

took the initiative to identify the concerns of nonacademic physicists and is now moving energetically to address them.

Last year CAP surveyed the nonacademic physicists belonging to any of the ten member societies of the American Institute of Physics. A four-page questionnaire was sent to 1847 PhD physicists in industry, national laboratories and government; 62% responded, of whom half were in industry, 30% at national laboratories and 20% in government. Joseph Heremans of the General Motors Research Laboratory, who served as a member of CAP from 1991–93, was instrumental in designing the questionnaire and launching the process, said Ourmazd; Roman Czujko and Raymond Chu of AIP's education and employment statistics division analyzed the results and summarized them in a short internal report for CAP.

In their report Czujko and Chu concentrated first on APS meeting attendance by nonacademic physicists. Over the last five years, 70% of current APS members who work in national laboratories and 59% of those who work in government have attended at least one APS meeting. But of those who work in industry, only 39% have attended an APS meeting in the last five years; most of these say they are engaged in either basic or long-range applied research. The majority of those who did not attend are involved in short-range applied research, design or engineering. Overall, two-thirds gave "content not relevant" as the reason for not attending more conferences sponsored by APS. Ourmazd thinks that part of the explanation for this pattern of attendance may lie in the fact that industrial and applied physicists do not tend to identify strongly with a single scientific discipline; hence they do not identify strongly with individual APS divisions.

The survey found that the same general distinction between long-range and short-range research holds with respect to APS publications: Long-range researchers are satisfied, short-rangers are not.

The survey also examined a less tangible but nonetheless real consideration, the desire for professional identification and professional recognition. In this regard, write Czujko and Chu, "a significant portion of current members who work outside of academe believe that APS does not serve their needs."

In spite of these negative statistics with respect to individual issues, respondents giving APS an overall positive rating outnumbered those giving a negative rating by a ratio of five to one! One can understand, then, why Ourmazd characterizes the nonacademic physicists as

showing "strong loyalty" to APS. With the formation of FIAP, APS is returning that loyalty.

—DENIS F. CIOFFI

SPROUL IS 1995 PRESIDENT-ELECT OF AVS

The American Vacuum Society has chosen a new president-elect: William D. Sproul of Northwestern University. Sproul succeeds John H. Weaver of the University of Minnesota, who is president for 1995. The new officers' terms begin on 1 January.

Sproul is manager of the vapor deposition group at Northwestern University's industrial research laboratory in Evanston, Illinois. An alumnus of Brown University, he received a bachelor's degree there in 1966, a master's degree in 1968 and, after serving four years in the US Navy, a PhD in materials science engineering in 1975. Before joining Northwestern in 1987, he worked at American Can and Borg-Warner. Sproul's work involves the sputtering of hard compounds—such as carbon nitride and polycrystalline superlattices—which eventually may be used to coat and protect gears, bearings and other common engineered components. He also heads an industrial consortium that aims to make such superhard coatings commercially available within the next several years. Within AVS Sproul has served on the board of directors and as chair of the vacuum metalurgy division.

Three new directors were also elected: Leonard J. Brillson of the Xerox Webster Research Center, in Webster, New York; Paula J. Grunthaner of the Jet Propulsion Lab,

in Pasadena, California; and Gary W. Rubloff of North Carolina State University, in Raleigh. The two newly elected AVS trustees are John Coburn of the University of California, Berkeley, and Max G. Lagally of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. N. Rey Whetten, the technical director of AVS, and William D. Westwood of Bell Northern Research in Ottawa, were reelected treasurer and secretary-clerk, respectively.

PALIWAL WINS AAPM ELECTION

On 1 January Bhudatt R. Paliwal of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, will become president-elect of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. He succeeds Guy Simmons, who is president for 1995.

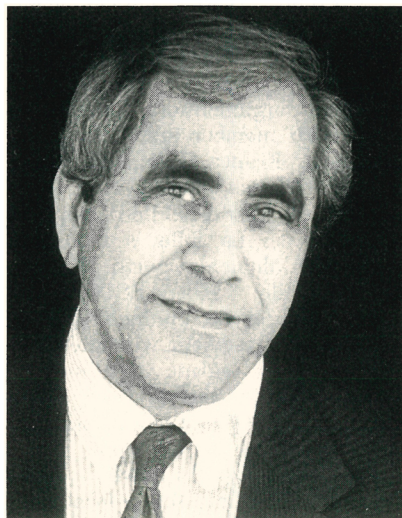
Paliwal is a professor in the departments of medical physics and human oncology at Wisconsin and director of radiation oncology physics at the university's hospital. Before immigrating to the US he received a BSc and an MSc from the International Center of Education in Pondicherry, India. He received his PhD in biomedical physics in 1973 from the University of Texas, Houston. Paliwal's specialty is radiation oncology dosimetry, including treatment planning, special procedures, and computer and imaging applications.

In his candidate's statement Paliwal stressed the "need to take a proactive stance to maintain our teaching and research base and to secure our professional status and high standards of care" in the face of health care reform.

In other election results Charles W. Coffey II of Vanderbilt Medical



William D. Sproul



Bhudatt R. Paliwal