

National Science Board Honors Public Service

A former NSF director and the first American woman to walk in space are among this year's winners of awards presented by the National Science Board, the governing board of NSF, in May at a dinner hosted by the State Department.

Richard C. Atkinson, who directed NSF from 1977 to 1980, received the NSB's top honor, the 2003 Vannevar Bush Award, for his "contributions to our understanding of human cognition and his vigorous advocacy of the scientific enterprise in the public interest." According to the board, his research on the nature of memory "led to better understanding of brain structures that relate to psychological phenomena and the effects drugs have on the memory." In the 1960s, he created one of the first computer-controlled systems for classroom instruction, work that led to the commercialization of computer-assisted instructional systems. During his tenure as NSF's director, Atkinson negotiated the first-



Atkinson

Sullivan

COSI COLUMBUS

ever memorandum of understanding between the US and the People's Republic of China. That effort helped "[open] the doors for major exchanges of scientists and scholars between the two nations," declared the NSB. Atkinson was named president of the University of California system in 1995. He will retire from that post on 1 October.

A former NASA astronaut, a radio show, and a nonprofit educational organization garnered the NSB's Public Service Awards. **Kathryn D. Sullivan**, the first American woman to walk in space, was honored with the individual award for her "accomplishments as an explorer of Earth and

space, a science educator, and a role model for girls and young women." Sullivan is president and CEO of COSI Columbus, a science center in Columbus, Ohio, whose focus is to make science fun through hands-on discovery.

The group award went to the **Council for the Advancement of Science Writing** and the radio series *Earth & Sky*. The NSB acknowledged CASW, a nonprofit educational organization, for its "achievement in bringing together scientists and science writers for the purpose of improving the quality of science news reaching the public." The council, located in Hedgesville, West Virginia, funds programs to help journalists and science writers present accurate and informative news stories about developments in science, medicine, and technology.

Earth & Sky, a 90-second radio series produced by the nonprofit organization Earth & Sky Inc based in Austin, Texas, was recognized for its "achievement in broadcasting explanations of research and everyday science to a worldwide audience." The program is broadcast by nearly 680 radio stations in the US and heard internationally on other radio networks.

ASA President-Elect Is Kuperman

Members of the Acoustical Society of America recently elected **William Kuperman** as their president-elect. Kuperman, who took office in May, will become president in 2004, succeeding **Ilene Busch-Vishniac**, ASA's current president (see PHYSICS TODAY, October 2002, page 67).

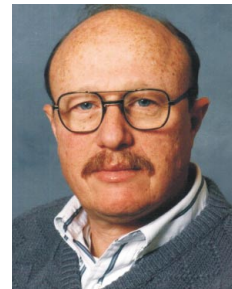
Kuperman received a BS in physics at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in New York City in 1965 and an MS in physics at the University of Chicago in 1966. A year later, he joined the Naval Research Laboratory as a research physicist, spending the next nine years there. During that time he earned his PhD in physics at the University of Maryland, College Park. Kuperman then moved to NATO's SACLANT Undersea Research Centre in La Spezia, Italy, where he headed the acoustic modeling group between 1976 and 1981. He subsequently returned to the US, where he resumed working at NRL. In

1984, NRL named Kuperman senior scientist of its acoustics division. He joined the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1993 and currently directs its marine physical laboratory.

"Right now, acoustics is in the midst of a broad, interdisciplinary renaissance concerned with a multitude of research areas in physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, psychology, and many engineering sciences," says Kuperman. "My main goals involve capitalizing on our members' accomplishments in order to provide more opportunities for interchange of ideas within the society as well as increased outreach to the broader community. Both on a national and international level, we must find a way to be even more inclusive and provide opportunities for potential members."

To pursue these goals, he adds, "We must maintain a financially sound operation, which suggests that we perform a serious cost-benefit study and truly evaluate and inform the membership of some of our lesser known, long running, but expensive activities." And in response to the growing number of smaller, specialized meetings, Kuperman says he would like to "address possibilities of making our meetings more intimate while at the same time maintaining their size and scope. I will support our editor in the goal of processing papers more efficiently and in dealing with the general challenges of electronic publishing."

In other ASA election results, **Mark F. Hamilton** (University of Texas at Austin) took office as the society's vice president-elect. **Mardi C. Hastings** (Office of Naval Research in Arlington, Virginia) and **George Frisk** (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Woods Hole, Massachusetts) were each elected to a three-year term on the ASA executive council.



