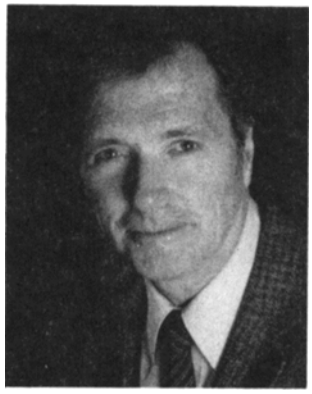
COMMENTS



We are most pleased to publish the Proceedings of the Third Carolus Magnus Summer School on Plasma Physics. We are indebted to Raymond Koch and the other organizing committee members—G. Van Oost, A. J. H. Donné, and A. L. Rogister—who helped collect and organize the papers for the proceedings. Of course, the project was possible only through the cooperation and enthusiasm of the lecturers, who refined their lecture notes for publication.

The proceedings from the first and second schools, published in *Transactions of Fusion Technology* (*Trans. FT*), **25**, *2T* (1994) and **29**, *2T* (1996), have been highly regarded by the plasma community, as is indicated by the number of extra copies purchased. The lecture notes in these earlier proceedings, like the present one, were prepared by well-known leaders in their areas and have covered a wide range of topics. Consequently, these proceedings are viewed as valuable reference materials by researchers in the field as well as basic text materials for advanced students or researchers. The coverage is strongly focused on fusion plasmas, ranging from basic theory and current approaches, to diagnostics and current states. While there is some overlap of coverage between the present proceedings and that of the first two schools, and while some of the same lecturers returned, the reader will find that the lecturers typically expanded coverage or inserted new aspects of the subject. Thus, even those who studied the first two proceedings will want to go through this new one in some detail.

This issue is a valuable addition to the *Trans. FT* series. Again, thanks go to the organizing committee for its help and encouragement in putting this proceedings together.

George Miley