Keyser Takes Helm as AAPM Director

On 1 January, **Angela R. Keyser** became the executive director of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. She replaced **Sal Trofi Jr**, who had held the position since AAPM moved its headquarters in 1993 from New York City to its present location at the American Center for Physics in College Park, Maryland (see PHYSICS TODAY, January 1994, page 41). Trofi plans to retire and relocate to Florida.

Keyser

"Angela and I worked together previously at the National Society of Professional Engineers," said Trofi. "She has worked with me for the entirety of my employment at AAPM. I relied heavily on her good judgment with many difficult decisions. Knowing that Angela will lead the AAPM headquarters' operations gives me comfort that AAPM is in good hands."

Keyser holds a BA in government and politics from the University of Maryland, College Park. In 1989, she joined American Waterways Operators in Arlington, Virginia, as an assistant to the vice president. In 1992, she moved to the National Society of Professional Engineers in Alexandria, Virginia, where she was a director of meetings and continuing professional development. At AAPM, she held the position of director of meetings and programs before becoming the society's deputy executive director in 1998.

"I appreciate the confidence placed in me by the AAPM board of directors," Keyser said. "Sal Trofi has been my mentor for many years, and I have immense respect for his innovative leadership style and his strategic analytical talents. My number one goal as the new executive director is to continue to promote the strong team spirit and commitment to customer service that was the focus under Sal's leadership."

As executive director, Keyser is charged with overseeing the operations of an organization with more than 4700 medical physicists. "Angela has had 10 years of experience with AAPM and has shown herself to be an excellent manager as deputy executive director," said AAPM President **G. Donald Frey** of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Keyser described her management philosophy as "team and results oriented." She added, "We will do whatever is needed to get the job done in the most efficient way."

AAPT's Vice President for 2004 Is Heller

Last month, **Kenneth Heller** took office as vice president of the American Association of Physics Teachers. Heller, Morse-Alumni Professor of Physics at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, succeeded **Richard Peterson** (see PHYSICS TODAY, February 2003, page 72) and will become AAPT's president-elect in 2005, president in 2006, and past president in 2007.

Heller received his BA in physics from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1965. After spending several years working as a US Peace Corps volunteer in Nigeria and in Kenya, he earned his PhD in experimental high-energy physics in 1974 from the University of Washington, Seattle. After a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Heller joined the University of Minnesota in 1978 as an assistant professor in the school of physics and astronomy. He became a full professor there in 1987 and has served as the school's associate head since 1998.

Heller's research interest is high-energy particle physics. He collaborated on the experiment at Fermilab in which the first observations of tau neutrino interactions were made (see PHYSICS TODAY, October 2000, page 17) and is a member of the Main Injector Neutrino Oscillation Search (MINOS) long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiment. Also a member of the American Physical Society, Heller is active in physics education R&D with an emphasis on developing effective tools to teach problem solving in introductory physics classes.

Heller

"Physics is taught from graduate school to elementary school by people with different backgrounds and interests," says Heller. "The AAPT," he adds, "provides a venue to articulate the goals of that teaching in light of research results and new applications that continually change our perception of the foundations of physics; education research that provides more effective and efficient ways of teaching; and the changing needs of society." Heller says he "will seek to forge closer links between the AAPT and the APS."

In other AAPT election results, **Chuck Robertson** (University of Washington, Seattle) was reelected to a two-year term as AAPT's treasurer and **Ruth Chabay** (North Carolina State University) was elected as the four-year college member-at-large on the AAPT executive board. She will serve a three-year term.

Delbaere Is Elected Vice President of ACA

Louis T. J. Delbaere, professor of biochemistry at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, took office on 1 January as vice president of the American Crystallographic Association for 2004. He will become president in 2005, succeeding **Frances Jurnak**, who became president on 1 January (see PHYSICS TODAY, April 2003, page 79).

Delbaere

"All researchers who use crystallographic techniques should find themselves at home in the ACA," says Delbaere. "We must continually strive to have joint conference sessions with other societies to show the multidisciplinary nature of our work." Delbaere adds that it is important "to continue to reach out to our Latin American colleagues to have them attend and participate in ACA annual meetings because the ACA represents the Americas as a regional affiliate of the International Union of Crystallography."

Delbaere received his BSc in chemistry (1965) and his PhD in chemical crystallography (1970) from the University of Manitoba. He held

postdoctoral positions at Oxford University and at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, before becoming a research associate at Alberta in 1973. In 1979, he joined the faculty of the biochemistry department at Saskatchewan and headed the department for five years, beginning in 1998. In 2001, he was appointed as Canada Research Chair in Structural Biochemistry. His research interests include the study of protein crystallography, particularly the enzyme phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase.

