

not been party to the negotiations that led to the foundation of the European Optical Society. OSA has been expanding its European presence, however, and this fall will sponsor for the first time a topical meeting in Europe—a meeting on nonlinear guided wave phenomena that is to take place in Cambridge, England, in September.

(In 1987 the OSA board authorized the society to hold meetings abroad provided they were cosponsored by a national scientific society in the host country and by an international scientific organization. This year the board suspended for two years the requirement that meetings be cosponsored by a national society, a decision taken “in light of a potential European agreement that would make it difficult for individual national optical societies to cosponsor meetings,” as *Optics and Photonics News* explained in April.)

The first president of the European Optical Society is Hermann Walter of Rodenstock Optik GmbH in Munich, Germany. Further information about EOS can be obtained from Françoise Chavel, c/o Institut d’Optique, BP 43, 91406 Orsay Cedex, France.

SMITH RECEIVES 1991 GEMANT AWARD FROM AIP

The American Institute of Physics has selected this year’s Andrew Gemant Award recipient: Cyril Smith, an Institute Professor emeritus of MIT. Smith was chosen for his “pioneering use of solid-state physics in the study of ancient art and artifacts to reconstruct their cultural, historical and technological significance.” The Gemant Award is given each year to a physical scientist who has helped further the public’s understanding of physics.

Smith’s research has focused on physical metallurgy and the role of interface energy and topology in the structure of polycrystalline materials. Through his scientific research, he developed an interest in the field’s historical beginnings. His study of ancient art and artifacts led Smith to propose that many early metallurgical techniques were developed for decorative purposes and that only later were their more practical uses recognized. Smith has also sought out and helped translate into English some of the classical works on metallurgy, dating from the Middle Ages on.

After receiving a DSc in metallurgy

from MIT in 1926, Smith worked in industry and then for the University of Chicago. From 1943 to 1945 he was at Los Alamos, working on metallurgy for the first atomic bomb. He joined the MIT faculty in 1961.

OPTICAL SOCIETY NAMES EDUCATION, TECHNICAL OFFICERS

The Optical Society of America has named William S. Rodney to be its education program manager and Howard Rausch to be its technical director. Both positions are newly created.

Rodney, who is responsible for developing and managing OSA’s programs in pre-college, college and professional education, served in the physics division of the National Science Foundation as head of the nuclear physics program from 1963 to 1986. Prior to that he worked as a physicist for the Air Force’s Office of Science Research and the National Bureau of Standards. Rodney received a PhD in physics from Catholic University in 1955.

Rausch, the former publisher and editor of *Lightwave—The Journal of Optics*, is in charge of enhancing OSA’s engineering and international ventures and other technical activities, including meetings and education. Rausch founded *Lightwave* in 1984 and sold it to PennWell Publishing five years later. From 1969 to 1979 he published and edited *Laser Focus World*. Rausch received a BA from Syracuse University in 1950 and during the 1960s he worked for *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and McGraw-Hill.

OSA, which now has over 11 000 members, recently celebrated its 75th anniversary.

IN BRIEF

A European Astronomical Society has been founded. It is intended to be primarily a society representing individual members, though national or language-based societies can affiliate. The chairman of its organizing committee is L. Woltjer, the director general of the European Southern Observatory in Garching, near Munich in Germany.

An International Union of Materials Research Societies has been formed, with R. P. H. Chang of Northwestern University serving as president. The union is in an early organizational phase, but the ultimate intention is to

become an organization like the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics, with membership in the International Council of Scientific Unions.

AIP’s *Physics of Fluids A* no longer will have page charges, starting in January 1992. (AIP’s *Review of Scientific Instruments* and its *Journal of Mathematical Physics* already have no page charges.)

Poland has joined CERN as the organization’s 16th member state and as the first Eastern European country to obtain full membership.

A team has been named to manage the US contribution to the six-year engineering design phase for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor, a quadrilateral project involving the US, the European Community, Japan and the USSR. The leader is Alexander J. Glass of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and the other members are Charles C. Baker of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, James N. Doggett of LLNL and Douglass E. Post of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. The engineering design phase for ITER is expected to cost about \$1 billion, and work is to be divided among three sites: San Diego (US), Garching (Germany) and Naka (Japan).

An exhibition devoted to the European Space Agency’s space science missions will be at CERN’s Microcosm until the end of the year. The exhibition features scale models, films and large photographs associated with Giotto, Ulysses and the Infrared Space Observatory. Microcosm is a permanent exhibit representing the work of CERN that was established at the lab’s reception building about a year ago.

Britain’s Institute of Physics is publishing the English-language *Journal of the Moscow Physical Society*, the first issue of which appeared in February 1991. L. V. Keldysh of the Lebedev Physical Institute in Moscow is the editor. An annual subscription is \$215.00, and a free sample copy can be obtained from IOP, Techno House, Redcliffe Way, Bristol BS1 6NX, England.

Arnold Wolfendael, a professor of physics at the University of Durham, is Britain’s new astronomer royal. He succeeds Francis Graham-Smith of the University of Manchester. ■