

# Division of Physical Sciences

[1919-1939](#) / [1940-1974](#)

This collection contains the records of the activities of the Division of Physical Sciences from its establishment in 1919 through 1974. The collection is divided into two separately indexed date spans of 1919-1939 and 1940-1974 and comprises a total volume of approximately 13 linear feet.

## 1919-1939

### ADMINISTRATION

#### INSTITUTIONS – ASSOCIATIONS & INDIVIDUALS

- Acoustical Society of America
  - Constitution Bylaws Members: 1939
- American Astronomical Society
  - Committee on Meteors: 1920
  - Constitution Bylaws Members: 1938
- American Institute of Physics: 1931-1936
- American Mathematical Society: 1919-1936
- American Standards Association
  - Committee on Electric & Magnetic Magnitudes & Units: 1935
- Corning Glass Works: 1919-1920
- Mathematical Assoc of America: 1920
- Washington Biophysical Institute: 1934-1939
- General: 1923-1937

### DIVISIONS OF THE NRC

#### PHYSICAL SCIENCES

- Activities
  - Historical Summary: 1919-1932
  - Historical Survey: Draft: 1934
  - Summary of Projects: 1919
- Appointments: Members: 1919-1939
- Board of Directors of Washington Biophysical Institute: 1934-1937
- Committees
  - Acoustics: 1920-1923
  - Algebraic Numbers: 1920-1923
  - Atomic Structure: 1919-1922
  - Award
    - Optical Society of America Prize for Best Paper on Scientific Instruments: 1923-1926
  - Bibliography of Mathematical Tables & Aids to Computation
    - Appointments: Members: 1936
    - Beginning of Program: 1934-1935
    - Proposed: 1930-1933

- General: 1937-1939
- Biophysics Joint with Division of Medical Sciences
  - Survey of Possible Research Projects: 1919
  - General: 1920-1921
- Books in Astronomy Physics & Mathematics for Oriental Library: 1938
- Celestial Mechanics: 1919-1923
- Cooperation in Mathematical Projects: 1919-1920
- Electrodynamics of Moving Media: 1919-1923
- Enlargement of Functions of International Bureau of Weights & Measures: 1919-1921
- Hydrodynamics: 1924-1932
- Line Spectra of the Elements
  - Activities: 1925-1938
  - Beginning of Program: 1925
  - General: 1929-1935
- Luminescence: 1919-1923
- Mathematical Analysis of Statistics: 1922
- Orbit Theory: 1920-1922
- Parallaxes: 1919-1922
- Photo-Electric Effects: 1919-1922
- Physics Bulletins: 1923
- Physics of the Earth: 1927-1938
  - Physics of the Earth Series: 1938
- Physiological Optics: 1921-1923
- Proposed Mathematical Dictionary: 1919
- Pyrometry
  - Proposed: 1921
- Quantum Theory
  - Proposed: 1928
- Relation between Physics & Medical Sciences: 1925-1926
- Relation of Electro-Magnetic Theory to Quantum Hypotheses: 1919-1924
- Relation of Elementary Physics Teaching to Research: 1921
- Research Methods & Technique: 1920-1923
- Revolving Fund for Publication of Mathematical Books
  - Appointments: 1936
  - General: 1920-1939
- Service Institute for Biophysics: 1933-1934
- Sources of Rock Salt Crystals: 1932
- Spectroscopy
  - Eastern Division: 1919-1922
  - Western Division: 1919-1922
- Standards of Radioactivity
  - Appointments: Members: 1938
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1938-1939
  - Research Projects: 1938-1939
  - General: 1938-1939
- Theories of Magnetism: 1920-1922
- Thermo-Magnetic Electric Effects: 1919-1920
- Utilization of Bureau of Standards Facilities: 1921-1922
- Vision & Photobiology: 1922-1924
- X-Ray Spectra: 1919-1921

