Alumni News

College Presidents

Four Caltech alumni are now serving as presidents of U.S. colleges or universities. H. Guyford Stever, PhD '41, becomes president of the Carnegie Institute of Technology on February 1. James C. Fletcher, PhD '48, was inaugurated eighth president of the University of Utah in November.

Richard G. Folsom, BS '28, MS '29, PhD '32, has been president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, since 1958. Kenneth S. Pitzer, BS '35, has been president of Rice Institute in Houston, Texas, since 1961.

Dr. Stever goes to Carnegie Tech from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he has been heading the departments of mechanical engineering, and naval architecture and marine engineering. He has been a member of the MIT faculty since 1941. He is also a member of the Research Advisory Committee of Missile and Space Vehicle Aerodynamics for NASA, and is a trustee of Colgate University, where he did his undergraduate work.

James Fletcher went to the University of Utah from posts as board chairman of Space General Corporation, and systems vice president of the Aerojet General Corporation. He joined Hughes Aircraft in 1948, and in 1954 went to Ramo-Woolridge as associate director of guided missile research, and director of the Space Technology Laboratories, where the Atlas, Thor, and Titan – America's first ballistic missiles – were developed. In 1958 he organized the Space Electronics Corporation, which merged in 1961 with Aerojet's Spacecraft Division to form the Space General Corporation.

Outstanding Young Man

James Mercereau, PhD '59, has been named one of the nation's Ten Outstanding Young Men for 1964, by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mercereau, principal research scientist for the Ford Scientific Laboratories in Dearborn, Michigan, headed a team of physicists credited with the discovery of a "giant quantum system" which has opened up a whole new area in low-temperature physics.

Beckman President

William F. Ballhaus, executive vice president and a director of the Northrop Corporation, has been elected president of Beckman Instruments, Inc., and a member of the company's board of directors. Arnold O. Beckman, who founded Beckman Instruments in 1935, continues as chief executive officer and assumes the newly-created position of board chairman.

Ballhaus received his PhD degree in aeronautics from Caltech in 1947. He joined Northrop in 1953 as assistant chief engineer for the company's Norair Division. In 1957 he was named a corporate vice president and general manager of Northrop's new Nortronics Division. He was named executive vice president and director in 1961.

Dr. Ballhaus is president of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, an advisor to the National Academy of Sciences – National Research Council, and a director of the Electronic Industries Association. He is an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a member of the American Ordnance Association, the Society of Automotive Engineers, and the National Security Industrial Association.

Dr. Beckman, chairman of Caltech's board of trustees, received his PhD from Caltech in 1928, and taught chem-

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Alumni News... continued

engineering in 1946 and one in applied chemistry in 1949 from Caltech. After graduation he worked in production for two years at the Long Beach plant of Procter and Gamble, then served as plant manager of the Bray Chemical Company of Los Angeles for ten years. He went to JPL in 1962 to work with the Arms Control Study Group. He has been a director of the Alumni Association since 1963, served as chairman of the Alumni Seminar program committee in 1960, and as general chairman of Seminar Day in 1963.

Schuster replaces Richard Van Kirk '58, who has resigned to be assistant to the plant manager of the Riverside Cement Co., in Oro Grande, California.

“As I prepare to leave the Institute for the second time”, Van Kirk writes, “I suddenly wish all alumni could have the opportunity to do as I have done for the past 20 months. Trying to raise money for a famous institution such as Caltech is probably comparatively easy, but it is not easy to be successful at the game. In a period when college costs are rising at a staggering rate — Caltech included — American corporations have been besieged with requests for support from schools of all types, public and private. I have found that often the decision is made in favor of the college with the most competent and vocal alumni in the company’s employ. By most vocal I mean those men who sing the praises of their school the loudest and most often.

“So I urge all alumni to stand up and talk about Caltech. Let people know that the school of your choice can use some financial aid. After all, if the Institute’s stature is diminished for any reason — financial or otherwise — faculty, alumni, administration, and students will all suffer. We cannot disentangle ourselves from some measure of responsibility for the continued excellence of the school from which we received our degrees. I do not intend to disentangle myself merely because I will no longer be in the employ of the Institute.”

PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE TO CALTECH ALUMNI

There are two ways in which the Placement Service may be of assistance to you:

1. To help you seek new employment or a change of employment.
2. To inform you when outstanding opportunities arise.

This service is provided to Alumni by the Institute. A fee or charge is not involved.

If you wish to avail yourself of this service, fill in and mail the following form:

To: Caltech Alumni Placement Service
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California 91109

Please send me:
☐ An Application for Placement Assistance
☐ A form to report my field and operation so that I may be notified of any outstanding opportunities.

Name ___________________________ Degree(s) __________
Address ___________________________ Year(s) ________

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Patrick J. Faazio, '53
Vice President: David L. Hanno, '52
Secretary: Donald S. Clark, '29
Treasurer: John R. Fees, '51

ALUMNI CHAPTER OFFICERS

NEW YORK CHAPTER
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Vice-President: Bruno H. Pilors, '44
Secretary-Treasurer: Harry J. Moore, '48

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Chairman: Willard M. Hanger, '43

CHICAGO CHAPTER
President: Laurence H. Nobles, '49
Vice-President: Philip E. Smith, '39

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER
President: Edwin P. Schlinger, '52
Secretary-Treasurer: Lawrence Radiation Lab., Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, Calif.
Meetings: 15th Floor, Engineers’ Club, 206 Sansome St., San Francisco
Informal luncheons every Thursday at 11:45 A.M.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER
President: Dudley E. Bennett, '47
Vice-President: William D. Pyle, '49
Secretary-Treasurer: 3903 Dunster Way, Sacramento, Calif. 95825
Meetings: University Club, 1319 "K" St., Sacramento, Calif. 95814
Luncheon first Friday of each month at noon.

ALUMNI EVENTS

May 8 Annual Alumni Seminar
June 9 Annual Meeting