ACA PRESENTS 1990 PATTERSON AWARD TO WOOLFSON

At the annual meeting of the American Crystallographic Association held in April in New Orleans, Louisiana, Michael M. Woolfson of the University of York, England, received the Patterson Award for his work on the multiple tangent approach to the solution of crystal structures.

Since the late 1960s Woolfson and his research group have been developing direct methods for solving structures. The multiple tangent approach was incorporated into the computer program MULTAN, now used in laboratories throughout the world. Woolfson and his co-workers originated the idea of permuted-phase starting sets, a technique used in MULTAN and other programs. A recent direct method developed by Woolfson and his group was included in the SAYTAN program and shows promise of being useful in solving macromolecular structures.

Woolfson received a PhD in physics in 1952 and a DSc in 1961, both from the University of Manchester. He was a lecturer in physics at Manchester from 1955 to 1961 and a reader there from 1961 to 1965. Since 1965 he has been a professor of theoretical physics at York University.

Also at the annual meeting, several students received Pauling Prizes, which are awarded each year to outstanding student posters presented at the ACA meeting. Susan Chack and Frank Whitby of Rice University were recognized for their poster on "Structure and Molecular Motions of Tropomyosin"; Jeffrey Kavanaugh of the University of Iowa for "The Crystal Structure of Deoxyhemoglobin Rothschild"; Cory Momany of the University of Texas, Austin, for "Structure of Ornithine Decarboxylase from Lactobacillus 30a"; Susan Reutzel of the University of Minnesota for "The Use of Hydrogen Bonds in the Preparation of Imide Co-crystals"; and Diana Tomchick of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for "Structural Bonding Analysis of a 46-Electron Triangular Molybdenum Cluster with an Unprecedented Trimetal-Coordinated Isocyanate."

Michael M. Woolfson

IN BRIEF

MIT physics professor **A. Nihat Berker** has received the Tubitak Science Award, the highest scientific honor given by the Turkish government. The Turkish Scientific and Technical Research Foundation, Turkey's equivalent of the NSF, cited Berker's "important scientific contributions, at an international level, in the fields of solid-state physics and statistical physics." The Tubitak Award covers all disciplines of science, engineering and medicine.

OBITUARIES

Max Swerdlow

Max Swerdlow died on 18 February 1989 in Washington, DC, after a six-year struggle against cancer. As a result of his illness, he had retired from his 27-year position as a program manager for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research at the end of 1984. Previously he had been employed by the National Bureau of Standards for 17 years.

Swerdlow received his BA in physics from Brooklyn College in 1938. In 1940 he entered government service with the National Bureau of Standards, as a ceramics engineer in the optical glass section. He soon was made the general night supervisor of a critical 500-person operation to produce optical components for gunsights.

After World War II Swerdlow was able to devote himself fully to the electron microscope. He was a moving force in bringing one to NBS for the first time in 1946. He was placed in charge of the NBS laboratory for electron microscopy and electron diffraction, a position he held until leaving for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research in 1957. Swerdlow's invention of a new method for sectioning materials into extremely thin specimens suitable for examination by an electron microscope is considered a landmark in the study of tissue and bone. Using this method he probed the microstructure of wool