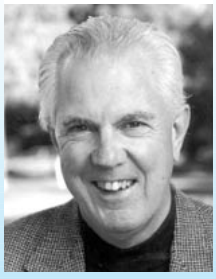
merly associate vice president for research and dean of Loyola's graduate school, Yost holds a BA in psychology from Colorado College (1966) and received his PhD in experimental psychology from Indiana University in 1970. He was on the faculty of the University of Florida in Gainesville from 1971 to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

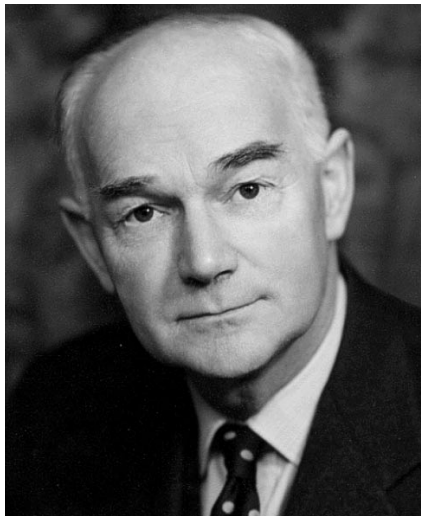
Thomas Edward Allibone

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

responsible for research at its Leatherhead, Manchester, and Berkeley laboratories in England and remained there until he retired in 1970. To say that he ever retired, however, is something of a misstatement. His mother had reminded him in his youth of the old Yorkshire tag, "Wear out, not rust out," and he followed it to the letter. During his "retirement," he wrote numerous technical papers and continued as external professor of electrical engineering at Leeds University until 1979. Subsequently, he retained the status of emeritus professor, the first occasion such an honor was bestowed on someone other than a retired professor who had held a chair at the university. In addition, he was visiting professor of physics at City University in London from 1971 and the first Frank Poynton Professor of Physics there until his death.

Throughout his career, T.E.A.'s personal research focused on high-voltage phenomena and high-voltage and vacuum devices. When Basil Schonland demonstrated in the 1930s the stepped development of the downward lightning leader, T.E.A. and coworkers quickly demonstrated the analogous growth of the long laboratory spark. T.E.A.'s research on long electric sparks gave important information about the mechanism of discharge, and he did valuable work on the breakdown of liquid insulators. That was work he continued in his retirement years.

T.E.A. was elected to the Royal Society in 1948; appointed Commander, Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1960; awarded honorary doctorates from a number of universities; and made an honorary fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers—no other engineer has presented two of its Faraday Lectures, which he did in 1947 and 1957. He also was vice president of the institution (1948–52).

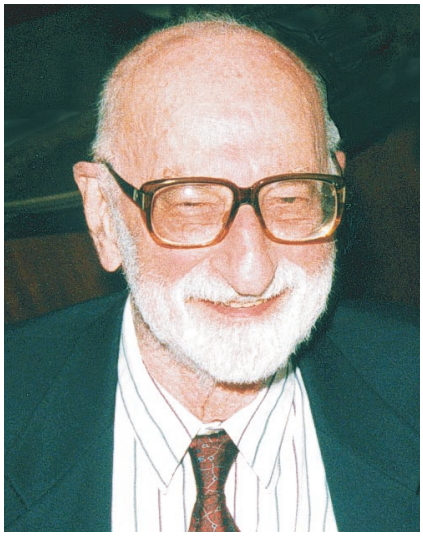
T.E.A. was an outstanding physicist and one of the last survivors of Rutherford's research team at Cambridge. His death marks the end of a direct link in the UK with that most significant period of physics research.

Peter Tanner
Reading, UK

Morton Hamermesh

With the death of Morton Hamermesh in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on 14 November 2003, the world of physics and the University of Minnesota lost a distinguished elder statesman and a dear colleague. He died of complications following a heart attack.

Mort was born in Brooklyn, New York, on 27 December 1915. He received his undergraduate degree, with a major in mathematics, in 1936 from the City College of New York, which later (1966) honored him with the Townsend Harris Medal, reserved for their most distinguished alumni. He obtained his PhD in 1940 at New York University, under the guidance of adviser Otto Halpern. His thesis dealt with the passage of neutrons through crystals and polycrystals; in it, he examined the deviations from the assumed additivity of nuclear cross sections.



Morton Hamermesh

Mort continued work on the magnetic scattering of neutrons, with an emphasis on the atomic form factors, while a postdoc with Felix Bloch at Stanford University. He returned to NYU and took a leave of absence to work at the Radio Research Laboratory at Harvard University on problems related to the scattering and absorption of radar. On returning a second time to NYU in 1945, he resumed an old collaboration with Julian Schwinger on the scattering of slow neutrons by ortho- and para-hydrogen and deuterium and obtained results that were important in the determination of nuclear scattering lengths.

Three years later, Mort accepted a position at Argonne National Laboratory, where he soon became head of the physics division. His standards and his vision of how to go about doing science set the direction for the division even beyond the 17 years that he spent at Argonne. He established the style that the prime responsibility of a scientist was to do first-rate science and that it was the role of management to protect scientists from bureaucratic distractions. He was deeply involved with everything that was going on in the division, and he worked on a number of experiments, including a measurement of the electron–neutron interaction. He contributed to postgraduate education at Argonne by his lecture series on group theory, which led to the publication in 1962 of his highly regarded and timely book *Group Theory and Its Application to Physical Problems* (Addison-Wesley), largely written while he was on sabbatical at ETH Zürich. In 1959, Mort became associate laboratory director in charge of basic research. He continued to involve himself as much as possible in the scientific work being done in chemistry, biology, and materials science.

In 1965, Mort accepted a position as head of the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota. He came at a time when there was a great need to expand the faculty. In a very collegial fashion, he worked with the faculty to start or enhance a number of programs that were previously understaffed: High-energy physics, condensed matter physics, and astronomy began their growth under his direction. Mort left for a year in 1970 to head the physics department at SUNY Stony Brook (now Stony Brook University), but to the great relief of his Minnesota colleagues, he returned to continue to lead the School of Physics and Astronomy through 1975.

Throughout Mort's tenure as head, he and his wife, Madeline, opened their home to faculty, which enhanced the collegiality in the school. Mort retired in 1985 but continued his activities until shortly before his death. He was editor of the *Journal of Mathematical Physics*, and he went on extended visits to UCLA and to universities in China, where he spent a year while his wife taught English literature.

In addition to physics and mathematics, Mort had two passions: chess and languages. In chess, he achieved world-class status, coming in sixth in the US Chess Open in 1945. He studied languages all his life. One of the earliest benefits that the physics community had from that passion was his translation of Lev Landau and Evgenii Lifshitz's *The Classical Theory of Fields* (Addison-Wesley) in 1951, which alerted many readers to the riches to be found in the books by those authors. Mort's activity as a translator of Russian physics literature played an important role in creating an awareness of the high quality of Russian physics during a period when normal contacts were blocked because of the cold war. He continued his studies of Mandarin and Hebrew