- X-Rays & Crystal Structure: 1920
- Conference on Precision Measurement of Solar Radiation: 1938-1939
- Directory of Division: 1919-1939
- Executive Committee Meetings: Minutes: 1919-1939
- Meetings
  - Annual Meetings: 1920-1939
  - Minutes (Annual Meetings & Executive Committee): 1919-1940
  - Organizational: 1919
- News Bulletin: 1923-1925
- Nobel Prize for Physics
  - Recommendations: 1922-1926
- Personnel Listing: 1939
- Physical Review
  - Financial Report: 1920-1930
- Projects
  - Airplane Power Plants: 1919
  - Astronomical Periodicals & Books: 1920-1922
  - Astronomical Research Surveys: 1926-1930
  - Aviation Field Lighting: 1919
  - Camouflage: 1919
  - Centrifugal Gun: 1919
  - Exchange of Apparatus: 1920
  - Infrared Detection: 1919
  - Instrument Journal: 1920-1922
  - Proposed: 1933-1935
  - Shop Work at Carnegie Institute of Technology: 1919
  - Signaling Telescopes: 1919
  - Submarine Detection: 1919
  - General: 1919
- Reports to Administrative Committee: 1924-1939
- Research Committees: 1919-1920
- General: 1919-1939

## FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

## CONTRACTS

- Committee on Physics of the Earth: 1938

## **REPORTS – 1919-1939**

- Annual Report: 1922; 1936
- Committee on Supersound
  - Quartz Source Projector of Supersound: 1919
- Projects
  - Centrifugal Gun: 1919

## **1940-1974**

## ADMINISTRATION

### INSTITUTIONS – ASSOCIATIONS & INDIVIDUALS

- Acoustical Society of America
  - Membership Bylaws History: 1955
- American Assoc for Advancement of Science
  - Annual Meeting: 1947
  - Cooperative Committee on Teaching of Science & Mathematics: 1949
- American Assoc of Physicists
  - Request to Affiliate with Division: 1966-1968
- American Assoc of Physics Teachers: 1949-1957
  - History & Activities: 1946-1948
  - Oersted Medal: 1946-1948
- American Institute of Physics
  - Executive Committee Meetings: 1948-1956
  - Governing Board Meetings: 1948-1955
  - Policy Committee Meetings: 1945-1948
  - General: 1945-1956
- American Standards Assoc: 1949-1957
- Optical Society of America: 1949-1957
- Society of Nuclear Scientists & Engineers
  - Proposed: 1954
- Washington Biophysical Institute: 1940-1942
- General: 1946-1954

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- International Congresses: 1949-1961

### PUBLICATIONS

- Glossary of Nuclear Energy Terms
  - Index: 1949
  - Sections I-III: 1949
  - Sections V-VII: 1949
- Glossary of Terms in Nuclear Science & Technology
  - Editions Approved by ASA: 1957
  - Interim Edition: 1955
  - Preliminary Edition Sections I-IX: 1950-1953
  - Proposed for Approval by ASA: 1957
- Physics of the Earth Series
  - Copyright Assignments: 1949-1951
  - Republication & Revision: 1948-1949
  - General: 1947-1951
- General: 1947-1955

## DIVISIONS OF THE NRC

## PHYSICAL SCIENCES

- Activities: Reports: 1967-1973
- Advisory Services to NBS (National Bureau of Standards)
- Mathematical Tabulation Projects: 1948
- Appointments: Members of Division: 1940-1955
- Chairman: 1960-1965
- Committees
  - Extra-Atmospheric Cosmic Ray Research
    - Proposed: 1958
  - NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship Evaluation: 1964-1966 & 1959-1963
  - Systems Evaluation Group: 1954-1956
  - Applied Mathematics: 1946-1947
  - Astronomy Advisory to ONR (Office of Naval Research)
    - Activities Summary: 1951
    - Appointments: Members: 1952-1971
    - Beginning of Program: 1947
    - Contracts & Proposals: 1964-1970
    - Meetings: Minutes: 1948-1969
    - Research Projects: 1955-1961
    - General: 1952-1962, 1967-1969
  - Automation of Optical Production Equipment: 1957-1959
  - Basic Research Advisory to AROD (Army Research Office (Durham))
    - Appointments: Members: 1961
    - General: 1961
  - Basic Research Advisory to OOR (Office of Ordnance Research)
    - Appointments: Members: 1954-1960
    - Referees: 1957-1959
    - General: 1953-1960
  - Bibliography of Mathematical Tables & Aids to Computation: 1940
  - Defense Projects & Personnel: 1940
  - Fellowships: 1940-1942
  - Fundamental Physical Constants: Joint with Division of Chemistry & Chemical Technology: 1947-1950 & 1961-1963
  - Geophysics
    - Advisory to President's Materials Policy Commission: 1951
  - Helium Vapor Pressure Scale of Temperatures
    - Joint with Division of Chemistry & Chemical Technology: 1955
  - High-Speed Calculating Machines
    - Appointments: Members: 1946
    - General: 1946-1949
  - Infra-Red Absorption Spectra
    - Joint with Division of Chemistry & Chemical Technology: 1951-1952
  - Line Spectra of the Elements
    - Activities: 1940-1949
    - Appointments: Members: 1954-1957
    - Reconstitution of Committee: 1940
    - Reorganization of Committee: 1948-1949
    - General: 1946-1954
  - Mathematical Tables & Other Aids to Computation

