

the creation of International Universities in Czechoslovakia, joint programmes and laboratories based on local strengths, and programmes to encourage individual researchers trained abroad to return home.

Education and training: E. Skrzypczak believed that a new task for the physical societies lay in reinstating and strengthening the relationship between physics and industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Data base of physicists: Generate a confidential data base of reliable physicists and officials (from both east and west) who are either candidates for peer review committees, councils and advisory boards or who are appropriate organizational contacts. The committee strongly recommended the first, namely that EPS makes available a detailed listing of physicists who are willing to serve on panels and help in peer review.

Computer networks: EPS should help eastern countries become connected to European computer networks. It was recommended that assistance is given to connect mainframe computers in institutes to existing networks, especially EARN.

Science policy and management: Promote the efficient restructuring of physics by informing physicists on how research is managed, financed, guided and structured in western Europe. The recommendation was that EPS collect and disseminate the appropriate information.

Meanwhile, discussions are underway to modernize the physics curriculum, especially in the light of falling student numbers owing to the scarcity of assured jobs. In Czechoslovakia, some graduate students have been moved from university departments to the generally much better equipped Institutes to carry out their thesis research.

Exchange schemes: Consolidate information about exchange schemes (especially for students), and propose ways to promote the formation of new schemes or the extension of existing ones. EPS already acts in a limited way as a clearing house for student exchanges. The recommendation was that a larger amount of information should be made more easily available.

Journal inventory: Assess the situation of journals (and in a qualitative way that of books) in scientific libraries so that EPS may formulate a solution to the problems of missing volumes (cancelled subscriptions) and an inadequate number of subscriptions. The committee recommended that the national societies be asked to make an inventory of cancelled library subscriptions going back 10 years.

Scientific equipment: Create an easily accessible data base of redundant (but not obsolete!) scientific equipment. The committee recommended the creation and maintenance of a computer data base, accessible on networks, of this equipment.

AARHUS UNIVERSITY, DENMARK

At the Institute of Physics, Aarhus University, Denmark, a post is open as a Professor of Experimental Physics from 1 July 1991.

The candidate must be able to strengthen research in experimental physics and participate in education and, independently as well as in co-operation with colleagues at the Institute, be able to contribute to the utilization of ISA, the new storage ring, in research.

The storage ring, which is located at the Institute of Physics, offers outstanding possibilities for atomic physics and quantum optical studies with stored ions and, furthermore, can be used for atomic and solid state physics investigations using synchrotron radiation (below 10 KeV).

Apart from information and documentation of the professional and educational qualifications of the candidate, the application should contain future research plans, particularly in relation to the storage ring.

The application should include copies (in triplicate) of published papers which the applicant wishes to be considered by the selection committee.

The full evaluation of the committee will be forwarded to all the applicants.

Further information may be obtained from:

**Prof. Jens Ulrik Andersen, Institute of Physics, Ny Munkegade,
DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark – telephone: ++45 (86) 12 88 99.**

Applications should be addressed to the Queen of Denmark and sent to:

**Aarhus University, Ndr. Ringgade 1,
DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark**

and marked 211/5-1. The deadline for the receipt of all application material is 14 September 1990 at 12.00.

NEXT STEP

The committee's recommendations are not final. But they are thought to be realistic and capable of yielding significant benefits fairly quickly. Members will have the opportunity at the General Assembly in Amsterdam in September to express their own views about the opportunities, fill in whatever important information is lacking, and propose alternative initiatives. Professor Ricci will then develop a plan for action, bearing in mind that it will have to be taken up by volunteers.



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FOC Hard Hit

A preliminary report to NASA by the Space Telescope Science Institute, Baltimore, MD that selects and supports users of the Hubble Space Telescope gives an estimate of the impact of the instrument's defective mirror on its scientific capabilities. Some 80-90% of the programmes for the Wide Field and Planetary camera are "deferred" meaning that they can be carried out after installation of a new camera (scheduled for 1993) with a corrector lens. About 50% of programmes of the Faint Object Camera built by ESA are lost; those that remain need a threefold increase in observing time and there is no possibility of recovering capabilities in the future.

Regarding the spectrographs: the optical part of the Faint Object Spectrograph is no longer comparable with ground facilities but the UV part remains unique and serviceable. Including the High Resolution Spectrograph, about 20% of programmes are lost. For the High Speed Photometer, 10-20% of the photometric programmes are lost but all the observational capabilities remain.

The STSI will be contacting principal investigators among the general observers at the end of August 1990 for comments before making final recommendations to the committee responsible for allocating observation time. A final detailed report will be submitted to NASA within 4-5 months.