

we hear that

Grove is AGU president-elect

An MIT geology professor whose research focuses on the processes that led to the formation of Earth's crust and mantle has taken office as president-elect of the American Geophysical Union.

Timothy L. Grove, whose two-year term began 1 July, told PHYSICS TODAY he was "very honored to be chosen by [his] colleagues." He will become the union's president for a two-year term in 2008.



Grove

In a prepared statement, Grove said he feels a responsibility to support and further the work of the organization. "I think that AGU does the best job of any geophysical society in fostering scientific excellence through its meetings and publications and that it provides the most effective medium for communicating with the public and government," he stated.

"I'll be involved with AGU for the next six years," Grove said to PHYSICS TODAY. "A lot is bound to happen during that time, and my priorities will no doubt evolve considerably to meet the changing situations that the Union will encounter."

Grove earned a BA in geology in 1971 from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a PhD in geology in 1976 from Harvard University. He's been a member of the MIT faculty since 1979; he served from 1993 to 1994 as a visiting scientist at the University of Cape Town, from 1997 to 2001 as a research scientist at the University of Zimbabwe, and in 2002 as a visiting professor at ETH Zürich. Grove was named an AGU fellow in 2001.

Other newly elected AGU officers include general secretary **Carol Finn** (US Geological Survey) and international secretary **Jaime Urrutia Fucugauchi** (In-

stitute of Geophysics, National Autonomous University of Mexico).

Perlmutter wins Feltrinelli Prize

Saul Perlmutter, whose research on the nature of dark energy has brought him great renown, is the winner of the 2006 International Antonio Feltrinelli Prize in the Physical and Mathematical Sciences. The honor is awarded every five years by Italy's Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, one of whose earliest members was Galileo Galilei.

Perlmutter is a senior scientist and astrophysicist in the physics division of the US Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the cofounder and leader of the international Supernova Cosmology Project, principal investigator of the proposed *SuperNova/Acceleration Probe* (SNAP) satellite, and leader of other efforts to discover more about the nature of dark energy.

The Lincei Academy—literally

"Academy of Lynxes," named for the animal's supposed powers of observation—was founded in 1603, at the dawn of the scientific revolution. Today it is regarded as Italy's premier scientific academy. The Antonio Feltrinelli Prizes, including the International Prize, are the academy's most important awards and among Italy's highest scientific and cultural honors.

Antonio Feltrinelli, an industrialist and financier, bequeathed his fortune to the Lincei Academy to support the recognition of eminent scholars in the arts and sciences; Feltrinelli Prizes were first awarded in 1950.

In addition to a cash award of €250 000 (about \$315 000), the prize includes a certificate and a gold medal. The 2006 prizes will be presented at a ceremony in Rome on 10 November, during which Perlmutter will give an address.



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Perlmutter

obituaries

PHYSICS TODAY has changed 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.

Arthur B. Metzner

Arthur B. Metzner, a pioneer in the development of rheology as a significant field of applied science, died of a sudden heart attack on 4 May 2006 in Washington, DC.

Born on 13 April 1927 in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, Art spent his formative years in Barrhead, Alberta, where he met Elizabeth (Betty), his wife of 58 years. Art studied chemical engineering at the University of Alberta (BS, 1948) and MIT (ScD, 1951). After a brief stint in industry, he joined the chemical engineering faculty of the University of Delaware in 1953. He took emeritus status in 1993 but remained professionally active until his death.

Art's contributions to rheology and the mechanics of non-Newtonian fluids encompass the major problems in those

topics over the past 50 years. The unusual behavior of complex liquids became technologically important in the 1950s, and he quickly recognized that existing analyses were not applicable to these nonlinear materials. In a series of papers he wrote with his students, Art

Recently posted death notices at <http://www.physicstoday.org/obits>:

James Woodham Menter
2 August 1921 – 18 July 2006

G. O. Jones
29 March 1917 – 3 July 2006

Jorgen Lykke Olsen
10 May 1923 – 14 March 2006

Arthur C. Wahl
8 September 1917 – 6 March 2006

Charles A. Randall Jr
12 September 1915 – 29 January 2006

Bilha Segev
7 May 1963 – 17 March 2005