- Book of Tables: 1948-1949
  - Quarterly Journal: 1942-1950
  - Revolving Fund for Publication of Mathematical Tables: 1940
  - General: 1940-1949
- Mathematics Advisory to ONR (Office of Naval Research)
  - Applications for Research: 1950
  - Appointments: Members: 1948-1949
  - Beginning of Program: 1947
  - General: 1948-1950
- Naval Ships Characteristics & Design Procedures: 1966
- Operations Research
  - Beginning of Program: 1948-1949
  - Chronology of Activities: 1949-1952
  - Conference on Operations Research: 1951
  - End of Program: 1955
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1951-1953
  - Operations Research Center: 1950-1952
  - Operations Research with Special Reference to Non-Military Operations: 1951
  - Supporting Data: 1949-1954
  - Symposium on Operations Research for Guidance of Management: 1951
  - General: 1950-1954
- Pollution: 1965-1966
- Radioactive Substances: 1946
- Radioactivity
  - Beginning of Program: 1946
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1946-1947
  - Subcommittee on Shipment of Radioactive Substances: 1946-1947
  - General: 1947
- Revolving Fund for Publication of Mathematical Books: 1940-1949
- Semiconductor Particle Detectors
  - Meetings: Report: 1966
- Solids
  - Appointments: Members: 1950-1958
  - Beginning of Program: 1947
  - Conferences: 1950-1960
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1947-1951
  - Symposia: 1948-1959
  - General: 1948-1961
- Solid State Sciences
  - Advisory Panel: Membership: 1970-1974
  - Meetings: 1971-1975
  - Membership: 1971-1974
  - General: 1974
- Spectral Absorption Data
  - Joint with Division of Chemistry & Chemical Technology: 1952-1958
- Standards of Radioactivity
  - Activities: 1941-1943
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1938-1942
  - Research Projects: 1939-1942
  - General: 1945-1946

- Standards Units & Constants of Radioactivity: Interdivisional: 1947-1956
- Symbols Units & Nomenclature: 1957-1967 & 1954-1957
- Training & Research in Applied Mathematics
  - Applied Mathematics Program: 1941-1942
  - Appointments: Members: 1941
  - Beginning of Program: 1941
  - Program of Policy & Action: 1941-1942
  - General: 1941-1943
- Undersea Warfare
  - Appointments: Members: 1955-195, 1972-1973
  - Contract Correspondence & Proposals: 1970-1974
  - End of Program: 1975
  - Future Status: 1964, 1972
  - Meetings
    - 99th: Feb 1972
    - General: 1972
    - 1971
    - 1955-1959
  - Naval & Maritime Affairs Board: Proposed: 1972
  - Panels
    - DD-963 Class Destroyer: 1971-1972
    - Underwater Swimmers: 1955
    - US Torpedo Program: 1963-1964
    - General: 1972
  - Project NOBSKA
    - 1956-1957
    - BBC-TV Queries Regarding: 1975
  - Summer Studies
    - Advanced Sea-Based Deterrence [Project Seabed]: 1964
    - Countermeasures for Fleet Defense: 1972-1974
    - Information Processing & Display: 1971
    - Ocean Surveillance: 1966
  - Workshops: Numerical Hydrodynamics: 1974
  - General: 1953-1959, 1963-1974
- Underwater Telecommunications
  - Coast Guard Briefing: 1968
  - Comments on HR 246 Submersible Vessel Safety Act: 1969
  - Conferences: Present & Future Civil Uses of Underwater Sound: 1968-1969
  - Contract Correspondence & Proposals: 1968-1970
  - Meetings: 1968-1969
  - Membership: 1968-1970
  - Report: Correspondence re: 1969-1970
  - General: 1968-1973
- To Study Advisability of a Division of Mathematical Sciences: 1949-1950
- Conferences
  - Post-War Physics: 1943-1945
  - Transport Theory: 1962-1963
  - UHF-TV Project: Jun 1960
- Directory of Division: 1940-1958

