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Dr. Walter Kohn named co-winner of the Davisson-Germer Prize of the American Physical Society

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Dr. Walter Kohn, professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego, has been named co-winner of the 1977 Davisson-Germer Prize of the American Physical Society in recognition of his contributions to the understanding and application of electron gas.

Kohn and Norton Lang of the IBM Watson Research Center in New York, an associate of Kohn's at UC San Diego several years ago, will be awarded the prize Wednesday, April 27, at the society's meeting in Washington, D.C. The prize consists of a certificate inscribed with the winner's name and a check.

Kohn, a member of the UC San Diego faculty since 1960, was selected by the society "for contributions to the understanding of the inhomogeneous interacting electron gas and of its application to electronic phenomena at surfaces. He will attend the meeting in Washington to receive the prize and to present a paper on his work.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Kohn received a B.A. degree in mathematics and physics and an M.A. degree in applied mathematics from the University of Toronto. He received a Ph.D. in theoretical physics from Harvard University in 1948.

In 1950 Kohn moved to Carnegie Tech as a professor of physics. On leave from the institute, he conducted research at the Bohr Institute in Copenhagen, the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania and the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London.

His special research interest at UC San Diego has been in theoretical solid state physics. He was awarded the Oliver E. Buckley Solid State Physics Prize in 1960 and was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1969.

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