

## THE NUCLEUS

In this second National Particle Accelerator Conference the IEEE Nuclear Science Group has again sponsored a stimulating interdisciplinary gathering, enhanced by some 10% participation from other countries. With the strong local support of the Institute for Basic Standards of the National Bureau of Standards this biennial spring conference seems well established.

The conference editor performs views the Conference in terms of stacks of papers; he assembles the monumental document that marks the Conference's achievements. He is thankful for the many papers arriving all neat and proper, and on time; later he struggles with the few scrambled documents, and those stragglers! It is, of course, only through the excellent cooperation of the authors, and their supporting organizations, that it is possible to provide prompt publication.

In fact, the proceedings really mark the achievements of the many individual authors; the index cites 478 authors of contributions from 60 organizations. Although the distinction is not always clear, the contributing organizations in this country may be identified as: 23 educational, 12 industrial, and 10 federally supported; the remaining 15 are in eight other countries. Since they operate most of the nation's major accelerator installations, it is not surprising that the AEC-supported laboratories provided 67% of the authors. The many sources of papers, as well as the diversity of their content, attest the interdisciplinary nature of the Conference.

Through the generous support of the United States Atomic Energy Commission and the National Science Foundation, it was possible to accept nearly 200 contributed papers for publication, in addition to the 25 invited papers. The Program Committee had the difficult task of selecting from a great number of excellent contributions the 86 papers that could be presented during the ten conference sessions.

In sponsoring these broad-subject conferences the Nuclear Science Group is providing two noteworthy services to the scientific community: first, providing a stimulating forum for the meeting of creative minds, and perhaps for even a bit of fossicking;<sup>1</sup> and second, bringing out into the established literature much of the important information that would probably have otherwise languished in the limbo of internal and institutional reports.

Fred T. Howard  
Guest Editor

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<sup>1</sup>Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition, unabridged: *To search for gold by picking at stone or earth among the roots in isolated parts...from another's claim.* Hence, by extension, to search for values beyond one's own territory. Of course, a little serendipity is also helpful.