

WE HEAR THAT

AAPM Presents Annual Awards at Texas Meeting

The American Association of Physicists in Medicine presented its 1998 awards at the group's annual meeting held in San Antonio in August. The William D. Coolidge Award, AAPM's highest honor, was presented to **Bengt Bjarngard**, director of physics and a professor of radiation oncology at the University of Pennsylvania. A past president of AAPM, Bjarngard was honored for his work in radiologi-



BENGT BJARNGARD

cal and radiotherapy physics, including pioneering research in conformal and intensity-modulated radiation therapy, as well as for his efforts on behalf of AAPM.

The Award for Achievement in Medical Physics, which is given in recognition of outstanding career achievement in medical physics practice, education or organizational affairs and professional activities, was presented to three people this year. They were **John Hale**, an emeritus professor in the schools of both engineering and medicine at the University of Pennsylvania; **Jon Trueblood**, professor and director of medical physics in the radiology department at the Medical College of Georgia; and **Kenneth Wright**, a staff member both at MIT's Laboratory for Electromagnetic and Electronic Systems and in the radiation oncology department at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Massachusetts.

Corey Zankowski, a clinical physicist at the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver, and **Ervin Podgorsak**, a professor and director of medical physics at the McGill University Health Centre, received the Farrington Daniels Award, given for the best paper on radiation dosimetry published in *Medical Physics* during the previous year. Their paper was entitled "Calibration of Photon and Electron Beams with an Extrapolation Chamber."

AAPM presented the Sylvia Sorkin Greenfield Award, given for the best overall paper published in *Medical Physics* during the previous year, to **Scott Hwang**, a medical student at Temple University in Philadelphia, **Felix Wehrli**, a professor of radiologic science and biophysics at the University of Pennsylvania, and **John Williams**, an associate professor of orthopedic surgery at the Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri. They received the award for their paper entitled "Probability-Based Structural Parameters from Three-Dimensional Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Images as Predictors of Trabecular Bone Strength."

IN BRIEF

Fusion Power Associates has given its 1998 Leadership Awards to **Hermann A. Grunder**, director of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, and to **John P. Holdren**, director of the program in science, technology and public policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. The organization's Distinguished Career Awards went to **D. Bruce Montgomery**, **Tihiro Ohkawa** and **Paul H. Rutherford**. Montgomery is president of MTECHNOLOGY Inc in Wayland, Massachusetts, and Ohkawa is president of TOYO Technologies Inc in San Diego. Rutherford retired in 1995 as deputy associate director for research at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory and is now a principal research scientist there.

Fusion Power Associates also recently gave Engineering Excellence Awards to **Stephen Payne**, a group leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and **Mark Tillack**, an engineering group leader for the US fusion powerplant studies program at the University of California, San Diego.

In a ceremony in October in Oviedo, Spain, Don Felipe de Gorbón y Grecia, prince of Asturias and heir to the Spanish throne, will personally bestow his Prize of Scientific and Technical Research on **Emilio Mendez** and **Pedro Etchenique**. Mendez is a professor of physics at the University of New York at Stony Brook, and Etchenique is a theoretical condensed matter physicist at the University of the Basque Country in San Sebastián. This year is only the third time in 13 years that the prize has been awarded for research in physics.

Next month, the National Academy of Engineering will present the 1998 Arthur M. Bueche Award to **John H. Gibbons** in recognition of "a distinguished career devoted to sound technology assessment, science policy in the national interest, wise counsel to the federal government, efficient use of our energy resources, and effective stewardship of our Earth's environment." Gibbons served as the President's science adviser and as head of Office of Science and Technology Policy from February 1993 until he retired in April 1998 (see PHYSICS TODAY, June 1998, page 49).

Also in October, NAE will give its 1998 Founders Award to **Yuan-Cheng Fung**, a professor emeritus of bioengineering at the University of California, San Diego. Fung will be honored for his "superb accomplishments in biomechanics and aeroelasticity research, for broad contributions to the scientific discipline of biomechanics, and for outstanding leadership and statesmanship in developing biomechanics as a discipline in the 20th century."

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has announced the recipients of its 1998 fellowships. The fellows include **Don L. Anderson**, a professor of geophysics at Caltech; **Mitchell Begelman**, a professor of astrophysical and planetary sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder; **Eugene W. Beier**, a professor of physics at the University of Pennsylvania; **Pallab K. Bhattacharya**, a professor of electrical engineering and computer science at the University of Michigan; **Demetrios Christodoulou**, a professor of mathematics at Princeton University; **Eduardo Fradkin**, a professor of physics at the Uni-

versity of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; **George Gruner**, a professor of physics at UCLA; **Christopher F. McKee**, a professor of physics and astronomy at the University of California, Berkeley; **Jorge Pullin**, an associate professor of physics at Pennsylvania State University; **Christopher A. Reed**, a professor of chemistry at the University of Southern California and **John G. Sclater**, a professor of marine geology and geophysics at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.

