indispensable to the wartime aircraft industry. The postage-stamp-sized strain gauge could be plastered all over a prototype airplane wing and is credited by some as the greatest contribution to the efficient structure of American aircraft during World War II. The strain gauge eventually spun off a multi-billion-dollar industry when it also found application in bridges, buildings, machinery, and any kind of structure that undergoes stress. Today it's an essential component of electronic weighing equipment, and in his last years Simmons was fond of presenting bathroom scales to baffled recipients as a reminder of his achievement.

When Caltech claimed the patent, Simmons sued; he fought his case all the way to the California Supreme Court, which finally ruled in his favor in 1949. The case inspired the board of trustees to adopt a resolution requiring of employees a written agreement assigning to Caltech all patents for "inventions made in the line of Institute duty."

In 1944 Simmons was awarded the Edward Longstreth Medal of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia. At the awards ceremony, he sat next to Harlow Shapley, the famous Harvard astronomer. Shapley was dressed in white tie and tails; Simmons wore his tennis clothes.

At a memorial service on May 24, longtime friends fondly recalled Simmons's unique genius and eccentricity, his passion for experiment, and his love of collecting used equipment (sometimes very large used equipment). Despite his lack of social skills (he couldn't bring himself to shake hands and was unable to recognize differences in emotion in others), he was kind, gentle, and generous. He didn't just think outside the box, said the Rev. Stanley Hirtle. "He *was* outside the box."

Simmons was buried near his parents and siblings at Mountain View Cemetery. □ —*JD*

Simmons was a conspicuous presence in the audience of many, if not most, of Caltech's public lectures and seminars. Here, in Baxter Lecture Hall, he's warmly greeted by Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko in March 1992.

Honors and Awards

Jacqueline Barton, the Hanisch Memorial Professor and professor of chemistry, has been awarded a grant of $50,000 for two years by the National Foundation for Cancer Research.

Seymour Benzer, the Boswell Professor of Neuroscience, Emeritus, has been awarded the inaugural 2004 Neuroscience Prize of the Peter Gruber Foundation for his innovative and pioneering contributions to neuroscience.

This year's recipients of the ASCIT Teaching Awards are **Colin Camerer,** the Axline Professor of Business Economics; **K. Mani Chandy**, the Ramo Professor and professor of computer science; **Alan Hajek**, associate professor of philosophy; **Kayoko Hirata**, lecturer in Japanese; and **Feng-Ying Ming**, lecturer in Chinese.

Sunney Chan, the Hoag Professor of Biophysical Chemistry, Emeritus, has received the William C. Rose Award of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The award recognizes "his outstanding contributions to biochemical and molecular biological research and his demonstrated commitment to the training of younger scientists."

Mory Gharib, the Liepmann Professor of Aeronautics and Bioengineering, has been selected by the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, for its 2004–05 Pollak Distinguished Lecturer Award.

Three of the latest Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers have gone to members of the Caltech faculty: **Babak Hassibi,** associate professor of electrical engineering; **Mark Simons,** associate professor of geophysics; and **Brian Stoltz,** assistant professor of chemistry. The award recognizes outstanding young professionals at the outset of their independent research careers.

Peter Goldreich, the DuBridge Professor of Astrophysics and Planetary Physics, Emeritus, has been elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society, which cited him and his close collaborators for "several seminal contributions to an unparalleled range of topics in planetary science and theoretical astrophysics, including spiral arms in galaxies and planetary rings and the explanation of white dwarf oscillations."

Hiroo Kanamori, the Smits Professor of Geophysics, has been selected as a recipient of the 2004 Japan

Academy Prize, which is awarded "for exceptional works and other scientific achievements."

Michela Muñoz Fernández, a PhD student in electrical engineering, whose research focuses on deep-space optical communications, has received a second Amelia Earhart Fellowship Award from Zonta International.

Wilhelm Schlag, professor of mathematics, and **Kip Thorne,** the Feynman Professor of Theoretical Physics, are this year's recipients of the Graduate Student Council Teaching Awards.

Joann Stock, professor of geology and geophysics, has been selected to be a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. The fellowship will grant her $30,000 to research the tectonic history of rift basins. She has also been awarded a Fulbright grant to Japan for 2004–05.

Ed Stolper, the Leonhard Professor of Geology and chair of the Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, has been selected to receive the Geological Society of America's Arthur L. Day Medal. □

Jennings Named Provost

Paul Jennings, professor emeritus in civil engineering and applied mechanics, has been named provost of the Institute. He takes the post on August 1.

Jennings, who has been on the campus as a student, professor, and administrator for 44 years, returns to the provost position after a nine-year hiatus. He served as vice president and provost from 1989 to 1995. Thus, he was the Institute's sixth, and is now its eighth, provost since the post was created in 1962.

"Paul is an exciting choice," said Caltech President David Baltimore. "At a time when so many things are happening on campus—the $1.4 billion capital campaign is in mid-stream, there are a number of building and renovation projects projected, there are budgetary challenges to be met—he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the office. He is an effective administrator, a great leader, and an eloquent spokesman. I personally enjoyed very much working with Paul when he filled in as acting vice president for business and finance a few years ago, and I look forward to having the opportunity to work closely with him again."

Jennings is an expert in the design of earthquake-resistant structures and in how the earth moves during a temblor. He played an active role in investigating the effects of damaging earthquakes.

He was chair of the Division of Engineering and Applied Science from 1985 to 1989, served as the acting vice president for business and finance in 1995 and again in 1998–99, and as executive officer for civil engineering and applied mechanics from 1975 to 1980.

Jennings, who is highly regarded within the Caltech community for his energy, enthusiasm, and organizational skills, is also internationally renowned in the seismology and engineering fields. He has been the president of the Seismological Society of America and of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. He was a member of the National Science Foundation's advisory committee on earthquake engineering and a chairman of the National Research Council's committee on seismology.

Jennings earned a BS from Colorado State University in 1958, then earned both an MS in 1960 and a PhD in 1963 from Caltech. Staying on at the Institute, he was a research fellow in civil engineering in 1965 and swiftly moved up the academic ladder to become a full professor in 1972. He has been an emeritus professor since 2002. He also served on the teaching staff of the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1963 to 1965.

Jennings replaces Steve Koonin, who served as provost from 1995 until early this year when he stepped down from the administrative role to become chief scientist of BP in London. Koonin is on a leave of absence from his faculty appointment as professor of theoretical physics.

Jennings is a hiker and avid fly fisherman. He and his wife, Missy, live in Pasadena, and he has two grown daughters, Kathryn and Margaret. □