FSU JOURNALS

First Journals Delivered

André Landesman, who coordinates the Journals for the FSU programme, reports on the 451 subscriptions for 1994.

EPS has always been very sensitive to the need for European physics journals in eastern and central European countries and in the former Soviet Union (FSU). During the past two years, much effort has been spent looking for ways to finance subscriptions for a limited number of years. A "Journals for the FSU" programme was first prepared in the summer of 1992 by Maurice Jacob, the EPS President at the time. A contract was discussed for several months by EPS and INTAS, the International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union. INTAS is an association based in Brussels that was established in 1993, and is often referred to as the "Rubbia-Mitterrand foundation". After some negotiations I had with the European Commission's Directorate for science (DG-XII), and then with INTAS, a 600 kECU contract was finally signed in May 1994, with myself as the project coordinator. It is a pleasure to acknowledge the very efficient help I received from Pierre Venet, the Secretary of INTAS.

EPS, as well as the scientific editors of European physics journals, want very much that physicists in the FSU make the habit of submitting some of their best papers to European journals. For them to do this it is of course necessary that they find the corresponding European journals in their libraries. Consequently, the EPS/INTAS journal subscription programme should increase the level of collaboration between physicists in the FSU and in the rest of Europe.

The selection of the European physics journals covered by the programme was made by the EPS Publications Committee following an exchange of information with science academies and EPS member societies in the FSU. The selection criteria involved journals that are seriously refereed, generally having the EPS "Recognized Journal" label, and with significant impact factors and an important distribution outside the country where they are published.

The first step was to order a number of subscriptions for the whole of 1994 (see accompanying list); these began to be delivered in June.

The journals being delivered to the former Soviet Union with INTAS support often bear the inscription:
Journal X is delivered to some institutions in the former Soviet Union through a programme initiated and administered by the European Physical Society. This programme is funded by INTAS, the International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union. Members of INTAS are the European Union, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, and Switzerland.
(INTAS, rue du Luxembourg, 14A, B-1040 Brussels)

The second step will be to extend the programme and order back issues for 1993 and, hopefully, some subscriptions for 1995. EPS is also negotiating with The Soros Foundations to obtain extra funding for subscriptions for back issues to the former Soviet Union and for current subscriptions to eastern and central Europe (the requirements have already been identified in detail).

Journals for the FSU programme: distribution list (1 August 1994)

Publisher / *Title*	No. of subscriptions by state								
	AM	AZ	BY	GE	KZ	MD	RU	TD	UA
Editrice Compositori									
Nuovo Cimento A			1				8		3
Nuovo Cimento B				1			8		2
Nuovo Cimento C	1		1				6		1
Nuovo Cimento D	1	1	1	1			10		1
Elsevier									
Computer Phys. Comm.							2		
J. Mag. Magn. Mater.	1		1	1		1	11		1
Nucl. Phys. A			1				6		2
Nucl. Phys. B			1	1			8		2
Nucl. Physics Proc. Supp.			1				4		1
Nucl. Inst. & Meth. A			1	1			8		2
Nucl. Inst. & Meth. B			1	1			4		
Physica A	1		1				8		2
Physica B	1	1	1	1			12		2
Physica C			1	1			8		2
Physica D	1	1	1	1			12		2
Phys. Lett. A			1	1			4		
Phys. Lett. B				1			8		3
Phys. Reports	1			1			14		5
Surf. Sci.							5		1
Chem. Phys.						1	3		1
Chem. Phys. Lett.						1	3	1	1
Optics Comm.							4		1
J. Cryst. Growth	1						3		1
J. Luminescence			1				3		1
Institute of Physics Publishing									
Inverse Problems							3		
J. Phys. A	1		1	1			10		2
J. Phys. B	1		1				8		2
J. Phys. G			1	1			8		2
J. Phys. Cond. Matter	1	1	1	1			13		2
Les Editions de Physique									
Europhys. Lett.	1	1	1	1	1	1	22		5
J. de Physique I	1	1	1	1	1	1	18		4
J. de Physique II	1		1		1	1	9		2
J. de Physique III	1		1	1	1	1	14		4
Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences									
Physica Scripta	1	1				1	25		3
Springer-Verlag									
Z. Phys. A		1	1	1			8		1
Z. Phys. B	1		1	1			12		3
Z. Phys. C			1	1			8		2
Z. Phys. D			1	1			8		1
Taylor & Francis									
Adv. in Phys.				1			6		1
J. Mod. Optics			1				3		
Phil. Mag. A, B			1				6		1

AM: Armenia; AZ: Azerbaidjan; BY: Belarus; GE: Georgia; KZ: Kazakhstan; MD: Moldavia; RU: Russia; TD: Tadzhikistan; UA: Ukraine

Europhysics Notes

● Academies Seek a European Rôle

National science academies, the promoters of independent scholarship, have felt for some time that to address issues objectively in today's world they need to adopt a collective perspective by having close ties. Discussions matured at a meeting in 1990, just as political changes in eastern Europe where coming to a head. A second meeting in 1992 addressed the region, which is characterised by the fact that the academies tend to have major operational responsibilities. It was decided to set up a working group to propose a simple and flexible organization for ALLEA, the Network of European Academies of Sciences and the Humanities (ALL-European Academies), to promote cooperation. The first General Assembly held last March in Paris adopted a draft charter which formally establishes a Steering Committee and the European Academies Clearing House (EACH) that has been operating from The Royal Society, London, since 1992. Aside from issuing general statements — which are definitely the vogue in science these days — three working groups were established to report on research in the next millenium, the relevance of basic research, and intellectual property.