Delbaere recently completed the first half of a sabbatical at Oxford, where he examined the structures of kinases. He is spending the second half of his sabbatical at the University of Auckland in New Zealand, where he plans to work on the structures of proteins involved in tuberculosis.

In other ACA election results, **Douglas Ohlendorf** (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities) was reelected to a three-year term as the society's treasurer. **Simon Billinge** (Michigan State University) was elected to a four-year term on the continuing education committee and **Cathy Drennan** (MIT) began her four-year term on the communications committee. **Ward Smith** (Argonne National Laboratory) also took office for a four-year term on the data, standards, and computing committee.

In Brief

Effective 1 January, **Bertil Andersson** began serving a five-year appointment as chief executive of the European Science Foundation, based in Strasbourg, France. Andersson was president of Linköping University and a professor of biochemistry at Stockholm University. He succeeded ESF Secretary General **Enric Banda**, who plans to return to Barcelona, Spain, to take his post as a research professor with the CSIC, an autonomus, multidisciplinary public research body affiliated with the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Art McDonald, a subatomic physicist from Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, and director of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, received the 2003 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering in November at a gala dinner held in the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council awarded the medal, NSERC's highest honor, to McDonald in honor of his contributions to science, particularly his leadership of SNO. The council promises to fund McDonald's research to the tune of Can$1 million (about $780 000) over 5 years. McDonald has announced that, in honor of his student André Hamer, who died in February 2003 (see PHYSICS TODAY, November 2003, page 88), part of the award will support prizes for the top NSERC postgraduate scholarship winners.

Madeleine Jacobs took her new post as the executive director and CEO of the American Chemical Society on 1 January. She succeeded **John K. Crum**, who retired after 20 years in that position. Jacobs previously was the editor-in-chief of the weekly *Chemical & Engineering News*. Her successor is **Rudy M. Baum**, who had served as the magazine's deputy editor-in-chief.

Heino Finkelmann and **Mark Warner** are the winners of the 2003 Agilent Technologies Europhysics Prize, awarded by the European Physical Society and funded by the Palo Alto, California-based Agilent Technologies. The scientists were cited for their "discovery of new phases of polymer liquid crystal elastomers and the experimental and theoretical studies of their extraordinary properties." Finkelmann is a professor in the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry at the University of Freiburg in Germany. Warner is a professor of theoretical physics in the Cavendish Laboratory at the University of Cambridge, UK.

Louis F. DiMauro, senior scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, will join the faculty of Ohio State University this summer as the Edward E. and Sylvia Hagenlocker Chair in Physics.

During a ceremony in November in Rome, the European Commission presented the 2003 Descartes Prize to two teams of researchers. The first team, led by **Richard Friend**, Cavendish Professor of Physics at the University of Cambridge in the UK, won, in part, for having "achieved breakthroughs in light and image display screens, paving the way for a new range of innovative applications such as pliable TV and computer screens and switch-on wallpaper." The team split its €700 000 (about $890 000) share of the prize. **Veronique Dehant**, head of the time, Earth rotation, and space geodesy section at the Royal Observatory of Belgium in Brussels, led the second team. Its project "breaks new ground in overcoming the difficulties caused by variations in the Earth's rotation axis," says the citation, "with a new model which improves the accuracy of global positioning and navigation systems from 2 meters to within only 2–3 centimeters." The team shared the €300 000 (about $380 000) prize.

In October, **Stuart MacCormack** became the product engineering manager for high-power fiber lasers at Spectra-Physics in Mountain View, California. He had been a staff scientist at JDS Uniphase in San Jose. Also joining Spectra-Physics that month was **Jim Harrison**, now director of engineering for the diode lasers group, which is based in Tucson, Arizona. He was previously the vice president of engineering for the semiconductor laser group at Coherent in Santa Clara, California.

Astronomer **Steve B. Howell** started working last summer at the WIYN Observatory and the National Optical Astronomy Observatory in Tucson, Arizona. He previously had been with the University of California, Riverside, as a senior research scientist.

Obituaries

Bertram Neville Brockhouse

Bertram Neville Brockhouse, professor emeritus at McMaster University, who shared the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physics with Clifford Shull, died on 13 October 2003 in Hamilton, Canada.

Bert was born in Lethbridge, Canada, on 15 July 1918 and grew up in Vancouver. He began his elementary school education in a one-room schoolhouse a few miles from the family farm. Completing high school at the height of the Depression, and with limited employment prospects, he moved with his family to Chicago in 1935. There, he took evening courses in radio repair and design that earned him a position as a laboratory assistant in an electrical firm and allowed him to repair radios on his own time. After three years in Chicago, the family returned to Vancouver.

In 1939, soon after Canada was at war with the Axis powers, Bert enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy and went to sea as a sonar operator before eventually rising to the position of electrical sub-lieutenant. After