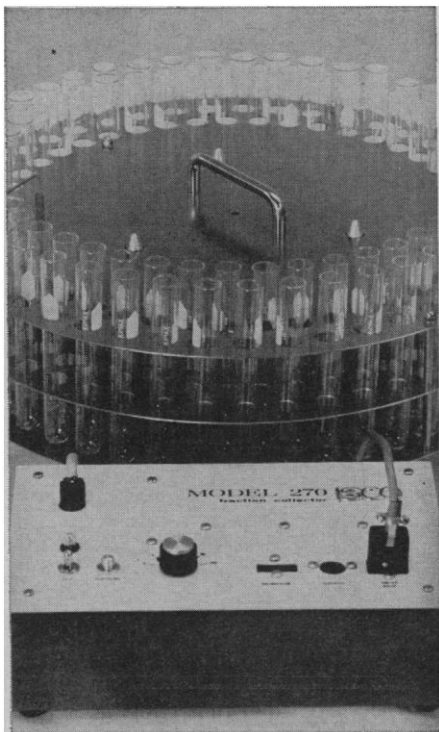


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Argonne National Laboratory: Educational Workshops

During the academic year 1965-66 faculty members representing 120 colleges and universities from 16 midwestern states participated in 70 two-day workshops or brought students to perform experiments at the instructional facilities of Argonne National Laboratory (ANL). Summer institutes and audio aids for on-campus use supplement these programs.

In 1955 as part of President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" program, the Atomic Energy Commission established the School for Nuclear Science and Engineering at Argonne, Illinois. By 1963 this program had served its purpose of training nuclear engineering students from abroad. Some of the colleges in the Chicago area then requested the use of its facilities for supplementing their science and mathematics programs. The Office of College and University Cooperation set up shortly afterwards at Argonne directs the use of the instructional laboratories. Nineteen liberal arts colleges within commuting distance formed the Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area (ACCA) and for the past 3 years have worked with this office in planning faculty workshops and student experiments to meet the needs of their various departments. Students from these colleges accompanied by their professors spend half-days weekly or bi-weekly performing experiments in the ANL instructional laboratories.

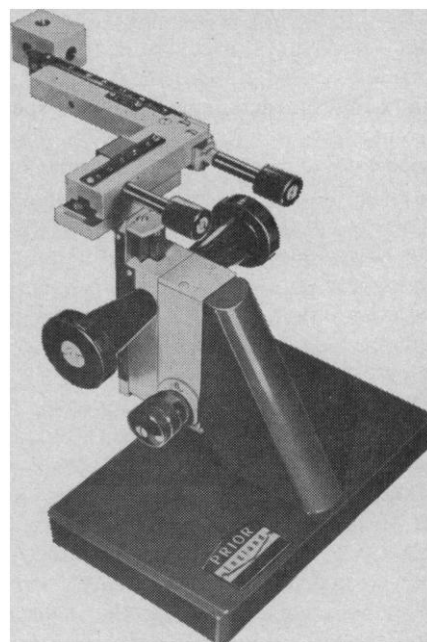
Since these programs are open to all colleges and universities in the Midwest, over 70 institutions participated in the faculty workshops. Forty-five colleges from greater distances brought students for two or more days of experimental work. Last spring a Nuclear



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SCIENCE, VOL. 154

Chemistry Users Committee (NCUC) representing schools outside the ACCA group was organized to evaluate their educational experiences at ANL and to explore further use of its facilities to implement their programs. User groups are also developing in biology, mathematics, and physics.

The workshops cover nuclear science and recent developments in related areas. They are designed to update the theoretical background of faculty members and acquaint them with the use of newer instruments and their applications to the various fields of instruction. The equipment, much of which is of research caliber, includes nuclear reactors, a 21-foot grating emission spectrograph, an A-60 NMR, an x-ray diffractometer, a mass spectrometer, both infrared and ultraviolet spectrophotometers, gas chromatographs, and a CDC 8090 computer. There is also a radiobiological laboratory for studying the effects of radiation on living matter. Workshops are presented each semester in the areas of radioisotopes, radiation biology, spectroscopy, modern and neutron physics, computers, and electronics. Topics are treated on introductory and advanced levels.

The number of participants in any given workshop is generally limited to eight with reservations made on a first-come, first-served basis. Small groups promote close contact with the Argonne staff member and ready access to the instruments. During the past year some 300 faculty members availed themselves of the opportunities afforded by these workshops. The program is supported by the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Nuclear Education and Training; the National Science Foundation has provided some support to help defray travel and lodging expenses for those coming from a distance.

Faculty members are invited to bring their students of junior and senior standing to ANL to perform experiments as part of their regular course work or to supplement it. An Argonne staff member and a technician are on hand for consultation and help as desired by the college instructor. Again small groups are more practical.

There is a wide selection of experiments from which to choose in each of the following areas: neutron and modern physics, physical chemistry, general techniques and applications of radioisotopes, radiobiology, molecular spectroscopy, gas chromatography, and



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computers. If desired, a tour of the research divisions can be arranged during the students' visit to acquaint them with applications of the basic knowledge and skills they are acquiring.

This past summer there were two AEC-NSF institutes for college faculty in radiobiology and nuclear-physical chemistry. A similar institute in radiobiology has been submitted for next summer.

At the spring meeting of NCUC it was suggested that several 1-week short courses held early in June and in August to permit teaching of summer classes would be more practical for participants coming from considerable distances than several weekend trips during the year. Some of the topics suggested for consideration were nuclear magnetic resonance, symmetry and group theory, and computer applications to chemistry problems.

At the request of the Biology Committee of ACCA, radiobiological seminars have been prepared on tapes by members of Argonne's Division of Biological and Medical Research. Accompanying the tapes are student brochures with illustrations from the lecturers' slides, background information, and reference material. These tapes may be kept in the college library. To date 60 colleges and universities located throughout the country have used the radiobiological seminars.

Also available are eight tapes with brochures entitled, "Introduction to Fortran Programming of Digital Computers." Thirty colleges have used these tapes to assist them in computing courses. "Introduction to Analog Computing" is presented in 3 films each running 45 minutes. These are loaned gratis to colleges.

It is hoped that this summary of educational opportunities at Argonne National Laboratory has conveyed the scope and flexibility of the programs and will interest more educators to look into them as cocurricular training for their students as well as a means of keeping abreast with new developments in their particular fields. If the best advertisement is a satisfied customer, Argonne's instructional laboratories are in business.

For further information write to J. E. Baird, Office of College and University Cooperation, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, Illinois 60440.

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