

at the Ultrafast Group at the University of Oxford, UK.

Adair Is Voted AAPT Vice President

Lila M. Adair has been elected vice president of the American Association of Physics Teachers for 2006, succeeding **Harvey S. Leff** (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, February 2005, page 80). Adair, who took office on 25 January during AAPT's annual meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, will serve as president-elect in 2007 and president in 2008.

Currently an adjunct faculty member at Piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia, Adair teaches a course in science methods and supervises student teachers. She earned a BS degree from Oglethorpe University in Atlanta in 1967 and a Masters of Art for Teachers in physics from Georgia State University in 1978. She received an educational specialist degree in physics and educational leadership from Emory University in Atlanta in 1990.



Adair

Adair has been an active member of the physics community and her experience will be helpful on the AAPT executive board, the association said in a press release after the election. In a prepared statement, Adair called for continued teamwork among AAPT members.

"[In AAPT] I have found a place for professional growth, academic enrichment and lasting friendships," Adair said. She said she plans to work to strengthen relationships and collaborations among members and to boost members' commitment to high-quality physics education at all levels.

During her career in physics education, Adair has received several honors, among them the AAPT Distinguished Service Award in 2004, the American Physical Society's Distinguished Physics Teacher for Georgia in 1999, and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching in 1985.

Some of Adair's other activities, largely focused on physics education outreach, include serving on *The Physics Teacher* editorial board and being the chair and a member of the AAPT high-school committee. She also was the high-school representative to AAPT's executive board and

served as district director of the Georgia Science Teachers Association and as APS local physics alliance co-chair.

Also taking office last month were **Dwain M. Desbien**, two-year-college member-at-large, for a three-year term, and **Charles E. Robertson**, re-elected as treasurer for a two-year term. Desbien is a physics instructor at Estrella Mountain Community College in Avondale, Arizona, and Robertson is senior lecturer emeritus in the department of physics at the University of Washington.

In Brief

The former Japanese ambassador to Croatia, **Kaname Ikeda**, has been appointed director general of ITER. The decision on Ikeda's appointment was made last fall at a meeting in Vienna of officials from the European Union and five participating nations—Japan, China, Russia, South Korea, and the US—according to published reports. At press time, an agreement was being formalized for ITER. Ikeda, who studied engineering at the University of Tokyo, joined the Japanese government's science and technology agency in 1968 and served as both head and deputy vice minister of the research and development bureau and as director of the now-defunct National Space Development Agency of Japan. He was named ambassador to Croatia in 2003. News reports said he was recommended for the ITER post because of his familiarity with science and technology policies and his involvement in significant international projects.

Raymond Chiao, a professor in the physics department of the Univer-

sity of California, Berkeley, has accepted a joint faculty appointment in the fledgling schools of natural science and engineering at UC's new Merced campus. He is pursuing a new line of research in gravitational radiation. Chiao is an atomic, molecular, and optical physicist whose research focuses on the behavior of photons. UC Merced opened last September as the 10th campus in the UC system.

Douglas B. Chrisey has been named the deputy director for research and development at the Center for Nanoscale Science & Engineering (CNSE) at North Dakota State University in Fargo. In his new position, which he started last September, Chrisey leads teams of faculty, staff, and students performing research on wireless-sensor design and fabrication, electronics miniaturization, polymers for electronics, and protective coatings developed through combinatorial materials research. He is also serving as a research professor in nanoscience and technology at NDSU. Previously he was a senior member of the technical staff at the US Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC.

Chiew San Wong, a physics professor at the University of Malaya, has won a Science and Technology Award from the Malaysia Toray Science Foundation. Wong received the honor, which was accompanied by a cash prize of 30 000 Malaysian ringgits (about \$7955) for contributing to the enhancement of scientific knowledge, according to the foundation. The awards ceremony was held 28 November in Kuala Lumpur.

Obituaries

Shuichi Nosé

Shuichi Nosé, distinguished for his unique contribution to statistical physics—the Nosé thermostat—passed away on 17 August 2005 in Yokohama, Japan, following a year of medical treatment for cancer.

Nosé was born in Kyotango City in Japan's Kyoto prefecture on 17 June 1951. He received his undergraduate

degree in chemistry from Kyoto University in 1974 and graduated from the Kyoto University Graduate School of Science in 1979. He obtained his DSc degree from Kyoto University in 1981 under the guidance of Tsunenobu Yamamoto. At that time, Yamamoto and his group were interested in rotational tunneling and nuclear spin-conversion in solid methane. For his thesis, Nosé used

PHYSICS TODAY is changing the way it publishes obituaries. Some will continue to appear in print, but most will be available only online (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, October 2005, page 10). Subscribers can visit <http://www.physicstoday.org/obits> to notify the community about a colleague's death and submit obituaries up to 750 words, comments, or reminiscences. Each month, recently posted material will be summarized here, in print. Select online obituaries will later appear in print.