

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION PRESENTS AWARDS AT SPRING MEETING

At its spring meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, the American Geophysical Union presented Eugene N. Parker of the University of Chicago with the 1990 William Bowie Medal, AGU's highest honor. The award citation called Parker's development of the solar wind concept "one of the most important foundations of modern astrophysics." According to the citation, the idea of a "supersonic solar wind flowing radially and continuously from the Sun" was essentially new when Parker introduced it in 1958. (See *PHYSICS TODAY*, April, page 91.) Most successful recent models of cosmic ray modulation by the solar wind use an equation developed by Parker in the 1960s, the citation said. Parker has also contributed to the understanding of other geophysical and astrophysical phenomena, including the Earth's magnetic dynamo and the dynamics of the interstellar medium. He is currently studying magnetic fields and fluid motions on the Sun (see his article in *PHYSICS TODAY*, July 1987, page 36).

Parker received a PhD in physics from Caltech in 1951. He was on the faculty of the University of Utah until 1955, when he joined the University of Chicago. He is now a professor in the departments of astronomy and physics at Chicago and is a member of the Enrico Fermi Institute.

Also at the spring meeting, William R. Young of the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography received the James B. Macelwane Medal, which recognizes contributions to geophysics by a young scientist. The award citation praised Young's theoretical work on ocean circulation, which has contributed to the "revival of serious study of the analytical theory of the [ocean's] general circulation."

Young received his PhD in physical oceanography from MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in 1981. He is now an associate professor at Scripps.

Paul A. Witherspoon, a faculty



Eugene N. Parker

senior scientist at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, received the Robert E. Horton Medal, which is given every other year for contributions to the geophysical aspects of hydrology. Witherspoon was cited for being "among the first to recognize the implications of the digital computer

in the Earth sciences" and for foreseeing the importance of simulating hydrogeologic systems in engineering design. Witherspoon received a PhD in geology and physical chemistry from the University of Illinois in 1957. He then joined the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, where he is now a professor emeritus of geological engineering. He helped organize Lawrence Berkeley's Earth sciences division, of which he was associate director and head from 1977 to 1982.

AGU presented Joel Achenbach, a reporter at *The Miami Herald*, with this year's Walter Sullivan Award for Excellence in Scientific Journalism. Achenbach was chosen for his 17 December 1989 *Miami Herald* article entitled "Second Thoughts," which describes the practical and philosophical aspects of time measurements. Achenbach received a bachelor's degree in political science from Princeton University in 1982. He then began working for *The Miami Herald*, where he now writes for *Tropic*, the newspaper's Sunday magazine.

SKUDRZYK, HOFFLER HONORED AT ASA SPRING MEETING

The late Eugen J. Skudrzyk has been posthumously awarded the Acoustical Society of America's 1990 Gold Medal, the society's highest honor. Skudrzyk's wife, Liselotte, accepted the medal at the ASA spring meeting in State College, Pennsylvania on 21-25 May. ASA cited Skudrzyk for his "extensive contributions to the advancement of acoustics—particularly structural and underwater acoustics—as a researcher, author and educator." During the early part of his career, Skudrzyk was active in designing concert halls, and he designed and tested underwater sound absorbers as part of a team led by Erwin Meyer of the University of Berlin. After coming to the US in

1955, Skudrzyk shifted to hydroacoustics, structural vibration and sound radiation. Among his contributions, Skudrzyk developed a general theorem that describes the response of complex structures to forced excitation, which he called the "mean-value theorem for complex vibrators."

Skudrzyk received his PhD in 1939 from the University of Berlin. In 1947 he joined the faculty of the Technical University of Vienna, where he was head of the Institute for Low-Frequency Technique from 1950 to 1955. He joined the applied research laboratory and physics department of Pennsylvania State University in 1955, and he remained there until his death in February.



Eugen J. Skudrzyk

Thomas J. Hofler, an adjunct professor doing research at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, received the R. Bruce Lindsay Award at the ASA spring meeting. The biennial award, which is presented to an ASA member under 35 years of age who has been active in acoustics research, was given to Hofler for "the development of thermoacoustic heat pumps and for the design of optoacoustic transducers."

