

WE HEAR THAT

AAS Names Recipients of Prizes for 1995

The American Astronomical Society has announced the recipients of its prizes and awards for 1995. The society's highest honor, the Henry Norris Russell Lectureship, goes to **Robert P. Kraft**, an emeritus professor of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and Lick Observatory. Kraft was cited for his "distinguished career in observational astrophysics . . . marked by highly influential studies of Cepheid variables, his discovery of the binary nature of novae, pioneering studies of stellar rotation, determinations of the physical properties and distributions of RR Lyrae stars, and extensive analyses of the chemical properties of the oldest stars and clusters in the Galactic halo. His profound insight, together with the vigor and breadth of his research, has greatly advanced our understanding of the history, structure and contents of the Galaxy."

Jerry E. Nelson, also an astronomer at Lick Observatory, is this year's recipient of the Dannie Heineman Prize for Astrophysics, presented jointly by AAS and the American Institute of Physics. AAS cited Nelson for "his invention of the segmented, actively controlled, primary mirror, [which] has led astronomy into the era of 8–10-meter-class optical telescopes. His energy, enthusiasm, intelligence and deep knowledge of all aspects of the physics and engineering were essential to the successful completion of the Keck Telescopes on Mauna Kea, the first of the new generation."

AAS has named **Andrew McWilliam**, the Barbara McClintock Fellow at the Carnegie Observatories in Pasadena, California, to receive the Newton Lacy Pierce Prize. The award citation noted McWilliam's "work on the chemical abundances of cool giant stars accessible in the Galactic bulge through Baade's Window." It also praised his "uncommon ability to push the limits of spectroscopic instrumentation to obtain data of high quality for a significant sample of faint stars" and his "careful and thorough analysis of those data."

The 1995 recipient of the Helen B. Warner Prize is **E. Sterl Phinney**, an associate professor of theoretical astrophysics at Caltech. AAS cited Phinney for "his diverse theoretical work pertaining to astrophysical pro-



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cesses in active galactic nuclei and pulsars and the dynamics of globular clusters," including his "influential and frequently cited work in such areas as black-hole magnetohydrodynamics in quasars and active galactic nuclei and the gravitational wave emission from spirally decaying neutron star binaries."

Donald W. Goldsmith, president of Interstellar Media, a small company in Berkeley, California, that produces books and related materials about astronomy and physics, has garnered the Annenberg Foundation Award in Education. Goldsmith has written astronomy texts and general-interest astronomy books as well as television programs on astronomy, and he was praised by AAS for his "dynamic and effective teaching and lecturing" and for his writing, which "is distinguished by scientific accuracy, literary liveliness, a far-ranging and open-minded intellect and a passion to communicate both what science is and how scientists think to the rest of the world."

DOE Announces Winners of Lawrence Awards

In March Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary announced the recipients of the 1994 E. O. Lawrence Awards, given in seven fields of science. Four of the awards honored physics or physics-related work.

The award in the national security category is shared by **E. Michael**

Campbell and **John Lindl**, both of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Campbell is associate director of laser programs and Lindl is scientific director for the inertial-confinement fusion program. Campbell is cited for "his distinguished experimental contributions and for his leadership in inertial-confinement fusion and laser-plasma physics that together have been instrumental in advancing the applications of laser-produced plasmas and in bringing the indirect drive, laser-driven fusion physics and technology to its current state of technical excellence and promise." Lindl's citation is the same except that he is praised for his theoretical, rather than experimental, contributions.

The award in the physics category goes to **George F. Smoot**, a professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley, who holds a joint appointment at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. Smoot is recognized for "his leadership in the remarkably accurate measurement of the variations in the cosmic microwave background radiation, thus clarifying our understanding of the early history of the universe, the distribution of dark matter and the formation of stars and galaxies."

Edward William Larsen, professor of nuclear engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, garners the award in the nuclear technology category. He is cited for "his profound impact on the analytic and numerical methods used to model the transport of particles and radiation in complex systems, with applications in diverse areas of nuclear technology ranging from nuclear weapons design to nuclear reactor safety."

In the category of environmental science and technology, **John E. Till** was honored for "outstanding contributions to radiation dose reconstruction programs and effective leadership in public communications in the areas of radiological assessment, dose reconstruction and risk analysis." Till is a Rear Admiral in the US Naval Reserve, having served as deputy commander of the submarine force, US Atlantic fleet, and commander of readiness in command region ten.

National Academy Names New Members

The National Academy of Sciences has elected 60 new US members and 15 foreign associates. The total