The American Astronomical Society has appointed **Kevin Marvel** as associate executive officer for policy programs, in charge of public policy and employment services. Marvel was formerly a postdoctoral scholar at Caltech's Owens Valley Radio Observatory.

The Lars Onsager Medal will be awarded this month in Trondheim, Norway, to **Elliott Lieb**, a professor of mathematical physics and the Higgins Professor of Physics at Princeton University. The medal, given by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, honors Lieb for his contributions to statistical and mathematical physics.

As of 1 July, **Daniel Chemla** became the new director of the Advanced Light Source at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. He replaced **Brian Kincaid**, who had led the synchrotron for six years, including its final year of construction and its commissioning, and who has returned to full-time research. Chemla adds this new responsibility to his others as director of LBL's materials science division and as a professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has awarded the 1998 Gregori Aminoff prize, given for pioneering work in crystallography, to **Aloysio Janner**, **Ted Janssen** and **Pieter Marten de Wolff**, all from The Netherlands. The three were cited for "their contributions to the theory and practice of modulated structure analysis." Unfortunately, De Wolff, a professor emeritus at the Technical University of Delft, was too ill to attend the award ceremony and died on 10 April, just two weeks after Janner delivered the medal to him. Janner is a professor emeritus and Janssen is a professor in the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the University of Nijmegen.

David Clary, director of the Centre for Theoretical Computational Chemistry at the University of London's Uni-

versity College, received the Royal Society of Chemistry 1997 Award in Chemical Dynamics in June. The award is sponsored by BP Chemicals.

Italy's National Institute of Nuclear Physics (INFN) has appointed **Enzo Iarocci** as its new director. Iarocci, who directed the INFN National Laboratories of INFN, Frascati, from 1990 to 1996, replaces **Luciano Maiani**, who will become CERN's director general in January 1999 (see PHYSICS TODAY, February 1998, page 65). Headquartered in Rome, INFN is a state institution founded in 1951 to promote, coordinate and finance experimental and theoretical research in nuclear and subnuclear physics.

Sidney Burrus, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Rice University, has assumed the reins as dean of the university's George R. Brown School of Engineering.

On 1 October, **Matthias Kasemann** will become the new head of Fermilab's computing division. He has been a collaborator on the Zeus Experiment at the German Electron-Synchrotron (DESY) in Hamburg, and he has managed off-line computing at DESY.

The first recipient of the newly created Marian Smoluchowski-Emil Warburg Prize is **Andrzej Bialas**, a professor in the school for theoretical physics at the Kraków University of Technology and one of the school's founders. He was chosen because of his significant contributions to theoretical work on particle collisions and particle production at high energies. The annual prize is jointly sponsored by the German and

Polish Physical Societies. This first year, a Polish physicist (Bialas) was honored at a meeting in Germany (Regensburg); next year, a German physicist will be honored in Poland. The alternation will then repeat.

In May, the Read-Rite Corporation announced that **Joseph J. Miceli Jr** had been named vice president and general manager of the optomagnetic group, located in San Jose, California. Before this appointment, Miceli had spent 16 years at Eastman Kodak Corporation in Rochester, New York.

Jack Rowe has recently accepted a position as a senior research scientist (Scientific-Technical) with the US Army Research Office in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Rowe was previously a member of technical staff at Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies in Murray Hill, New Jersey. He is also an adjunct professor of physics at North Carolina State University and a distinguished visiting professor of physics at Rutgers University.

In June, **David Golden**, a senior staff scientist at the Molecular Physics Laboratory of SRI International in Menlo Park, California, received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota, the school from which he had earned a PhD.

Humberto Campins, who had been a professor of astronomy at the University of Florida, has joined the Research Corporation (a foundation for the advancement of science) in Tucson, Arizona, as a program officer to oversee its awards programs.

OBITUARIES

Verner Schomaker

Verner Schomaker, a great figure in molecular science, died on 30 March 1997 in Pasadena, California, after a brave battle with pancreatic cancer. For many molecular scientists, Schomaker was a legend; for those privileged to know him, he epitomized the finest scientific and human qualities—keen analytical insight, wide-ranging knowledge and interests and, above all, integrity.

Born in Nehawka, Nebraska, on 22 June 1914, Schomaker grew up on a farm and studied chemistry at the University of Nebraska, where he earned a BSc and MSc in 1934 and 1935, respectively. He then went to Caltech to study with Linus Pauling, under

whose guidance he earned a PhD in chemistry in 1938. He then joined the Caltech chemistry faculty, and remained there until 1958.

After seven years as a research director at Union Carbide Research Institute in Bound Brook, New Jersey, he was called to the University of Washington to chair its chemistry department. After his retirement from Washington in 1984, he became a faculty associate at Caltech, sharing his time between Pasadena and Seattle. He served as president of the American Crystallographic Association in 1961–62.

Schomaker's name became familiar to me and to many others through reading Pauling's 1939 classic book *The Nature of the Chemical Bond*, and the *Structure of Molecules and Crystals*