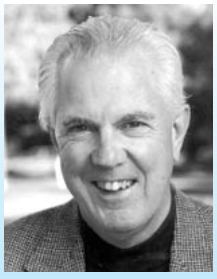
merly associate vice president for research and dean of Loyola's graduate school, Yost holds a BA in psychology from Colorado College (1966) and received his PhD in experimental psychology from Indiana University in 1970. He was on the faculty of the University of Florida in Gainesville from 1971 to 1977 and subsequently joined Loyola.


Yost

"This is an exciting time to take on the responsibility of president," says Yost. "The ASA is a strong society actively and successfully fulfilling its mission of increasing and diffusing the knowledge of acoustics and promoting its practical applications." He says he hopes that "the ASA can continue to positively affect public policy in areas of acoustics," particularly policy that is "based on sound science and engineering practices." He adds that he looks forward to ASA's continued growth and to "the enhancement of the many diverse fields of acoustics." Yost was elected in May and took office the same month. In May 2005, he will succeed ASA's current president, William Kuperman (see PHYSICS TODAY, July 2003, page 67).

The ASA membership also chose a new vice president-elect. She is **Donna L. Neff**, staff scientist in the auditory perception laboratory at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska. New executive council members are **Judy R. Dubno**, professor in the department of otolaryngology–head and neck surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and **Victor W. Sparrow**, associate professor of acoustics at the Pennsylvania State University in University Park. Both were elected to serve three-year terms.

## In Brief

In October, **Ethan J. Schreier** will become president of Associated Universities Inc in Washington, DC. He took leave in 2001 from the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland, to join AUI, where he is currently the executive vice president. He will succeed **Riccardo Giacconi**, who is retiring as president and plans to continue research at Johns Hopkins University.

# Obituaries

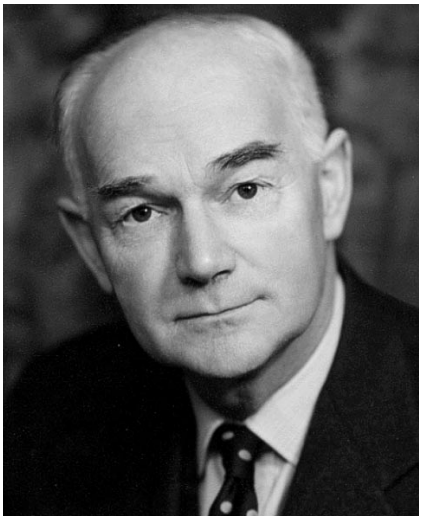
## Thomas Edward Allibone

Thomas Edward Allibone, known to so many by his initials "T.E.A.," died in Holyport, near Maidenhead in southeastern England, on 9 September 2003, just nine weeks short of his 100th birthday. His long life spanned the days from the beginning of the last century to the beginning of this one—from the days of string and sealing wax to now.

Born in Sheffield, England, on 11 November 1903, T.E.A. entered Sheffield University in 1921 on an open scholarship to start an honors degree in physics. The scholarship was financed by the Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co of Manchester, and thus began his long association with Metrovick, which was a major influence on his life and led to his pursuit of an industrial career that lasted 50 years.

Following his graduation in 1924, T.E.A. accepted a staff position in the company's research department. He worked at Metrovick while he continued his doctoral studies at Sheffield. After completing his PhD in metallurgy in 1926, he moved on to the Cavendish laboratory at Cambridge University to join Ernest Rutherford's team, which was then leading the world in defining the structure of the atomic nucleus. It was at this time that John Cockcroft and Ernest Walton devised the voltage doubler experiment to create a proton beam that would produce the first atomic disintegration. Although T.E.A. decided to concentrate on his pursuit of a PhD in physics at Cambridge, he made a significant contribution to Cockcroft and Walton's experiment by designing the rectifiers that were a key part of the apparatus. Cockcroft and Walton received a Nobel Prize in 1951. Had T.E.A. given up his PhD, as Walton had done, and joined them, he might have been a joint recipient.

He was awarded his PhD by Cambridge in 1929 but continued to work there until 1930, when he accepted the directorship of Metrovicks's high-voltage laboratory, which Rutherford had opened in 1929. Even before T.E.A. left Cambridge, he had designed a continuously evacuated x-ray tube for St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London, to be used for cancer therapy. That accomplishment led to the development of a profitable range of x-ray equipment by the high-voltage laboratory. In recognition of that work, T.E.A. was awarded the Roentgen Medal of the British Institute of Radiology for 1933–34.


Thomas Edward Allibone

Wartime research drew him into work on radar, but in 1943, he left the UK for the US to work on the Manhattan Project, and was there until Christmas 1945. Then it was back to England for what was undoubtedly the peak of his achievements over a long and successful career: the establishment of the Associated Electrical Industries (AEI) long-term research facility at Aldermaston Court in 1946. That facility, over its 17-year lifetime, made major contributions to many areas of scientific endeavor, because not only was T.E.A. an outstanding experimental physicist in his own right, but also an inspirational leader and outstanding communicator. He gathered around him a team of scientists and engineers of exceptional ability and led and inspired them. Many became leaders in their field and owed their subsequent careers to him. From top to bottom, his staff held him in the highest regard and had the greatest affection for him.

In addition to gathering that group, T.E.A. had a wide circle of friends among eminent scientists and engineers and engaged many of them as consultants to back up the research at Aldermaston. One of those, Dennis Gabor, claimed that he had the idea of holography—for which he received a Nobel Prize—while sitting on the tennis court there, waiting for a game. T.E.A., who had first met Gabor in Germany, was instrumental in finding an opening for him in the UK when he needed to escape Nazi persecution before World War II.

The industrial experiment at Aldermaston ended, sadly, in 1963 due to the financial difficulties of AEI. T.E.A. joined the Central Electricity Generating Board as chief scientist