November 27, 2012

- Executive Committee
  - Appointments: Members: 1940-1954
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1948-1957
- Glossary of Terms in Nuclear Science & Technology
  - Conference on Glossaries of Terms in Nuclear Science & Technology: 1948-1950
  - Working Committees: 1948
  - General: 1947-1958
- International Activities
  - Cooperation between US & USSR in Field of High Energy Physics: 1971
  - Inter-American Program in Biophysics: 1960-1962
  - Joint US-USSR Projects: Suggested: 1972
  - Visiting Scientists: 1956-1963
  - Volcanoes in Mexico (Vacquier): 1960
  - General: 1959-1962
- Mathematical Problems to be Solved for Use in Theoretical Physics: 1947
- Meetings: Annual: 1940-1957
- Meetings: NASA Inter-University Research Project: Proposed: 1962
- Mine Advisory Committee
  - Appointments: Members: 1955-1975
  - Funding: 1969-1972
  - Meetings: Agenda: 1955-1957
  - Panel on Command & Control: 1971
  - Studies: Pollution of Oceans by Abandoned Explosive Ordnance: Proposed: 1970
  - Summer Studies for Defense Science Board: 1971-1972
  - General: 1951-1959, 1966-1969
- Name Change Proposed: 1947
- NAS-ARDC Study on Long-Range Scientific & Technical Trends
  - Committees: Facilities: 1959
  - Participants: 1957-1958
  - General: 1957-1958
- Nuclear Data Project
  - Activities: 1953-1961
  - Associates in Project: 1955-1962
  - General: 1953-1962
- Personnel Listings: 1940-1945
- Physical Sciences Research Evaluation Panels
  - Advisory to AFOSR: Proposed: 1964-1965
- Physics Survey Committee
  - Membership: 1969-1971
  - Panels: Earth & Planetary Physics
    - Meetings: Minutes: 1969-1970
    - Papers: Education: Draft: 1971
    - Report: 1972
    - Report: General: 1970-1972
    - General: 1969-1972
  - General: 1969-1971
- Planning Committee on Production of Physicists
  - Appointments: Members: 1954
  - Conference on Production of Physicists: 1954-1955



- Improvement of Science Teaching: 1955
  - Meetings: Minutes: 1954
- Review of Chamber of Commerce Report on Basic Research: 1961
- Site Evaluation Committee: Advisory to AEC
  - Activities: Chronology: 1965-1966
  - AEC Site Visit Program: 1965
  - Contract & Related Correspondence: 1965-1966
  - Correspondence with AEC: 1965-1966
  - Meetings: 1965-1966
  - Membership: 1965
  - Panels
    - Accelerator Scientists [Climate Panel]: 1965-1966
    - Foundation Requirements: 1965-1966
      - Report: 1966
  - Press Releases & Coverage: 1965-1966
  - Relationships: Universities Research Association: 1965
  - Reports
    - 1966
    - Draft: Comments: 1965-1966
  - Site Proposals: 1965-1966
  - Site Visits: Reports: 1965-1966
  - General: Mar 1965-May 1966
- Solid State Sciences Panel
  - Ad hoc Committee on Mission Operation & Structure: Report: Oct 1970
  - Beginning of Program: 1961-1963
  - Meetings: 1962-1970
  - Membership
    - Rosters: 1962-1970
    - General: 1958-1970
  - Reorganization: 1970-1971
  - Subcommittee on Federally Supported Basic Research on Materials: 1963-1964
  - General: 1963-1968
- Studies
  - ARPA Nuclear Technology: Requested: 1968
  - Computer Facilities for Astronomy & Astrophysics: Proposed: 1973-1974
- Sun & Earth Film Series [IQSY Films]
  - Broadcast Rights: National Educational Television (NET): 1967-1970
  - Distributor: McGraw-Hill: 1968-1971
  - Producer: Wolff L: 1967-1969
  - Scripts: 1969
  - General: 1967-1971
- Symposiums
  - Immediate & Low-Level Effects of Ionizing Radiation: 1959
  - Microseisms: 1951-1954
  - Naval Hydrodynamics
    - First: 1956
    - Second: 1958-1959
  - Oceanographic Instrumentation: 1951-1954
  - Plasma Dynamics
    - Advisory Committee: 1957-1958

