Physics Today

EPRI Makes First Award in Memory of Thornton

Citation: Physics Today **41**(11), 96 (1988); doi: 10.1063/1.2811627
View online: http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.2811627
View Table of Contents: http://scitation.aip.org/content/aip/magazine/physicstoday/41/11?ver=pdfcov
Published by the AIP Publishing

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statistics, however, register the largest median member salary increase against inflation since the survey began in 1979. The increase was due to a record low inflation rate accompanied by salaries that went up.

Inflation in 1986 was only 2.3%, while the median "unadjusted" salary for society members rose to $47 000, 6.6% above the 1985 level.

Salaries in 1986 varied according to employment sector. Industrially employed PhDs received a median salary of $56 000; the next highest paid were PhDs working for Federally funded research and development centers, who received a median of $53 000. Government employees received a median salary of $51 500, while overall median academic salaries ranged from $31 600 at four-year colleges to $45 000 in universities.

The exception to the rise in salaries came for members employed by the government, whose median salary did not increase between 1985 and 1986. In the past, government employees have typically received "comparability" increases to narrow the gap between government and industrial salaries. In 1986, however, there was a pay freeze for the civilian work force: While some individuals may have received salary increases, the average increase was kept at zero.

The 1986 statistics make apparent the value of a good education, as society members with PhDs—over two-thirds of the membership—enjoyed a 7.6% increase from the previous year, receiving $49 500 median annual salary. The $23 000 median salary of postdoctoral fellows was the result of a sharp 9.5% increase from the previous year.

AGU SELECTS 12th CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW

The American Geophysical Union has selected Virgil A. Frizzell Jr of the US Geological Survey to be its 12th Congressional Science Fellow. Frizzell is interested in policy issues connected with the reduction of hazards, mineral and energy resources, Earth science research, land management and environmental policy.

Frizzell earned a BS in business at San Jose State University in 1968, a BA in geology at San Jose State in 1970, an MS in geology at Stanford University in 1974 and a PhD in geology at Stanford in 1979. He has worked for the USGS since 1969.

The AGU is one of about 20 professional societies and organizations, including The American Physical Society and the American Institute of Physics, that participate in the Congressional Science and Engineering Fellows Program sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. AIP's Congressional fellow this year is Arthur Charo of Harvard University's Center for Science and International Affairs (PHYSICS TODAY, June, page 73), and this year's APS fellows are Joan F. Cartier of the University of Texas and Mark W. Pestak of BP America (PHYSICS TODAY, July, page 87).

The Acoustical Society of America occasionally sponsors a Congressional scientist fellow. Its most recent fellow was Charles Schmid, who worked for Representative Al Swift, a Democrat from Washington state, in 1985–86. Schmid, an employee of the Honeywell Marine Systems Division, located in the Seattle area, has a PhD in electrical engineering.

EPRI MAKES FIRST AWARD IN MEMORY OF THORNTON

Virginia Chu, a doctoral student in the department of electrical engineering at Princeton University, has received the first John A. Thornton Memorial Award of the Electric Power Research Institute. The award was established in memory of University of Illinois professor John Thornton. Thornton was a president of the American Vacuum Society, he was active in The American Physical Society and the Materials Research Society, and he served on AIP's governing board and on the advisory committee to PHYSICS TODAY.

The annual award recognizes an outstanding student contribution to EPRI's university research program in photovoltaics. Chu, who received her BSEE from Michigan State University in 1984, specializes in work on the formation, properties and photocurrent collection of Schottky barrier diodes made with amorphous alloys of hydrogenated silicon and germanium.

PEOPLES IS NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FERMILAB

John Peoples Jr is the new deputy director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois. Peoples joined the laboratory in 1973, but since October 1987 he has been on leave, serving at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory as head of the magnet division for the proposed Superconducting Super Collider. He succeeds Philip V. Livdahl, who served as deputy director from 1984 until 1987.

Peoples received his BSEE degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1955 and his PhD in physics from Columbia University in 1966. He worked at Martin Aircraft Company from 1955 to 1959, joined the physics faculty at Columbia in 1966 and moved to Cornell University in 1969. Peoples has held a number of leadership positions at Fermilab since accepting an appointment there in 1973. He served as head of the research division from 1975 until 1980, and as project manager of the Tevatron I project in 1981.

Most recently his continuing interest in experimental high-energy physics has led Peoples to collaborate on an experiment intended to measure more accurately the properties of the bound states of the charm and anticharm quarks.

BLOSSER STEPS DOWN AS MICHIGAN STATE LABORATORY HEAD

Henry Blosser has stepped down as codirector of the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University after 30 years as leader of the facility, which he founded. Blosser came to MSU to build the university's first cyclotron, which was completed in 1965. In 1985 MSU put the lab under a codirectorship for a three-year trial period, and Sam Austin was named codirector with Blosser. The laboratory is to be restored now to a single directorship, which is to be filled in a formal search.

Blosser and his colleagues have just finished building the world's highest-energy cyclotron, a 5-tesla, 1-meter-radius machine that will be capable of accelerating fully stripped $N = Z$ nuclei to 200 MeV/nucleon (approximately 8 GeV/nucleus) and uranium-like nuclei to 30 MeV/nucleon (approximately 7 GeV/nucleus) when it is fully operational. In 1982 Blosser's team completed the smaller K500 cyclotron, the first superconducting cyclotron to come into operation. A third superconducting cyclotron, expected to be completed late this year, will be installed at Detroit's Harper Hospital as a neutron source for cancer therapy. It will produce 50-MeV neutrons via the Be(d,n) reaction. ■

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