THE 1988 ENGINEER Columbia University School of Engineering

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Applied Physics and Nuclear Engineering

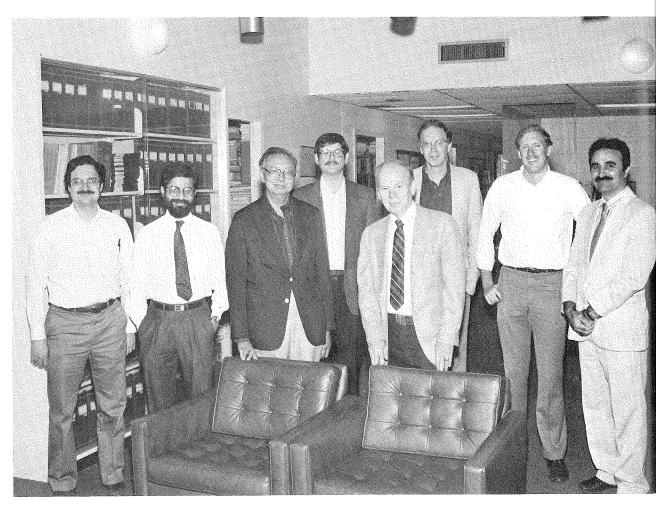
If you are driving in a car at the speed of light, and you turn on your headlights, do they do anything? If the atom is mostly free space, why don't you tunnel into your collarbone? Silly questions, you say? Perhaps, but such were the questions which plagued some of us in our youth. So, as the bright days of summer gave way to greying autumn, we continued our education at Columbia in physics so that our minds might be relieved of these problems.

Two years went by and we found the solutions to these and many other problems which we had not even thought of before. Then, the School requested that we choose the direction which was to guide us for the rest of our lives — our majors. Did Columbia even have an Applied Physics Department?

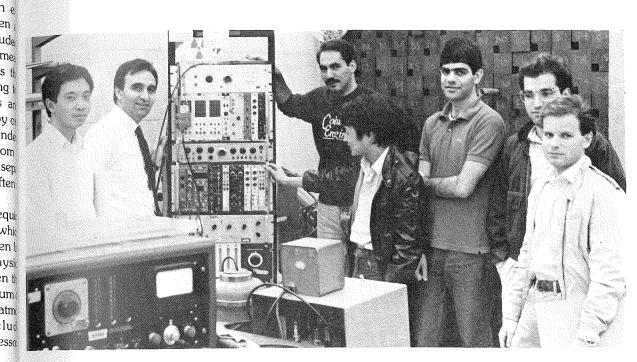
Well, it turns out that we most certainly do, and it is with a great sense of satisfaction that we have been a part of it for the last two years. The department is small. We share an office with the Applied Mathematics and Nuclear Engineering Departments, and still

there is room enough to spare for a xero coffee machine, an ever-growing col tion of physics periodicals, and an tremely nice secretary who has been much a part of the family as any study who has passed through it; and we do make family. The senior applied physicists year number but eight, and we hang gether to overcome problem sets exams, labs and all-nighters, driven by common attraction for a deeper unstanding of the world around us from physical point of view, rather than set rated by the competitiveness which ofter found in such an Ivy institution.

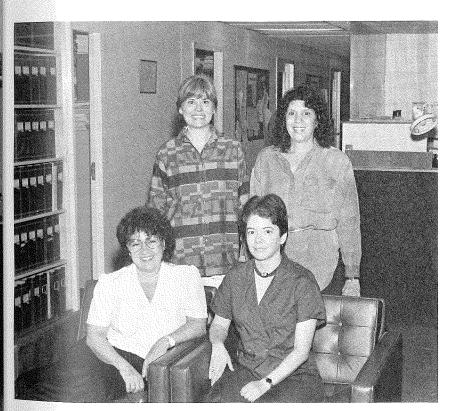
Studies of such a complex world req strong abilities for analytical thought, whis developed in weekly seminars giver the Applied Mathematics and Phy Departments. Here students are given opportunity to discuss a wide continuum topics with professors in an informal at sphere. Discussions often inclureferences to the research which professors



APNE Department Faculty: (standing, left to right) Gerald A. Navratil, Amitava Bhattacharjee, C.K. Chu, Irvng P. Herman, Leon Lidofsky, Thom Marshall, Michael E. Mauel, Alireza Sedaghat; (missing) Herbert Goldstein, Michael Tabor.



So, does anyone know how to work this gadget?



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Department Staff: (seated, left to right) Lois Winter, JoAnn Winsten; (standing, left to right) Marlene Arbo, Lydia Argote.

are conducting in the facilities available to the APNE Department. These include a Tokamak, a FEL, a fission reactor, extensive computer systems on campus, as well as the use of the resources at Brookhaven and Nevis Labs.

With one of the best equipped departments in SEAS, and some of the greatest research talents to aid us in our education, we seek not to build or to manufacture, but to understand.