Kuperman

NAS Names New Inductees

The National Academy of Sciences announced this past April the

names of its 72 new members and 18 foreign associates. The following members are physicists or work in physics-related areas:

Praveen Chaudhari, director of Brookhaven National Laboratory

Sallie W. Chisholm, professor of civil and environmental engineering and biology at MIT

Jody Deming, professor of biological oceanography at the University of Washington–Seattle

James Dieterich, senior research scientist on the US Geological Survey's earthquake hazards team in Menlo Park, California

William Dietrich, professor in the department of Earth and planetary science at the University of California, Berkeley

Yakov Eliashberg, professor of mathematics at Stanford University

John Fenn, professor of analytical chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia

Lennard Fisk, professor of atmospheric, oceanic, and space sciences at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Wendy Freedman, Crawford H. Greenewalt Director of the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington in Pasadena, California

Isaac M. Held, senior scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey

Shrinivas Kulkarni, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Astronomy and Planetary Science at Caltech

Judith Lean, research physicist in the E. O. Hulburt Center for Space Research at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC

Henry Melosh, professor in the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory at the University of Arizona, Tucson

Sidney Nagel, Stein–Freiler Distinguished Service Professor in the department of physics at the University of Chicago and the university's James Franck and Enrico Fermi Institutes

William D. Nix, Lee Otterson Professor of Engineering at Stanford University

Helen Quinn, member of the permanent scientific staff at SLAC

Paul Schechter, professor of astrophysics at MIT

William H. Schlesinger, dean of the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke University

Robert Silbey, dean of science and professor of chemistry at MIT

Saul Teukolsky, Hans A. Bethe

Professor of Physics and Astrophysics at Cornell University

Dale J. Van Harlingen, professor of physics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Eli Yablonovitch, professor of electrical engineering at UCLA.

The following foreign associates are physicists or work in physics-related areas:

Edouard Brézin, professor of theoretical physics at Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris

Herbert Kroemer, professor of electrical engineering and of materials at the University of California, Santa Barbara

Rosine Lallement, professor and director of research at the Laboratory Service d'Aéronomie of CNRS

Ryoji Noyori, director of the Research Center for Materials Science at Nagoya University in Nagoya, Japan.

Giorgio Parisi, professor in the department of physics at the University of La Sapienza in Rome.

In Brief

David A. King, deputy director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, since last November, took the post of director on 15 June. He succeeds **Art Stephenson**, who was named director in September 1998. Stephenson plans to continue at NASA as a special assistant to the associate administrator for education.

The Association of Korean Physicists in America presented its 2003 Outstanding Young Researcher Award to **Hwang Lee** at AKPA's general meeting in Austin, Texas, this past March. Lee, research scientist at the senior level at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, was acknowledged for his "outstanding contributions in the field of nonlinear and linear optics."

This month at the triennial International Congress on Mathematical Physics in Lisbon, Portugal, three

individuals are each receiving the Henri Poincaré Prize. They are **Huzihiro Araki**, who retired in 1996 as the director of Kyoto University's Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences; **Elliott H. Lieb**, Eugene Higgins Professor of Physics and professor of mathematics at Princeton University; and **Oded Schramm**, senior researcher with Microsoft Corp in Redmond, Washington. The award, given by the International Association of Mathematics, recognizes outstanding contributions in mathematical physics and those that lay the ground for novel developments in the field.

On 11 July, **Brian J. Boyle** will join the Australia Telescope National Facility, a division of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, as its new director. For the past seven years, he has directed the Anglo-Australian Observatory in Epping, New South Wales. He succeeds **Ronald D. Ekers**, who became the ATNF's first director in 1988, and **Raymond P. Norris**, who has been the acting director for much of the past two years. Ekers plans to pursue research as an Australian Federation fellow and, beginning next month, will be president of the International Astronomical Union. Norris will serve as the ATNF's deputy director and will be directing the astronomy part of the Australian government's Major National Research Facilities program.

Marlan O. Scully received the 2003 Quantum Electronics Award at the 23rd Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics and the 11th Quantum Electronics and Laser Science Conference last month in Baltimore, Maryland. The Lasers and Electro-Optics Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers cited Scully, professor of physics and electrical engineering at Texas A&M University and a professor of chemistry at Princeton University, for his "field-opening contributions to the foundation of laser physics." Scully also received a \$4000 honorarium.

Obituaries

Burton David Fried

Burton David Fried, emeritus professor of physics at UCLA, died in Palm Desert, California, on 12 October 2002 after complications from surgery. He was warmly known as "Burt" to the broad international community

of plasma scientists and fusion researchers in which, for three decades, he played a leading role as a creative scientist and spokesman.

Burt was born in Chicago, Illinois, on 14 December 1925. He enlisted in the US Navy during World War II and was trained as a radio technician; his