

WE HEAR THAT

AAPT Bestows Awards at Summer Meeting

Four individuals were honored at the summer meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers, held in Denver in August.

The Robert A. Millikan Medal was given to **David J. Griffiths**, a professor of physics at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Griffiths was cited for "his outstanding contributions to the literature of physics textbooks, his inspiring and lively prose, and his contributions to the teaching of undergraduate physics."

Max Dresden, a visiting scholar in the history of science department at Stanford University and a visiting scientist at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, received the Paul Klopsteg Memorial Lecture Award. Dresden was cited for his distinguished career in theoretical physics, which has included research in statistical mechanics, superconductivity and quantum field theory. The topic of Dresden's lecture was "Scales—Macroscopic, Microscopic, Mesoscopic: Their Autonomy and Interrelation."

The Award for Excellence in Pre-College Physics Teaching went to **Christopher J. Chiaverina**, a teacher at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois. Chiaverina was recognized for "his leadership in bringing physics to a broad public audience and his creativity in the teaching of physics to high school students both in the classroom and out-of-doors."

Raymond C. Turner, a professor of physics at Clemson University, was the first recipient of the Excellence in Undergraduate Physics Teaching Award. The award, which recognizes outstanding achievements in undergraduate physics education that have had a national impact, went to Turner for "his innovative contributions to the teaching of physics using toys and for the dedication and joy that he has brought to his teaching of undergraduate physics."

AIP Presents Science Writing Awards

The American Institute of Physics recently announced this year's recipients of its science writing awards. **Hazel Muir** received the science writing award to a journalist for her arti-

cles "Watch Out Here Comes the Sun," on solar storm research, and "A Fast Rain's Going to Fall," on high-energy cosmic rays. The articles appeared, respectively, in the 3 February 1996 and 7 December 1996 issues of *New Scientist*, where Muir is the science news editor.

The 1997 award for science writing for children was given to **Donald Silver**, a freelance writer based in New York City who has authored more than 40 science books for children and teachers. Silver was chosen for his book *Extinction Is Forever* (Silver Burdett Press, 1996), in which he presents the various theories put forth to explain the disappearance of the dinosaurs and other species.

Last year, the award for science writing for children went to **Steve Tomecek**, executive director and founder of Science Plus Inc., a developer of science enrichment and staff development programs. AIP chose Tomecek, a geologist by training, for his book *Bounding and Bending Light* (W. H. Freeman, 1995), which contains simple experiments to demonstrate various light phenomena.

IN BRIEF

The founding director of the Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS) at Cornell University, **Boris W. Batterman**, stepped down in September after 20 years at the helm. He will continue on the faculty as the Walter S. Carpenter Jr. Professor of Engineering and Applied Physics. The new director of CHESS is **Sol Gruner**, who is also a professor of physics at Cornell. Gruner has moved north from Princeton University, where he was a professor of physics.

This fall, **Daniel Dekee** became a professor of chemical engineering at Tulane University, moving there from Quebec, Canada, where he had also been a professor of chemical engineering at the University of Sherbrooke.

In October **Syukuro Manabe** and **Veerabhadran Ramanathan** jointly received the 1997 Volvo Environment Prize, awarded under the auspices of Belgium's Royal Institute for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Promotion of Clean Technology. Manabe was honored for "his role in the development of mathematical models, breaking new ground in climate research." Manabe retired in

September from the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey, to move to Tokyo as a program director in the Frontier Research Program for Global Change, a joint US-Japan research initiative. Ramanathan, the Alderson Professor of Ocean Sciences at Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, was cited for making it possible "to understand the critical energy-distributing role of clouds and water vapor in the climate system."

Ian Gatley became the director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science at the Rochester Institute of Technology this September. He had worked previously at the National Optical Astronomy Observatories in Tucson, Arizona. Gatley replaced **Harvey Rhody**, a professor of electrical engineering at RIT, who had served as the center's interim director for two years after the retirement in 1995 of **Edwin P. Przybylowicz**.

Gerard A. Mourou, director of the Center for Ultrafast Optical Science at the University of Michigan, has received the Harold E. Edgerton Award, which is sponsored by the International Society for Optical Engineering and donated by EG&G Corp. Mourou was chosen for his contributions to ultrafast phenomena. "Foremost among these," according to the citation, "is the invention of chirped pulse amplification, now used throughout the world in ultrafast laboratories."

In August the European Physical Society awarded its 1997 High Energy and Particle Physics Prize to **Robert Brout** and **François Englert**, both from the University of Brussels, and to **Peter Higgs**, an emeritus professor of physics at the University of Edinburgh. The three were honored for "formulating for the first time a self-consistent theory of charged massive vector bosons which became the foundation of the electroweak theory of elementary particles."

In August **Art Nelson** left the Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Golden, Colorado, to become a staff member in chemistry and materials science at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He will also conduct research at the Sincrotrone Trieste (ELETTRA) in Trieste, Italy.

At its annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, in February, the Biophysical Society will give three awards: **Mi-**