

DICKINSON

communication between different disciplines and scientific communities." Other valuable activities, he added, include public education, student education, and the "encour-

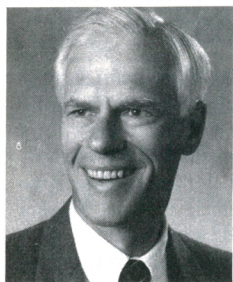
agement of the professional development of young scientists."

In other AGU election results, John Orcutt, a geophysicist at the University of California, San Diego, is staying on as general secretary. The society's international secretary, Gordon Rostocker of the Solar Terrestrial Environment Laboratory at Nagoya University in Japan, was also reelected for two years.

Hartmann Is ASA President-Elect

William M. Hartmann, a professor of physics at Michigan State University, became president-elect of the Acoustical Society of America this past June. He will succeed Katherine S. Hansen as ASA president in 2001.

Hartmann received a BS in electrical engineering and physics from Iowa State University in 1961 and earned his PhD in condensed matter physics



HARTMANN

in 1965 as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University. After three years as a research assistant at Argonne National Laboratory, he joined Michigan State. In 1976, Hartmann's work on lattice dynamics and the electron-phonon

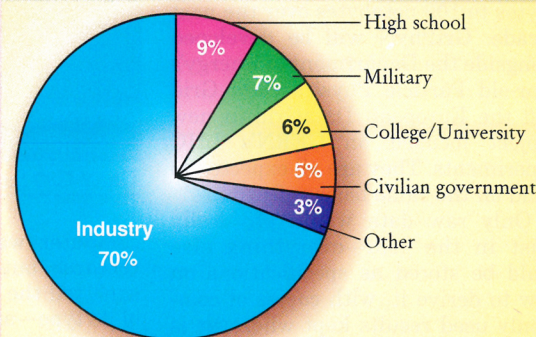
interaction took a sudden change of direction: Inspired by teaching a musical acoustics course, he became interested in human hearing. He now works on sound localization (see his article in *PHYSICS TODAY*, November 1999, page 24), pitch perception, and signal detection, and recently demonstrated a new method of sound recording that recreates the listening environment of a live musical performance.

The ASA is finding new challenges

Who's Hiring Physics Bachelors?

The bulk of US graduates with a bachelor's degree in physics end up working in industry (see figure)—everywhere from Lockheed Martin to the Walt Disney Co. A list of their employers, broken down state by state for the classes of 1996 through 1998, was recently compiled by the American Institute of Physics' statistical research center. This list and related reports are available online at <http://www.aip.org/statistics/trends/emptrends.htm>.

Employer distribution for full-time US employed physics bachelors, class of 1997.



and opportunities in electronic communication and publishing, Hartmann says. "Within the year, acousticians will have CD-ROMs containing every article published in *JASA* [Journal of the ASA], from its origin in 1929 to the present."

Janet M. Weisenberger of Ohio State University's speech and hearing science department also took office in June, as vice president-elect. She will succeed Gilles A. Daigle next year. Elected to the ASA executive committee were Donna L. Neff (Boys Town National Research Hospital)

and Henrik Schmidt (MIT). Both Neff and Schmidt will serve three-year terms.

IN BRIEF

Thirty-meter mirror. Astronomers at the University of California, Santa Cruz and at Caltech are planning a 30-meter optical and infrared telescope, the California Extremely Large Telescope, which they hope to see running in 10–15 years. First, though, the UCSC-led team has to come up with a design to make CELT

Web Watch

<http://ojsps.aip.org/ARLO>

"Wavelet Processing for Wideband Scattering Function Estimation" by Penn State's Lora Weiss is the first paper in the inaugural volume of **Acoustic Research Letters Online**. Published by the Acoustical Society of America,

ARLO

ARLO (as the journal is more familiarly known) accepts papers in all fields of acoustics and can accommodate animated figures and audio clips.



<http://www.iwm.org.uk/online/enigma/eni-intro.htm>

The cracking of Germany's Enigma codes in World War II is the subject of an extensive online exhibit at Britain's Imperial War Museum. Among the topics covered by the multimedia exhibit is Colossos, the world's first programmable electronic digital computer, which helped crack even the most sophisticated German codes.

<http://www-sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/Ref.html>

Jim Martindale's **Reference Desk** of online resources, which is hosted by the University of California, Irvine, is encyclopedic in its scope. Mathematics, physics, and chemistry are included, but so are fashion, pets, and business. Physicists might find especially useful the collection of calculators and science data tables.

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

Compiled by **CHARLES DAY**

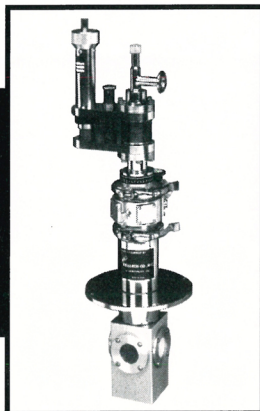
cheaply, and find the money to pay for it. The target cost is \$500 million, or half of what the European Southern Observatory expects to spend on its hoped-for 100-meter Overwhelmingly Large Telescope. Hawaii's Mauna Kea and several locations in Chile are being considered for CELT.

Solar flare kills x-ray satellite. On 14 July, Earth's atmosphere, puffed up by a solar flare, shoved and twisted the Advanced Satellite for Cosmology and Astrophysics so that its solar-powered batteries couldn't be recharged. Launched in 1993, the x-ray astronomy satellite had surpassed its expected five-year lifetime; it was headed back to Earth next year. ASCA was, however, still in demand for extended observations, for which newer x-ray observatories such as Chandra rarely have time. ASCA's Japanese-American team tried to rescue the satellite for about two months before giving up in late September.

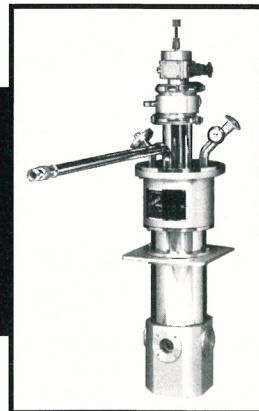
German physics publishing. In January 2002, the German Physical Society will become sole owner of its monthly magazine *Physikalische Blätter* by buying out the 52% share currently owned by Wiley-VCH publishers. *Physikalische Blätter* was founded in 1944; working titles for its new incarnation are "Physik Aktuell" and "PhysiX."

Public astronomy lectures. The American Astronomical Society is funding a series of lectures nationwide to bring new developments in astronomy to the public. The Second Century Lecture Series kicked off this past May with "Runaway Universe," a lecture given by Harvard University's Robert Kirchner at the University of Minnesota. In June, Anneila Sargent of Caltech gave a talk entitled "From Dust to Us"—more than 400 people attended, with long lines forming outside New York's Hayden Planetarium to look through telescopes. Next in the series is a talk by the Hayden's director, Neil de Grasse Tyson, on an urban astronomer's view of the search for extraterrestrial life. Tyson's talk will take place on 7 December, at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington DC. Early next year, Andrea Ghez of UCLA will give a lecture on black holes at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center in San Diego, California. To host a lecture or suggest a venue, contact David Helfand at djh@astro.columbia.edu or Neta Bahcall at neta@princeton.edu. ■

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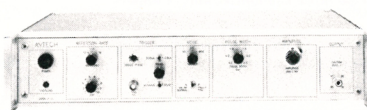
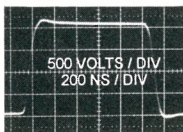
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