

interface with a Washington-based organization."

Opponents said that proposals that would have kept headquarters in New York and that seemed to be competitive with College Park in terms of space, cost and other factors were not treated as viable options by AIP management.

All of the New York-based societies are now deciding what to do, in light of the AIP board decision. Fraunfelder, the chairman of the AIP board, has convened a special committee to consider how to help these groups handle the move and which services AIP will continue to provide for them.

—WILLIAM SWEET, JEAN KUMAGAI

COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW EDITOR FOR *PHYSICS OF FLUIDS B*

A search committee headed by Barrett H. Ripin of the Naval Research Laboratory has been formed to find a new editor for *Physics of Fluids B*, which is published by the American Institute of Physics. Since the beginning of 1989, when *Physics of Fluids* was divided into two sections, the editor of *B*, which covers plasma physics, has been Fred Ribe of the University of Washington, Seattle. Ribe plans to leave Washington for retirement in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The search committee includes, beside Ripin, C. Wendel Horton Jr., University of Texas, Austin; Clifford Surko, University of California, San Diego; Hans Griem, University of Maryland, College Park; Andreas Acrivos, City College of New York and editor of *Physics of Fluids A*; and John T. Scott, American Institute of Physics (*ex officio*).

BROOKHAVEN NAMES AXE AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

John M. Axe has been named associate director for basic energy sciences at Brookhaven National Laboratory. He will be responsible for the chemical and materials science programs in four of the laboratory's departments, namely chemistry, the National Synchrotron Light Source, physics and applied science.

Axe earned a BS in chemistry at the University of Denver in 1956 and a PhD in chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1960. After working at IBM for seven years, Axe joined Brookhaven's physics depart-

ment in 1969. As a researcher at Brookhaven he has worked mainly on the structure of materials, using neutron scattering on the High Flux Beam Reactor.

Axe has been scientific program head for the High Flux Beam Reactor since 1988 and will still have that responsibility as associate director.

IN BRIEF

Finland has opened negotiations toward becoming a member of CERN. If it joins, it will be the organization's 15th member state, thereby making all the nations normally considered part of Western Europe part of CERN.

Starting in January of this year, a new quarterly newsletter of the International Commission for Optics appears as a part of *Optics and Photonics News*—formerly *Optics News*—the monthly magazine published by the Optical Society of America.

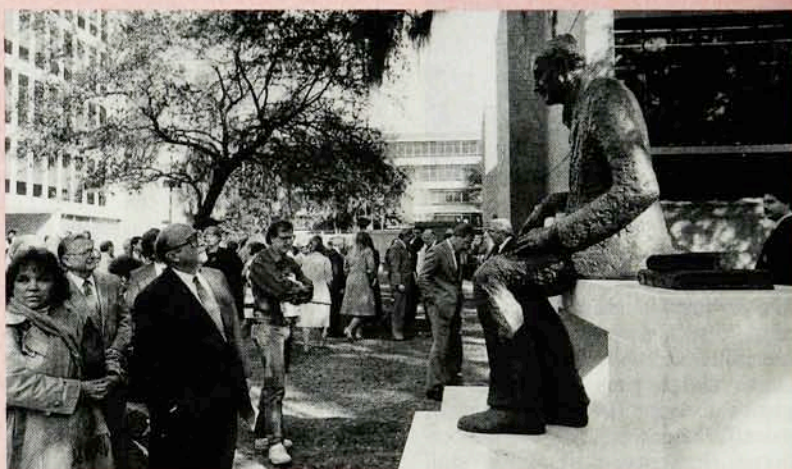
Japan and the United States have agreed on a joint space mission to

explore the flow and transformation of solar energy in the Earth's magnetosphere. Japan will provide the spacecraft, dubbed Geotail. It is scheduled to be launched by the US in July 1992, on a Delta II rocket. Both countries will provide instruments, and information will be shared among participants in the International Solar Terrestrial Physics Program.

Werner Buckel of the University of Karlsruhe in West Germany has succeeded Nicholas Kurti of Oxford University as editor of *Europhysics Letters*. The new address for editorial correspondence is *Europhysics Letters*, P.O. Box 69, CH 1211 Petit-Lancy 2, Switzerland.

Hans F. Zacher, a specialist in international welfare law, will succeed Heinz A. Staab as president of West Germany's Max Planck Society next June. Zacher, who has been head of the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Welfare Law in Munich since 1980, will serve a six-year term. ■

Dirac Science Library Dedicated at Florida State



Statue of Paul A. M. Dirac was unveiled at Florida State University in Tallahassee on 4 December last year in a ceremony held to dedicate the P. A. M. Dirac Science Library. In a short speech read by John Albright of the Florida State physics department, Margit Dirac, the widow of Dirac (and sister of Eugene Wigner), said, "The physics department [at Florida State] made Paul's last years happy years. His lifelong shyness eased, [and] he became more approachable. He enjoyed belonging to this dear, friendly group. In our long years in Cambridge, he hardly ever spoke of his coworkers. . . . But here at Florida State, he often talked about his colleagues and always with pleasure and affection." Margit Dirac has donated her husband's papers to the Florida State library. The science library building (to the right behind the statue in the photograph) was designed by the architectural firm of Schweizer Inc, and the statue is by Gabriella Bollobás. The man in the dark suit in the foreground of the photo is Charles Reed, chancellor of the state university system of Florida.