- Participants: 1958
  - Proceedings: 1958-1960
  - General: 1957-1958
- Saline Water Conversion
  - Abstracts of Papers: 1957
  - Beginning of Program: 1956-1957
  - Participants: 1957
  - Press Releases: 1957
  - Report on Symposium: 1957
  - General: 1956-1958
- Uniform Tri-dimensional Color Scales
  - Proposed Study: 1946-1947
- Very Large Array (VLA) Site Selection Review Panel: Ad hoc: 1972
- General: 1940-1959

## FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

### CONTRACTS

- Committee on Solids: 1948-1959
- General: 1952-1957

### FINANCE

- Funds
- General: 1957-1961

## GOVERNMENT

### AGENCIES & DEPARTMENTS

- Army
  - Research & Development: 1958-1959
- Atomic Energy Commission: 1946-1956
- Commerce
  - NBS Committee on Infra-Red Punch Card System: 1949-1951
- National Science Foundation
  - Support for Astronomy Proposed: 1951
- Navy
  - ONR (Office of Naval Research): 1946-1952
- General: 1947-1957

## **REPORTS – 1940-1974**

- Annual Report: 1950-1962
- Committees
  - Fundamental Physical Constants: 1950
  - Geophysics
    - Advisory to President's Materials Policy Commission: 1951

- Sound Control
  - Articulation Testing Methods: 1942
  - Effects of Noise on Psychomotor Efficiency Part I: 1941
  - Materials for Sound in Airplanes: 1941
  - NDCrc-52 Project Progress Reports: 1941
- Sound Control in Vehicles
  - NDCrc-52 Project Progress Reports: 1941
- Training & Research in Applied Mathematics
  - Advance Training in Applied Mathematics: 1941
  - Report to NRC: 1942
- Undersea Warfare
  - History of Self-Contained Diving & Underwater Swimming: 1959
- NAS-Air Research & Development Command Study on Long-Range Scientific & Technical Trends
  - Committees
    - Facilities Report: 1958
    - General Sciences Report: 1958
  - Working Papers
    - Acceleration & Dynamic Flight Simulation: 1958
    - Administration of Programmatic Research: 1958
    - Biological Effects of Nuclear Weapons: 1958
    - Contributions of Basic Research to Clinical Medicine: 1958
    - Design of Training: 1958
    - Detecting Undercover Agents: 1958
    - Evaluation of Effectiveness of Incendiary Weapon Against Personnel as Illustration of Mathematical Modeling: 1958
    - Improvement of Productivity of Basic Research in Life Sciences: 1958
    - Mechanized Data Processing Developments in Medicine & Life Sciences: 1958
    - Neurophysiology & Behavior: 1958
    - Notes on Conference of Test Pilots: 1958
    - Physiology & Pharmacology of Extra-Atmospheric Flight: 1958
    - Problems of Aging: 1958
    - Psychological Warfare as Weapon System: 1958
    - Role of Hospital in Medical & Biological Research & Training: 1958
    - Selection Research: 1958
    - Task Group & Organizational Effectiveness: 1958
    - Toxicological Research in US Air Force: 1958
    - Training Requirements for Flight Surgeons & Space Biologists: 1958
    - Use of Animals Plants Microorganisms & Tissue Culture in Space Research: 1958
    - Weightlessness: 1958
- Reports to Administrative Committee: 1940-1941