

## DYSON RECEIVES OERSTED MEDAL, AAPT'S HIGHEST HONOR

At its winter meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the American Association of Physics Teachers presented Freeman J. Dyson with the 1991 Oersted Medal, the association's highest honor. Dyson, a professor of physics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, was recognized for his efforts to increase public awareness of issues involving science and society. "Beyond his obvious talents and passions in physics, Freeman Dyson has an unusually high awareness of the human side of science and of the scientific [and] technological side of human activities," AAPT's past president Judy Franz said in presenting Dyson with the award. "He speaks and writes with remarkable talent and concern for educating all citizens."

Dyson, a mathematical physicist who is best known to physicists for his work in quantum field theory, has written several books dealing with his experiences and thoughts about science and the human condition. They include *Disturbing the Universe*, *Weapons and Hope* and *Infinite in All Directions*.

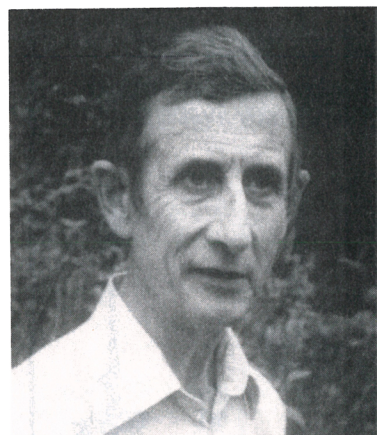
After receiving a BA from Cambridge University in 1945, Dyson was a research fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge, from 1946 to 1949 and at the University of Birmingham from 1949 to 1951. He was a professor of physics at Cornell University from 1951 to 1953, when he joined the Institute for Advanced Study.

Larry Esposito of the University of Colorado, Boulder, was selected by AAPT to give the 50th Richtmyer Memorial Lecture at the winter meeting. Esposito, who spoke about the history of planetary rings, has worked on a number of exploratory space missions, including the Pioneer probes, the Voyager missions and most recently the Soviet probes to Mars.

Esposito received a PhD in astronomy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1977. He then joined the laboratory for atmospheric

and space physics at the University of Colorado, where he is currently an associate professor in the department of astrophysical, planetary and atmospheric sciences.

In addition to recognizing Dyson and Esposito, AAPT presented Distinguished Service Citations to Lee Larson, a professor of physics at Denison University; Milton and Zaka Slawsky, who are retired from the US Air Force Office of Scientific Research and the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, respectively, and now run a program for tutoring physics students at the University of Maryland; and Yvette Van Hise, a physics teacher at Marlboro High School in Marlboro, New Jersey.



MIA DYSON

Freeman J. Dyson

## APS'S GOEPPERT-MAYER AWARD GOES TO ALICE WHITE

At the APS meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, in March, Alice E. White of AT&T Bell Laboratories received the Maria Goeppert-Mayer Award, which recognizes achievements by a woman physicist in the early years of her career. White was cited for "her experimental skill and originality, recently displayed by pioneering work in the new field of 'mesotaxy,'" an ion implantation technique that produces buried epitaxial metallic and insulat-

ing layers in semiconductors.

White received a BA in physics from Middlebury College in 1976 and a PhD in physics from Harvard University in 1982. She then joined the technical staff at Bell Labs in Murray Hill, New Jersey, where she is currently head of the physics of materials research department.

(See PHYSICS TODAY, February, page 45, for coverage of the other awards presented at the APS meeting.)

## IN BRIEF

**Lawrence A. Molnar**, formerly of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, has become an assistant professor in the department of physics and astronomy at the University of Iowa.

**Fred Gilman** has left his position as a professor at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center to become the associate director for physics research at the Superconducting Super Collider

Laboratory in Dallas, Texas. Gilman replaces **Murdoch Gilchriese**, who has become a staff scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.

**Michael Aizenman**, a physics professor at Princeton University, has been named winner of the Wiener Prize, given by the American Mathematical Society and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Aizenman was cited for formulating "non-pertur-