Hofler received a PhD in physics from the University of California, San Diego, in 1986. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Naval Postgraduate School until 1989, when he assumed his current title.

The Acoustical Society will present several other 1990 awards at its upcoming fall meeting.

NATIONAL ACADEMIES NAME NEW MEMBERS

The National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering have announced their newly elected members for 1990. Also selected were the academies' foreign associates, nonvoting members who are not US citizens. Nominations for membership in either of the two academies are made by an incumbent member and reviewed by a topical committee before being put to a vote by the full membership.

The National Academy of Sciences welcomed 59 new members and 15 foreign associates, bringing the total membership to 1600 and the number of foreign associates to 272. The engineering academy selected 80 members and 7 foreign associates, increasing its totals to 1535 and 126, respectively.

Newly elected members of the National Academy of Sciences included the following:

John S. Boyer, Du Pont Professor of Marine Biochemistry and Biophysics in the college of marine studies at the University of Delaware, Newark

D. Allan Bromley, Henry Ford II Professor of Physics at Yale University and assistant for science and technology to President Bush

Herbert B. Callen, a physics professor at the University of Pennsylvania

Ralph J. Cicerone, professor and chairman of the geosciences department at the University of California, Irvine

Esther M. Conwell, a research fellow at the Xerox Webster Research Center in Webster, New York

Bryce S. Dewitt, Jane and Roland Blumberg Professor of Physics at the University of Texas, Austin

Floyd Dunn, a professor of electrical engineering, biophysics and bioengineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Alan B. Fowler, fellow and manager of the low-temperature transport group at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York

Carl E. Heiles, an astronomy professor at the University of California, Berkeley

John W. Hutchinson, Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Mechanics at Harvard University

J. David Jackson, a physics professor at the University of California, Berkeley

W. Barclay Kamb, a professor of geology and geophysics at Caltech

Syukuro Manabe, supervisory research meteorologist at the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and an adjunct professor of geological and geophysical sciences at Princeton University

Lawrence R. Rabiner, head of the speech research department at AT&T Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey

Paul R. Schimmel, a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at MIT

Andrew M. Sessler, a senior physicist at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

Thomas A. Steitz, a professor of molecular biophysics and biochemistry at Yale University

John A. Swets, chief scientist at Bolt Beranek and Newman Inc in Cambridge, Massachusetts

Frank A. Wilczek, a professor in the School of Natural Sciences at the Institute for Advanced Study in

Princeton, New Jersey

Keith R. Yamamoto, professor and vice chairman of the department of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California, San Francisco

Jozef J. Zwislocki, a professor of neuroscience and the director of the Institute for Sensory Research at Syracuse University in New York.

The list of new foreign associates includes:

Zhores I. Alferov, director of the A. F. Ioffe Institute, USSR Academy of Sciences

Ludwig D. Faddeev, a professor at Leningrad State University and director of the Leningrad branch of the Steklov Mathematical Institute, USSR Academy of Sciences

Donald Lynden-Bell, a professor of astrophysics at the University of Cambridge

Hans Oeschger, a professor ordinaris at the Physics Institute of the University of Bern, Switzerland

C. N. R. Rao, director of the Indian Institute of Technology in Bangalore

Klaus Von Klitzing, an honorary professor at the University of Stuttgart.

The new members of the National Academy of Engineering include:

Thomas R. Anthony, a physicist at the General Electric Corporate Research and Development Center in Schenectady, New York

Robert D. Burnham, technical director of the integrated optoelectronic devices group at Amoco Research Corporation in Naperville, Illinois

James D. Callen, Donald W. Derst Professor of Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics at the University of Wisconsin, Madison

Robert E. Collin, a professor of electrical engineering at Case Western Reserve University

Harry E. Cook, Grayce Wicall Gauthier Professor of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Alan B. Fowler (mentioned above)

Judson C. French, director of the Center for Electronics and Electrical Engineering at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Maryland

Marvin E. Goldstein, chief scientist at the NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio

Earl E. Gossard, a research associate at the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado, Boulder