latest digital sound in movie theaters."

A technology medal also went to **Robert S. Ledley**, director of medical computing and biophysics, and a professor of radiology, physiology and biophysics, at the Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC. Ledley was cited for "pioneering innovations in biomedical computing and engineering. He invented and commercialized the whole-body CT scanner, contributed to the creation of computerized databases for patient biomedical data and biochemical sequences, and developed important instrumentation and computer algorithms essential for automated chromosome analysis."

AAS Announces Prize Recipients for 1997

The American Astronomical Society has named the winners of its awards for 1997. This year's Russell Lecturer, AAS's highest honor, is **Alastair G. W. Cameron**, a professor of astronomy at Harvard University. The award citation calls Cameron "one of the founders of modern nuclear astrophysics" and goes on to state that "his fundamental papers on such diverse topics as nucleosynthesis in stars, theory of supernovae, neutron stars, galactic chemical evolution, formation of the planets and the moon, elemental abundances and extinct radio activities have changed the field of astronomy and will have a lasting impact."

Scott D. Tremaine is the recipient of the Dannie Heineman Prize in Astrophysics, given jointly by AAS and the American Institute of Physics, for his "diverse and insightful applications of dynamics to planets, rings, comets, galaxies and the universe." Tremaine is a professor at the University of Toronto's Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics and director of the Cosmology and Gravity Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

Alyssa A. Goodman has garnered the Newton Lacy Pierce Prize for "her leadership in understanding the structure, magnetic fields and dynamics of star-forming regions through observations at many wavelengths. Her work on the polarization of light from obscured stars and the weak magnetic alignment of grains shows that, contrary to popular belief, the polarization of background starlight does not map magnetic fields in the cold dense ISM, and points toward a better approach." Goodman is an associate professor of astronomy at Harvard University.

The winner of the Helen B. Warner Prize is **Charles C. Steidel**, an assistant professor of astronomy at Caltech. Steidel is cited for "his important contributions to observational cosmology. He has significantly increased our understanding of quasars, quasar absorption lines, and galaxy evolution and formation. He discovered high redshift, star-forming galaxies, and proved conclusively that moderate redshift QSO absorbers are normal galaxies, and showed that there has been very little evolution of the gas and galaxies back to redshift 1."

ALASTAIR CAMERON

Three Honored at 'Physics without Borders' Gathering

Three physicists were honored during a special "Physics without Borders" session at the American Physical Society's April meeting in Washington, DC. **Insu Yi** received the 1997 Outstanding Young Researcher Award from the Association of Korean Physicists in America for "his truly outstanding scholarly and pioneering research on astrophysics and cosmology." Yi is a member of the astrophysics division at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey.

The Overseas Chinese Physics Association presented its Outstanding Young Researcher Award to **Rui-Rui Du** and **Zi-Qiang Qiu**. Du, an assistant professor of physics at the University of Utah, was chosen for "his work in experimental condensed matter physics leading to the discovery of composite fermions in the fractional quantum Hall effects." Qiu, an assistant professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley, was cited for "his many contributions in the study of magnetic artificial structures."

German Physical Society Hands Out Honors

The German Physical Society (DPG) has given out a number of honors and awards this year for outstanding research. When the society met in Munich in March, it presented prizes to **Peter Armbruster**, **Wolfgang Ketterle**, **Aton Oed** and **Robin Marshall**.

The Stern-Gerlach Medal went to Armbruster, who stepped down last fall as head of the nuclear chemistry department at the Laboratory for Heavy Ion Research (GSI) in Darmstadt, Germany. The citation praised his "pioneering contributions to the synthesis of heavy nuclei" and went on to say that "the detection of the six heaviest elements by Armbruster and his co-workers has been a decisive step in the extensions of the periodic table."

Ketterle, a professor of physics at MIT, earned the Gustav Hertz Prize for his "outstanding work on the experimental demonstration of the Bose–Einstein condensation of ultra-cold atomic gases."

Oed, who works at the Laue–Langevin Institute in Grenoble, France, received the 1997 Robert Wichard Pohl Prize for his research "leading to the development of a novel particle detector."

Marshall garnered the Max Born Medal and Prize (as reported in PHYSICS TODAY, April 1997, page 80).

At the solid-state meeting in Münster in March 1997, **Christof Geibel** was honored with the Walter Schottky Prize. The citation praised Geibel's "outstanding work on the discovery and systematic study of new heavy fermion systems." Geibel is a professor at the Technical Hochschule/Darmstadt.

The Max Planck Medal, normally given at the society's March meeting, will be given instead at a meeting this month of the DPG council. The recipient, **Gerald E. Brown**, a professor of physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, is being cited for his "outstanding contributions to the understanding of the structure of the nucleus, nuclear forces and the behavior of nuclear material in supernovae."

The Gentner-Kastler Prize, which is awarded alternately to German and French physicists by the German and French Physical Societies, will be presented this year to **Reinhard Scherm** of the Laue–Langevin Institute in Grenoble, at a meeting of the French Physical Society. Scherm is being cited for his "decisive contributions to the understanding of the quantum fluids helium-3 and helium-4 using thermal neutron scattering."