

Retirements and New Hires at the University of California, Berkeley

Retirements

Kinsey Anderson
Geoffrey Chew
William Chinowsky
Frank Crawford
Kenneth Crowe
Sumner Davis
Robert Ely
Gerson Goldhaber
Ervin Hahn
J. D. Jackson
Carson Jeffries
Leroy Kerth
Wulf Kunkel
Rainer Sachs
Charles Schwartz
Howard Shugart
Lynn Stevenson
Robert Tripp
Eyvind Wichmann

Hires

Seamus Davis (a Berkeley PhD and postdoc with Richard Packard, experimenter in low-temperature physics)
Paul McEuen (a Yale PhD and MIT postdoc, experimenter in nano-structures)
Z. Q. Qui (a Johns Hopkins PhD and Argonne postdoc, experimenter in magnetism in metallic superlattices)

president's office, which often is described as "remote" and operating "in a rarefied atmosphere." While some hopes attach to the arrival of Walter Massey as provost and senior vice president, one department chairman (not a physics chair, *per se*) characterizes Massey as "rather disconnected from a lot of things that he's going to have to learn."

Physicists at Santa Cruz are pleased that Massey has chosen to make their department his academic affiliation: While this is a mere formality, it would seem to assure at least that their voices will be heard. They also take heart from statements Massey has made about the importance of teaching—a matter of especially acute concern at Santa Cruz, which has the largest undergraduate physics population after Berkeley, and where the physics department is highly geared to its teaching responsibilities, drawing recruits largely from the ranks of its own graduates.

It may help California physicists generally that Massey is a physicist

himself. Yet everybody also appreciates that the Massey factor is a sword that can cut both ways: As heir apparent to the presidency of the sprawling state university system, Massey will not want to be seen as favoring the interests of his physicist friends.

Describing the role of the president's office in the restructuring of individual departments, Massey told *PHYSICS TODAY* that the central administration will not initiate changes at that level. But it will carefully review proposals for restructuring of departments from the campuses, and if, for example, consolidation or elimination of programs would result in a significant loss to the system as a whole, then the president's office probably would exercise a veto, probably in consultation with the regents.

Massey said that as the California economy starts to turn around, the overall situation should improve. He noted that this year's budget was better than expected and that the preliminary budget for next year anticipates a modest increase, including modest salary increases.

Mitigating factors

A retirement does not necessarily or even usually mean the total loss of a physicist to a department, of course. Berkeley's Cohen points out that when Charles Townes retired several years ago, just before the incentive programs were introduced, it made hardly any difference to his work habits at all. An emeritus physicist often will continue with research and will take students for dissertation work.

The worst-case scenario, Myron Bander of the Irvine department points out, is that retiring physicists will take new jobs and double- or triple-dip. Then indeed they are a total loss to their departments, if not to the world at large.

At the end of July it was announced that the physical chemist Yuan T. Lee, a Nobelist, would take early retirement from the Berkeley chemistry department and return to his native Taiwan to help further science there.

Even the physicists who continue to work and guide research cannot be expected to shoulder much in the way of teaching and administrative responsibilities. And so there is especially great concern at most campuses about losing senior people who have been active in every dimension of a department's affairs.

—WILLIAM SWEET

WILLIAMS IS NEW DIRECTOR OF SPACE TELESCOPE INSTITUTE

Robert E. Williams, previously director of the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile, took office in August as the new director of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. He succeeded Riccardo Giacconi, the institute's first director, who left to be director general of the European Southern Observatory, headquartered in Garching, Germany, outside Munich (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, October 1992, page 113). Giacconi had led the institute since 1981.

Williams takes office at a time of high anxiety about the Hubble repair mission scheduled for this fall and inherits an institute that has suffered some criticism from astronomers for having excessively cumbersome, rigid and bureaucratic procedures. Even if the repair mission goes perfectly, Williams still will have the task of making the institute more user-friendly—though the institute also is credited with having good peer-review procedures, with having improved the space telescope's efficiency and with doing a good job of dispatching data rapidly upon request.

Williams reminded *PHYSICS TODAY* that the space telescope is inherently a very complex instrument and that any big and expensive operation of this kind—and one that has a national mission—is bound to attract some criticism. Aspects of personal and organizational style may also have aggravated matters in the past, he said.

Williams said that having been in his new job only a couple of weeks, he is just beginning to evaluate criticisms of the institute, but he certainly would like to simplify proposal procedures.

Williams earned his bachelor's degree at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1962 and his PhD at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1965. He did his thesis under Donald E. Osterbrock, who is now at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

From 1965 to 1983 Williams taught at the University of Arizona, where he became a full professor in 1978. He was a visiting research associate at ESO in Garching in 1983–84 and a National Research Council senior research fellow at the NASA-Ames Research Center in 1984–85. He joined Cerro Tololo, which is part of the National Opti-

cal Astronomy Observatories, in 1985 and became director the following year.

