

STEINFINK WILL LEAD CRYSTALLOGRAPHERS IN 1995

Hugo Steinfink is the newly elected vice president of the American Crystallographic Association. On 1 January he succeeded Elinor T. Adman of the University of Washington, who is now serving a one-year term as ACA president. Steinfink will assume the presidency in 1995.

Steinfink earned a BS at the City College of New York in 1947, an MA at Columbia University in 1948 and a PhD in chemistry from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (now Polytechnic University) in 1954. He worked for Shell Development Company until 1960, when he joined the chemical engineering faculty of the University of Texas, Austin. He is currently the T. Brockett Hudson Professor of Chemical Engineering there. Steinfink's research has included studies of the crystal structures of silicate minerals, transition metal chalcogenides and oxides, and the interrelationship among crystal chemistry, structure and physical properties.

"ACA has been extremely well served by my predecessors," Steinfink says, "and my effort will be devoted to preserving and extending the advances that occurred in their administrations." He added that he is very concerned with the current funding support for basic sciences and the difficult employment outlook for new and recent graduates.

ACA also has elected a new secretary: Charlotte Lowe-Ma, a research chemist in the weapons division of the Naval Air Warfare Center in China Lake, California. Her three-year term began on 1 January.

NEW OSA PUBLICATION ON APPLIED OPTICS

The Optical Society of America has started a quarterly publication on applied optics. *Engineering & Laboratory Notes* is, according to OSA, "meant to be of practical, everyday value to optical engineers and scientists in carrying out their work." It includes short invited and contributed articles on subjects such as optical design, properties of optical materials, measurement techniques and methods for mounting optical elements.

The new publication will appear as an insert in OSA's magazine, *Op-*

tics & Photonics News; the first issue came out in November. At year's end, all of the papers in *Notes* will be republished in one collection in the journal *Applied Optics*.

Robert R. Shannon, professor emeritus of optical sciences at the University of Arizona, is the editor of *Notes*. Although other widely distributed publications carry similar information, Shannon says, *Notes* has the advantage of being peer-reviewed and archived.

NEW PRIZE HONORS TOP RHEOLOGY PAPER

The Society of Rheology has established a new prize to recognize outstanding research papers published in its *Journal of Rheology*. The first *Journal of Rheology* Publication Award will be presented this year.

The award committee will look at the contribution a paper (or series of papers by the same authors) makes to the basic science or industrial practice of rheology, the originality of the research methods and results, and the quality of the written exposition. To be eligible the paper must have appeared in one of the two calendar years immediately preceding the year in which the award is conferred. Thus the 1994 prize will go to the best paper published in the journal in 1992 and 1993.

The award, to be given annually, includes a cash prize of \$1000. TA Instruments, of Wilmington, Delaware, which makes instruments for the thermal and rheological characterization of materials, will provide financial support for the award for the first five years, 1994-98.

VON BAEYER WINS AIP SCIENCE WRITING AWARD

An elementary-particle theorist is the 1993 recipient of the science writing award that the American Institute of Physics gives to a scientist. Hans Christian von Baeyer was chosen for his book *Taming the Atom: The Emergence of the Visible Microworld* (Random House, New York, 1992), which describes the history of efforts to understand the atom from ancient Greece to modern times, as well as possible future experiments. (The book was reviewed in *PHYSICS TODAY*, July, page 78.)

Von Baeyer, a professor of physics

at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, has written several other books and numerous articles on science for the general public. He is also a contributing editor at *Discover* magazine. The award, which includes a \$3000 cash prize, was presented to him during the 1993 AIP Corporate Associates meeting, held in Buffalo in October.

IN BRIEF

A new Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Complex Systems has been established in Dresden. The institute, headed by Peter Fulde, a former director of the MPI for Solid State Research in Stuttgart, eventually will be housed in a new building at the Technical University.

Britain's Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and the Daresbury Laboratory have been merged for administrative purposes. The Office of Science and Technology will fund them directly.

The American Vacuum Society, one of the ten member societies of the American Institute of Physics, has created the category of AVS fellows and named 20 initial fellows. AVS also has established an eighth technical division, for nanometer science and technology.

Hubert Curien, the French physicist who served as research minister in two Mitterrand governments, has been elected president of the CERN Council. He succeeds Britain's William Mitchell.

The new chairman of the European Space Agency's council is Pieter Gaele Winters, who succeeds Francesco Carassa. The term of ESA Director General Jean-Marie Luton has been extended from 1994 to 1998.

The European Acoustical Association, which was founded a year ago by 11 European acoustics societies, has launched a journal, *Acta Acustica*. The editor is Jean Dominique Polack of the Technical University of Denmark.

The 1993 edition of *Optics Education*, a guide to programs in optics at 200 universities in 23 countries, is available free of charge from SPIE. Contact Pascale Barnett, International Society for Optical Engineering, P. O. Box 10, Bellingham WA 98227-0010. ■