered the opportunity to take an equity position in any properties acquired by AIP.

Implementation motion

- ▷ AIP management is requested to prepare a human resources plan that will encourage current staff to remain with the institute, emphasizing their vital importance, both at present and in the future, to the welfare of the institute.
- ▷ The chair of the governing board is requested to appoint a committee

selected from governing board members whose charge is to work with AIP management and with resident member societies so as to ensure that adequate support services are available to these societies should they elect to remain in New York City when the sale of the current building and a move of AIP headquarters from New York City occur.

▷ The executive committee is requested to explore the legality of an offer by AIP to pay the employee-related relocation costs for any member society that chooses to colocate with AIP at its new headquarters location, and to make such a proposal if it is found to be legal to do so.

▷ In consultation with affected member societies, AIP management is requested to prepare plans for the locations of and interactions among AIP's operating units.

▷ In consultation with member societies, AIP management is authorized to negotiate for the acquisition of property (1) at a site within 50 miles of Washington, DC, and (2) when appropriate, in New York City.

▷ AIP management is authorized to negotiate for the sale of the AIP property located at 335 East 45th Street, New York, NY.