Williams does research mainly on novae and strongly supports the practice of having institute staff be active researchers. In recent years he has interested himself mainly in mass-transfer binaries, using optical and ultraviolet data.

APS LECTURESHIP PROMOTES MINORITIES IN PHYSICS

The American Physical Society, in an effort to promote greater participation of minorities in physics, has established the Visiting Minority Lectureship. The lectureship will recognize a distinguished minority physicist who has made significant contributions to physics research and will help publicize that individual's work to the physics community, especially among minority students.

Despite concern in recent years about the predominance of white males in US physics, the participation of women and certain ethnic minorities remains low. According to figures gathered by the American Institute of Physics's education and employment statistics division, in 1992 Hispanic Americans accounted for about 1% of physics PhDs, while African Americans and Native Americans accounted for less than 1%.

The Visiting Minority Lectureship is modeled after APS's Lilienfeld Prize, which recognizes both research achievements and communication skills. According to Anthony Johnson of AT&T Bell Laboratories in Holmdel, New Jersey, who is the chair of the APS committee on minorities, the annual lectureship consists of a \$3000 prize plus support for travel to the March or April APS meetings, where the recipient will receive the award and give an invited talk on his or her research. The lecturer will also visit at least three academic institutions where minority students would be likely to benefit. The lecturer will deliver technical talks, visit classrooms and meet informally with faculty and students. "The visits to academic institutions," Johnson says, "can have a much greater impact on prospective minority students than simply presenting a prize or award or lecture at a meeting."

Funding for the program came from the Research Corporation of Tucson, Arizona, a private foundation that promotes academic research in the physical sciences as well as ef-

forts to boost enrollments and interest in science.

The nomination deadline for this year's lectureship is 6 December. The selection committee chair is Eugen Merzbacher of the University of North Carolina.

Information on the Visiting Minority Lectureship is available from the APS Physics Profession Programs Department, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017.

FEWER PHYSICS BACHELORS IN 1992, SURVEY FINDS

For the first time in seven years the number of physics bachelor's degree recipients fell below the 5000 mark, according to a recent survey conducted by the American Institute of Physics. The 4965 bachelor's degrees awarded in 1992 were down from 5150 a year earlier and a high of 5250 in 1987.

In the survey report, prepared by Susanne D. Ellis and Patrick J. Mulvey of the AIP education and employment statistics division, the decline was attributed in part to a belief among undergraduates that "a non-physics degree will make them more marketable" in a tighter economy.

In contrast to the drop in undergraduate degrees, the survey noted significant increases in graduate degrees: From 1991 to 1992 master's degrees increased by 12%, to 1918, and PhDs by 6%, to 1346.

There were fewer physics grad students in 1992 than the previous year, according to the survey, which covers undergraduate and graduate enrollments for 1992-93 and degrees awarded in 1991-92. A 6% drop was recorded in first-year graduate enrollment and a 1% drop occurred in total graduate enrollment; the latter, although small, is the first such decline since 1979.

During the past several years Americans belonging to racial minorities have slowly but steadily increased their presence among physics undergraduates. Since 1989, when they accounted for 8.4% of the bachelor's degrees, the proportion of ethnic minorities has inched upwards each year, to 10.2% in 1992. The representation of US women earning physics bachelors, however, has remained steady at about 15%. And although a record number of women—149—earned physics PhDs in 1992, over half were foreign citizens.

Copies of the 1992 enrollments and degrees survey report, which also

includes data on astronomy, are available from the AIP Education and Employment Statistics Division, 335 East 45 Street, New York NY 10017.

AIP JOURNAL OFFERS ELECTRONIC PREPRINTS

The *Journal of Chemical Physics*, published by the American Institute of Physics, is now offering an online service for obtaining articles and letters that the journal has accepted for publication. Called JCP Express, the new service will enable electronic preprints to be retrieved through the Internet, from the time of acceptance up to the time of journal publication. In many cases, the electronic text will be available up to four months before the journal article, which will be identical to the electronic version except for copyediting changes.

Only accepted articles and letters may be submitted to JCP Express. According to John C. Light, a chemistry professor at the University of Chicago and the editor of the *Journal of Chemical Physics*, the preprint service will initially be free. Authors who wish to have their preprints placed in JCP Express must submit electronic versions of their accepted manuscripts, including Postscript figures and tables if possible. RevTex is the preferred electronic format.

Information on submitting or obtaining preprints through JCP Express is available via electronic mail by sending a message to: express@jcp.uchicago.edu; type "help" as the subject of the message.

IN BRIEF

The staffs of the American Vacuum Society and the standards secretariat of the Acoustical Society of America have moved into new offices at 120 Wall Street, 32nd Floor, New York NY 10005.

Ulrich Goesele is taking a two-year leave of absence from Duke University as a professor of materials science to serve as codirector of the newly formed Max Planck Institute for Microstructure Physics in Halle, Germany, the first new MPI established in the states of former East Germany.

The name of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory has been changed to Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. ■