ences at Harvard.

The Marshall N. Rosenbluth Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award, formerly known as the Oustanding Doctoral Thesis in Plasma Physics Award, went to **Mayya Tokman** for the "development of exponential propagation methods for 3-D MHD simulations and for their application to the solar corona, giving new understanding of observed features of coronal mass ejections." She is a visiting assistant professor in the mathematics department at the University of California, Berkeley. Her advisers were Paul Bellan and Daniel Meiron at Caltech.

Brian DeMarco, a postdoctoral research fellow at NIST in Boulder, Colorado, received the Atomic, Molecular or Optical Physics Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award. The citation for his award was unavailable at press time.

Netherlands Science Prize Bestowed

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) presented its NWO/Spinoza Award for 2002 in August to four Dutch research scientists. This annual award is the most prestigious one given in the Netherlands for scientific achievement.

One of the winners, **Ad Lagendijk**, is a professor of physics in the MESA+ Institute at the University of Twente in the Netherlands. A member of the complex photonic systems research group at the institute, Lagendijk conducts work "at the interface between optics and solid-state physics," according to the NWO. His research involves study of how light beams travel through materials, especially those (such as paint) that make the propagation of light waves very difficult. In 1990, while he was a professor of physics at the University of Amsterdam, he and his group discovered the "Amsterdam effect," in which paint particles reflect light back and forth so often that they temporarily capture and delay the light.

Lagendijk received both a small statue of 17th-century philosopher Benedictus de Spinoza and a cash prize of €1.5 million (about $1.5 million), which he can spend on the research of his choice.

OSA Elects New Vice President

The Optical Society of America has elected **Susan Houde-Walter**, professor of optics at the University of