

the departments granting bachelor's degrees make teaching ability the top criterion. Among the master's degree departments, 52% said teaching ability is most important in hiring faculty, while 33% said research is most important and 12% said personal characteristics are most important. When deciding on promotion, less than 10% of all schools consider a professor's educational activities beyond normal teaching, the survey found.

GIACCONI TO HEAD EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY

Riccardo Giacconi, the director of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland, has agreed to become the next director general of the European Southern Observatory. He will take office in January, succeeding the Dutch astronomer Harry van der Laan.

As head of ESO Giacconi will oversee construction of the Very Large Telescope, which will consist of four 8-meter mirrors, in Cerro Paranal, in northern Chile. ESO, headquartered in Garching near Munich in southern Germany, also has 12 telescopes at the La Silla observatory, 350 miles south of Cerro Paranal.

Known primarily for pioneering work in x-ray astronomy, Giacconi conceived and directed the development of the UHURU x-ray satellite (launched in 1970), and he served as principal investigator for the Einstein Observatory (launched in 1978). He has been director of the Space Telescope Science Institute and a professor of astronomy at The Johns Hopkins University since 1981.

Born in Genoa in northern Italy in 1931, Giacconi earned his PhD in physics at the University of Milan in 1954, and he became a naturalized US citizen in 1957. He was an assistant professor of physics at the University of Milan from 1954 to 1956, a Fulbright fellow at Indiana University from 1956 to 1958 and a research associate at Princeton University in 1958-59.

From 1959 to 1973 Giacconi was executive vice president and a member of the board of directors of American Science and Engineering Inc in Massachusetts. He was a professor of astronomy at Harvard University and associate director of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, where he was responsible for the high-energy astrophysics division, from 1973 to 1981.

Giacconi's association with Hubble will continue at ESO, because the Garching headquarters hosts the Space Telescope's European Coordinating Facility, a joint venture of ESO and the European Space Agency. The Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, which manages the Space Telescope Science Institute, is seeking a successor to Giacconi.

ACA BRINGS TEACHERS AND SCIENTISTS TOGETHER

Seven high school math and science teachers from the Pittsburgh area were recently treated to a day of lectures, tours and demonstrations on crystallography. The event, sponsored by the American Crystallographic Association, was held on 12 August during the association's annual meeting at the University of Pittsburgh. The educators' day was the first of what ACA hopes will become an annual event.

According to Linda Hannick of the Naval Research Laboratory, who helped organize the event, one of the main goals was to introduce the teachers to local researchers, with the hope that they will develop lasting relationships. Similar programs have been sponsored by several other member societies of the American Institute of Physics.

The day began with talks from four crystallographers, including Larry DeLucas, who was a crew member on the space shuttle Columbia's mission in July. After lunch the teachers toured crystallography laboratories at the University of Pittsburgh. They also watched demonstrations of simple experiments and were given kits containing crystal-growing experiments to use in their own classrooms.

The next educators' day is scheduled for the ACA meeting next May in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

GOMBOSI BECOMES SENIOR EDITOR OF JGR—SPACE PHYSICS

Tamas I. Gombosi of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, has been named senior editor of the *Journal of Geophysical Research—Space Physics*, a publication of the American Geophysical Union. He succeeds James A. Van Allen, who served as interim senior editor following the death of Christoph K. Goertz last November. Gombosi's term began on

1 August.

A native of Hungary, Gombosi did his graduate work at Roland Eötvös University in Budapest, earning an MS in 1970 and a doctorate in physics in 1974. He then became a research scientist at the Central Research Institute of Physics in Hungary and eventually became a research adviser there. In 1987 he moved to the University of Michigan, where he is a professor of space science and of aerospace engineering. Gombosi's research includes heliospheric physics and planetary atmospheres, ionospheres, exospheres and magnetospheres.

As editor, Gombosi intends to begin a letters to the editor section and to expand the coverage of areas that are now underrepresented in the journal, such as solar physics, cosmic rays and fundamental plasma physics. To assist authors whose first language is not English, Gombosi proposes hiring an editor whose main responsibility would be to make their papers more understandable.

NEW OSA PRIZE FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL CREATIVITY IN OPTICS

The Optical Society of America and the Society for Imaging Science and Technology have created a prize to recognize "pioneering entrepreneurial creativity that has had a significant public impact." The Edwin H. Land Prize, which consists of a medal and \$10 000, was endowed by the Polaroid Foundation. OSA and the Society for Imaging Science and Technology will alternate from year to year in presenting the prize.

Land, who died in March 1991, founded the Polaroid Corporation in 1937. (Land's obituary appeared in *PHYSICS TODAY*, April 1992, page 106.) He is perhaps best known for conceiving and developing commercial applications for instant photography. He founded the Rowland Institute for Science in 1979 to carry out research on color vision. Land attended Harvard College in the late 1920s but never graduated.

The Land Prize will recognize individuals who are identified with one of the areas in which Land himself specialized: optics, the mechanisms of vision, the properties and use of light, and the creation, manipulation and communication of images. The first prize is to be presented in May 1993 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the Society for Imaging Science and Technology's annual conference. ■