

Hopfield Is New APS Vice President

John Hopfield became vice president of the American Physical Society for 2005, succeeding **John Bahcall** (see PHYSICS TODAY, December 2003, page 80). Hopfield took office on 1 January and will automatically become president-elect in 2006 and president in 2007. **Marvin L. Cohen** serves as the society's president for 2005 (see PHYSICS TODAY, November 2002, page 88).

Hopfield's parents met as graduate students in physics at the University of California, Berkeley; he carried on the family study of physics by earning a PhD from Cornell University in 1958. In his thesis, he formulated a field-theoretic description of the interaction of light with excitons in solids. After completing his studies at Cornell, he joined the theoretical group at Lucent Technologies' Bell Labs for two years, then began his teaching career at Berkeley in 1961.

In 1964 Hopfield became a professor of physics at Princeton University, where he continued his research on the interaction of light with solids. He shared APS's Oliver E. Buckley Prize with D. G. Thomas in 1969. He left Princeton in 1980 to become a professor of chemistry and biology at Caltech after his research



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interests turned toward the interface between physics and biology. He won APS's Biological Physics Prize in 1985. Hopfield returned to Princeton in 1996, where he is the Howard Prior Professor of Molecular Biology and chair of the department of molecular biology.

"The institutions essential for physics to prosper do not function well unless serious scientists are enthusiastic about taking leadership roles," Hopfield said after his election. "I'm looking forward to the opportunity to put something back into an institution so important to the healthy state of American physics, and an institution that behind the scenes has helped me to have a fulfilling professional life."

In other APS election news, **Thomas Rosenbaum** was selected

chair-elect of the APS nominating committee for 2005. He is a professor of physics and vice president for research at the University of Chicago. Two general councillors were chosen by the society's members to serve three-year terms beginning in 2005: **Ann Orel** is a professor in the department of applied science at the University of California, Davis; **Richard Slusher** is director of the quantum information and optics research department at Bell Labs.

Leff Is AAPT's Vice President

At the conclusion of the American Association of Physics Teachers meeting held last month in Albuquerque, New Mexico, **Harvey S. Leff** took office as vice president for 2005, succeeding **Kenneth Heller**; **Richard Peterson** is the society's current president (see PHYSICS TODAY, February 2004, page 73; February 2003, page 72). Leff will serve as president-elect in 2006, president in 2007, and past president in 2008.

Professor emeritus of physics at Caltech, Leff has been a member of the physics department there since 1983, and was department chair from 1983 until 1995. He began his physics career in 1963 as a postdoctoral research associate and professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. From 1971 to 1979, he chaired Chicago State University's department of physical sciences, and during that time he spent a year as a visiting professor at Harvey Mudd College of Science and Engineering in Claremont, California. He also was a scientist and energy policy analyst at Oak Ridge Associated Universities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, from 1979 to 1983.

Leff received all of his degrees in physics: his BS from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago in 1959; his MS from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, in 1960; and his PhD from the University of Iowa in Iowa City in 1963. He is interested in the foundations of thermal physics and has been involved for many years in promoting secondary-school and college science education.

In his candidate's commentary for the AAPT election, Leff said, "AAPT enriches my life in many ways. Its journals . . . are primary reading sources and great vehicles for pub-

lishing." He added, "I love national and section meetings, which stimulate my mental juices. At national meetings, plenary sessions cover exciting physics, workshops provide innovative teaching ideas, and exhibitors display current equipment and textbooks. These and other significant strengths of AAPT are unique and precious."

Also taking office at the end of AAPT's winter meeting were **Mary Beth Monroe**, who was elected to her third two-year term as secretary, and **John L. Roeder**, who began a three-year term as member-at-large high-school representative. Monroe is a math and physics instructor at Southwest Texas Junior College in Uvalde, Texas. Roeder teaches physics at the Calhoun School in New York City.



Leff

OSA Elects Eberly Vice President

Joseph Eberly became vice president of the Optical Society of America in January. He will be president-elect in 2006 and president in 2007. His OSA activities include stints on the board of directors and the board of editors. He succeeds **Eric Van Stryland**; **Susan Houde-Walter** is president for 2005 (see PHYSICS TODAY, January 2004, page 65; December 2002, page 75).

Eberly is the Andrew Carnegie Professor of Physics and a professor of optics at the University of Rochester. He is director of the Rochester Theory Center for Optical Science and Engineering, and his research interests are in theoretical quantum optics and atomic, molecular, and optical science. He received his BS in physics in 1957 from Pennsylvania State University and his PhD in physics from Stanford University in 1962.



Eberly