

A series of topical conferences (ECOOSA) is planned.

**Plasma Physics:** The Division has successfully continued its annual conference which was held in Venice.

**Quantum Electronics:** The second EQEC was held in Dresden. The chairmanship has changed from H. Walther to P.L. Knight.

**Computational Physics:** The present Board is discussing new activities e.g. surveys of parallel computing and of computer-aided education in physics.

**Experimental Physics Control Systems:** This interdivisional group has extended its international activities and now has 29 participating group members.

**Physics for Development:** The EPS Southern European School of Physics has been firmly established with the help of UNESCO, CEC and the Council of Europe. Much effort has been put into the preparation of a satellite Conference to EPS-8 in Amsterdam.

The Action Committees have reported about their activities in *Europhysics News* and will continue to do so in the future. New guidelines and terms of reference have been drawn up and are available from the Secretariat.

#### Conclusions

In the 22 years of the EPS, many achievements have been obtained which go a long

way to fulfilling the aims of the founders. At its creation such an enterprise, being a realization of the dreams of its promoters, appeared as the beginning of an "utopia" based on equal representation of physicists from both eastern and western Europe and their sameness of ideals in scientific collaboration.

Despite difficulties and political trouble over all the years, the fundamental philosophy never failed. The presence of a representative body of physicists from all European countries in scientific, educational and social events has allowed continuous co-operation. We offer this heritage, typical of science, to the goals of freedom, tolerance and human dignity everywhere in Europe.

Nowadays, following the extraordinary transformations occurring in the central and eastern European countries, important socio-political claims are sometimes called for, maybe without sufficient historical awareness. It is worth underlining the perhaps modest but nevertheless very real and concrete contribution given by European science to the breakdown of the ideological and political barriers which have so far hindered the construction of the "common house" that, for the European physicist, is already a concrete achievement.

**R.A. Ricci, EPS President**

## Hewlett-Packard Europhysics Prize 1991

### Call for Nominations

The Selection Committee for the Hewlett-Packard Europhysics Prize invites nominations for the 1991 award. The prize is given for an outstanding contribution to condensed matter physics within the previous five years, with the potential for leading to advances in the fields of electronic, electrical or materials engineering. Nominations may be submitted by EPS members as individuals or as representatives of a Division or Section.

The Hewlett-Packard Europhysics Prize has been awarded to the following:

- 1982 - K. von Klitzing
- 1983 - I. Silvera
- 1984 - G. Binnig and H. Rohrer
- 1985 - J. Als-Nielsen and M. Pepper
- 1986 - F. Mezei
- 1987 - I. Yanson
- 1988 - J.G. Bednorz and K.A. Müller
- 1989 - F. Steglich, H.-R. Ott and G. Lonzarich
- 1990 - R. Car and M. Parrinello

To maintain the extremely high standard, it is necessary that the Committee receive proposals which represent the breadth and strength of European condensed matter physics. It is also important that the submitted nominations be complete. They should comprise at least:

- a detailed motivation for the award, including a clear definition of the work and its significance;
- a brief curriculum vitae of the nominee;
- a list of relevant publications.

It is also extremely helpful if we receive letters of support from authorities in the field, in which the importance of the work is

evaluated. These can with advantage also be solicited from non-European physicists.

EPS members who know of a qualified candidate are urged to submit a complete nomination to the Selection Committee, to arrive before 15 Sept. All information will be treated as strictly confidential, and although proposals will be acknowledged, there will be no further correspondence.

Nominations should be addressed to:  
Selection Committee,  
H-P Europhysics Prize  
EPS, POB 69, CH-1213 Petit-Lancy 2

**A.R. Mackintosh**

## Who's Who in Condensed Matter

The first edition of the *European Who's Who in Condensed Matter Physics* is now available by transferring 15.- SFR for IOMs, 20.- SFR for other EPS members and non-commercial institutions, and 200.- SFR for non-members and commercial institutions to the Swiss Bank Corp., Account No. 164.899 (EPS), CH-1211 Geneva 11. It can also be ordered by writing to the Secretariat in Geneva. Any payments other than by bank transfer must be via cheques drawn on a Swiss bank account.

The 600 page hardback edition lists details of nearly 2600 individual physicists working in the field of condensed matter in Europe. These individuals are classified alphabetically and according to their affiliation in one of nearly 40 countries. It was edited by Professor G. Benedek and by Professor G. Harbeke who unfortunately died before he could see this very informative and useful compendium in its final form (see page 71).



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## Underground Heat Store Lives On

Among the activities of the EPS Physics and Society programme is the agreement with ROSTENA of UNESCO to develop specific initiatives relating to energy storage. For instance, it is planned to conduct a census of research and implementation projects. One particularly interesting project is the SPEOS underground thermal storage system developed in Switzerland. It is the only survivor of several projects launched in the early 1970's at the height of the oil crisis to use earth and rock, perhaps the ultimate low-technology media, to store waste heat.

It is pleasing to hear that the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, the senior partner in the seven year, 5.2 million SFR research phase has decided to proceed with SPEOS to the pilot phase. SPEOS is unique because it uses a horizontal distribution and recovery arrangement to provide hot water without heat pumps. The result of the research phase was a 1 MW prototype situated on the EPFL's Ecublens site that can heat 200 apartments for a cost equal to that for an oil-filled system.

The success of SPEOS should provide inspiration for other thermal storage projects that have been or are being launched in Switzerland. However, we shall have to wait until the end of the year to know if the Federal Government will support the construction of a larger SPEOS "thermos" at a site near Zurich.