

Carter Will Lead ACA in 2002

Charlie Carter, a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, took office as vice president of the American Crystallographic Association this past January. He will become president in 2002, succeeding **William C. Stallings**, a researcher at Pharmacia in Chesterfield, Missouri.

"The coming decade will likely witness explosive growth of macromolecular structures," says Carter, because of the number of groups working on the human genome project. A new challenge for ACA, he adds, is balancing the needs of the growing number of biological crystallographers with materials science and small molecule groups.

Carter earned his BA in molecular biophysics from Yale in 1967, and went on to get an MS in chemistry and



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a PhD in biology from the University of California, San Diego. After a postdoctoral year at Cambridge University, he joined North Carolina's School of Medicine, where his research has focused on the enzyme mechanisms associated with protein and

ribonucleic acid (RNA) interactions.

In other ACA election results, **Doug Ohlendorf**, a professor of biochemistry at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, took office in January for a one-year term as ACA treasurer. On the communications committee, **John Sack** of Bristol-Myers Squibb and **Jeanette A. Krause-Bauer**, the director of crystallographic services at the University of Cincinnati, took office for three- and four-year terms respectively. And on the education committee, **Winnie Wong-Ng**, a research chemist at NIST's ceramics division, took office for three years, and **Phillip E. Fanwick**, a chemical crystallographer at Purdue University's West Lafayette campus, took office for four years.

IN BRIEF

In February, **Ants Leetmaa** became the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Geophysical Fluid Dynamics

Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey. He had previously served as the director of the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center in Camp Springs, Maryland. Leetmaa replaced **Jerry Mahlman**, who retired as director last October. Mahlman had been the director since 1984 and had worked at the lab for exactly three decades—beginning his NOAA career the day the agency started and ending his career there on NOAA's official 30th anniversary. He currently is Lecturer with Rank of Professor at Princeton University.

Alex Zunger, an institute research fellow and scientist at the US Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, received the 2001 John Bardeen Award from the Minerals, Metals & Materials Society at its annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, in February. The society acknowledged Zunger's "contributions to the theoretical understanding and prediction of 'spontaneous ordering,' phase stability, and electronic properties of semiconductor alloys." He was also recognized "for the impact that this work has had on experimental studies of electronic materials and for his continued leadership in the field."

Duncan Moore joined the Optical Society of America (OSA) in January as its part-time senior science adviser. He previously was the associate director of technology in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. In addition to his position with OSA, Moore works full-time as Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor of Optical Engineering at the University of Rochester.

At a January ceremony at CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, Director of Central Intelligence George J. Tenet presented the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal—the highest award bestowed by the US Intelligence Community—to two winners, one of whom works in physics. **Sidney D. Drell** was recognized in part for bringing "White House and community attention to bear on a wide range of critical scientific and technical challenges confronting this nation." Drell, deputy director of SLAC until 1998, is an emeritus professor of theoretical physics at SLAC and a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution. The other winner was Senator Warren B. Rudman.

The University of Chicago named **Robert Zimmer** as the vice president for research and for Argonne National Laboratory last December. In addition to his new duties, Zimmer

will continue to serve as the university's deputy provost for research, a post he has held since 1988, and as Max Mason Distinguished Professor of Mathematics.

Last November, the European Science Foundation in Strasbourg, France, awarded the 2000 European Latsis Prize in the field of molecular structure to **Kenneth Charles Holmes**, director of the biophysics department at the Max Planck Institute for Medical Research in Heidelberg, Germany. The foundation recognized "his outstanding contributions to structural biology, studies of great scientific and social significance for European progress" and noted that he "was a pioneer in the development of both theoretical and experimental x-ray diffraction methods for elucidating the structures of biological macromolecules." The prize, financed by the Latsis Foundation, carries a cash award of 100 000 Swiss francs (about \$60 000).

Shuji Nakamura, a professor of materials at the University of California, Santa Barbara, received the 2000 Honda Prize, given by the Honda Foundation of Japan in November. The citation noted in part that Nakamura "undertook the challenging task of creating crystals by using gallium nitride as material—considered a particularly difficult process—and succeeded in the development of light-emitting diodes and laser diodes." These devices "can be used as a light source for high-density optical recording of optical disks. . . . Light-emitting bodies thus developed will consume very little power, will be environment friendly, and one of the most important energy-saving devices." Nakamura received a cash prize of ¥10 million (about \$85 000).

The Max Planck Society and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation last fall handed out the 2000 Max Planck Research Awards for various disciplines to 12 scientists, 6 of whom work in physics-related fields. **Simon D. M. White** and **Peter Wölfe** shared the award for physics. White is with the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics in Garching, Germany, and Wölfe is with the University of Karlsruhe in Germany. Among the recipients of the biological sciences and medicine award were **George J. Augustine** of Duke University and **Wolfgang Baumeister** of the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry in Martinsried near Munich, Germany. **Dieter Enders** of the Rhine-Westphalian Technical University of Aachen in Germany was honored