ALLEA is of course no alone as there is the European Heads of Research Councils (EuroHORCS) and the European Science Foundation (ESF) which has both the academies and national funding agencies as members. The ESF in a recent reappraisal *(ESF: The Next Decade)* argues for a larger rôle for ESF Standing Committees such as the European Science Research Councils committee in strategic tasks (policy issues affecting European fundamental science) as opposed to operational activities. Some academy members argue, however, that their independence makes them better placed to look at things strategically. On the other hand, funding agencies have been discussing the possibility of forming a purely operational body — the European Research Council — to handle European Union spending. The ESF will meanwhile pursue more strategic objectives conducted in close relation to operational activities while remaining a non-governmental organization with both academies and agencies as members.

EuroHORCS was created in 1993 to advise the EU (ESF would continue to take a wider view). However, the formation of the European Science and Technology Assembly (ESTA) by A. Ruberti, the EU Commissioner for science, clouds the picture. It seems that some strategic thinking is needed to to sort out the rôles of these various bodies so that they can act as effective lobbies for science.

● **ESRF 300% Oversubscribed**

The ESF received 229 proposals for experiments at the first 9 public beam-lines and 4 Cooperating Research Group (CRG) beam-lines for a total of 3-3.5 times the available beam time. Some 98 proposals were retained, but with a reduced beam time relative to that requested. About 40% of the allocated time will be for protein crystallography, which is booming. There will be 21 beam-lines in operation in January together with 5-6 CRGs. The deadline for proposals for January-July 1995 is 1 September (details, *etc.* are available on World-Wide Web at http://fox.esrf.fr:3600)

● **Business as Usual at ITER-EDA**

P.-H. Rebut resigned last month as Director of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Engineering Design Activity (EDA) following criticism by the ITER Council of his management style. Planning ITER was never going to be easy in the face of major national programmes, a decentralised design team, and different views as to the extent industry should be involved. Lacking a clear-cut project structure with financial control, the EDA Director has to work closely with national teams which naturally have different views of the best machine. An outline design has been approved, opening the way for the signature last March of Protocol II which will take the EDA to its end in 1998. It envisages a larger machine than that resulting from the 1988-90 ITER Conceptual Design Activity; the next milestone is an interim design report due next year. R. Aymar, Director of the Science of Matter Division at the French Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, takes over as Director. Head of France's Fusion Programme, he is a member of ITER's Technical Advisory Committee reporting to the ITER Council, chairman of EURATOM's influential Fusion Technology Steering Committee — Programmatic

(FTSC-P) responsible for deciding ITER implementation in Europe, and a member of the government-level Consultative Committee on the Fusion Programme (CCFP) that defines Europe's fusion programme before its work became absorbed into the EC Framework Programme structure. R. Aotti from the engineering and design company EBASCO will take up a new post as ITER Administrative Officer.

● W3 Organization Created

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Laboratory for Computer Science and CERN have agreed to host the World-Wide Web Organization to support the stable evolution of the Web and its protocols. The possibility of a cooperation was originally made public at the *1st International World-Wide Web Conference* in May by Tim Berners-Lee who originally developed the Web. M. Bangemann, the European Union's Commissioner for telecommunications, has said the the EU will support the initiative (probably through the ESPRIT follow-on programme in the 4th Framework, which is likely to announce a call for proposals on 15 December). The initiative comes at a crucial time because the Web is expanding rapidly and is at the limit of academic support (its traffic exceeded all other Internet traffic for the first time in May). The challenge will be to preserve public access in the course of inevitable commercialization.

Robert Caillou from CERN (on the left), who chaired the 1st International World-Wide Web Conference at CERN in May is seen here thanking Tim Berners-Lee for his help. Berners-Lee, also from CERN, is widely acknowledged as being the originator of WWW.

● ICSTI to Survey Electronic Delivery

The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI) at its Extraordinary General Assembly in July decided to assess the state of the art in information retrieval of digitised full-text documents after reviewing new technologies for information provision such as the RightPages system, the TULIP project and World-Wide Web.

Jupiter Impact Exceeds Expectations

A composite Hubble Space Telescope image taken through several colour filters of the site where one of the fragments of the comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 burst through Jupiter's clouds on 16 July. The dark central spot and its two encircling rings of relatively opaque, reflective material indicate that explosions sent cometary dust and other hot matter high into the atmosphere. The observations were unexpected, mainly because models of a deep-plunging impact are not very accurate at present. The continuing smearing out of the plumes should give the first detailed information about upper atmosphere winds as part of what will be a long-term analysis of an unprecedented wealth of data yielded by the impact of 20-odd "pearls".