

## EDITORIAL

We are delighted to conclude the fifth year of the *Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest* with a thoughtful essay by the University's president, Steven Muller, on "Research Universities and Industrial Innovation in America." In it, he sorts out the varied strands from which the modern research university is fashioned. He lays down precepts to be followed and warns of pitfalls to be avoided by universities as they expand into new endeavors in government-funded basic research and classified development programs, industry-supported research, area studies, the management of unique and complex facilities, and the support of novel teaching methods. While no names are mentioned, it is not difficult to detect in that article a picture of the present-day Johns Hopkins University and the direction in which it is moving.

As our regular readers are aware, the objective of the *Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest* is to present to its readers within and outside of APL an overview of the multifaceted undertakings of its staff that are of interest to the entire technical community. In this issue and the next, developments of the APL space program are recounted in some detail. In publishing these accounts, our aim is not to compete with the traditional technical journals but rather to present research and development results in such a way that their

significance can be appreciated by a diverse audience. While this goal is not always successful, the intent is to avoid the terseness, the specialized jargon and shorthand that may expedite communication among the research workers but that inhibit communication with the technologically literate public.

A recent increase in the number of books written by the APL staff has encouraged us to add a Book Review section in which the reviewers, who are generally not APL staff members, are asked to review the books from the perspective of their contributions to broad fields of professional endeavor.

We are also starting a new section called "Work in Progress," dealing with projects in which recent developments are of special significance or interest. As an opener, the eminently successful recent launch of the AMPTE satellite is described, with emphasis on dramatic incidents not generally known except to those who participated in the event. In addition, we intend to review subjects that have been discussed at length in earlier *Technical Digests*, thereby providing an update of topics where rapid progress is being made.

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