

versity of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Linköping University in Sweden) as AVS clerk, and John



SARTWELL

Coburn (University of California, Berkeley) as treasurer. The newly elected directors are Calvin Gabriel (VLSI Technology Inc), Howard Patton (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory), and Dorota Temple (MCNC), and the new trustees are

Ellen Stechel (Ford Motor Co) and William Westwood (a consultant in Ottawa, Ontario).

IN BRIEF

Fusion energy research. The Joint European Torus, the record-setting magnetic fusion experiment and the only one where trials with tritium can be performed, will stay open for at least three more years. A lawsuit over salary disparities that had threatened to close JET has been settled, with about \$24 million to be distributed to around 200 British employees at the Culham, England, tokamak (see PHYSICS TODAY, July 1999, page 45). In addition, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority is slated to take over management of

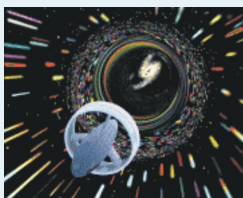
the facility on 1 January from the JET Joint Undertaking, which had run it for the European Commission since 1978, and to manage it jointly with Europe's 15 other fusion associations. Future research at JET will focus on eventual fusion energy production in preparation for the planned next-step machine, the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor.

Cross-disciplinary grants. Proposals are being solicited for programs to train graduate students and postdocs from the physical, chemical, and computational sciences to work in the biological sciences. Continuing an initiative it began in 1996, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund plans to award up to a total of \$10 million over five years to several universities or consortia of research institutes and universities in the US and Canada, with the goal of "training investigators coming from quantitative and theoretical backgrounds so they can introduce new approaches and new ideas into the biological arena." For more information, including how to apply, see http://www.bwffund.org/interfaces_program.htm; write to Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Interfaces Program, 21 T. W. Alexander Drive, PO Box 13901, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; send e-mail to info@bwffund.org; or call Debi Linkous at 919-991-5116. The deadline for submitting proposals is 10 April. ■

Web Watch

<http://www.lerc.nasa.gov/WWW/PAO/warp.htm>

Warp Drive When? is the catchy title of a Web site that explains NASA's Breakthrough Propulsion Physics program to the general public. Managed by Marc Millis of NASA's Glenn Research Center (who also created the Web site), the program seeks the ultimate breakthroughs in space transportation. The use of "ultimate" reflects the fact that, according to Millis, convenient interstellar travel will require such feats as achieving superluminal velocities and controlling gravity.



<http://www.whalelink.org/orcafm.html>

Thanks to the Vancouver Aquarium's Marine Science Centre, you can use your Web browser to listen to the live sounds made by killer whales off the coast of British Columbia. As described by the facility's ORCA FM Web site, researchers use a network of underwater microphones to identify and study individual whales and their kin groups.



<http://www.nmsi.ac.uk/on-line/fusion>

Fusion is an on-line exhibition offered by the UK's Science Museum. Aimed at a general audience, it describes the principles, and history of fusion physics, as well as the hopes for fusion-generated electric power.



To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please contact ptwww@aip.org by e-mail.

Compiled by **CHARLES DAY**