Director’s Matters

Great news for the future of science funding!

For many years, AIP, its Member Societies, and other professional S&T organizations have worked to increase the visibility of the demonstrated link between basic research and technological advances. These efforts have been successful: President Bush has sent budget requests to Capitol Hill that would put the agencies funding basic research in the physical sciences on a path that would double their budgets in 10 years. Congress has responded by passing legislation that includes double-digit increases in these annual budgets.

Last Thursday, August 2, the House of Representatives and the Senate passed an important bill that reaffirms the “doubling” goal for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, and the research laboratories of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The bill also recognizes that an early and sustained interest in science in our nation's schools — starting at the very earliest levels — helps to ensure that America will continue to have a strong S&T workforce.

During my career as a scientist at two national laboratories, Jefferson Lab and Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, I had the opportunity to see on a daily basis the exciting work that was supported by the Department of Energy. The legislation that is now on its way to President Bush will make it possible to increase research at national laboratories and universities throughout our country, paving the way for technological advances that will be of tremendous benefit to society.

Sincerely yours,

Fred

Publishing Matters

NYAS becomes a member of the AIP C&F family

The New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) has agreed to use AIP Membership Services for the management of the membership database and meetings registration. The C&F staff is working on the transition and conversion schedule and plans to start serving NYAS later this year. Founded in 1817, NYAS is an independent, nonprofit, membership-based organization, which brings together scientists of different disciplines from around the world to advance the understanding of science, technology, and medicine, and to stimulate ideas about how research impacts society and the world. NYAS has approximately 26,000 members in 140 countries, and organizes over 100 meetings and conferences annually.

Focus on Chaos

New to the Chaos website on Scitation are links to the publication's special Focus Issues. While Chaos publishes new contributed papers in every quarterly issue, three issues per year also contain Focus Issues, which are guest-edited by leaders in the field and are intended to provide a critical introduction and an overview of a particular topic. Focus Issues can serve as an introduction to non-specialists and as a resource to experts. Now, online users can link directly to a directory of all Focus Issues published since the journal's founding in 1991, and search strictly on the Focus Issues' content. Visit the Chaos website to see Focus Issues such as "Cardiovascular Physics" (March 2007) and "The 'Fermi-Pasta-Ulam' Problem – The First 50 Years" (March 2005).
Participation, potential and the pursuit of high scholarship

SPS awarded 23 Leadership Scholarships to undergraduate student members across the nation. The winners' selection is based on high scholarship performance, both in physics and in overall studies, potential and intention for continued scholastic development in physics, and active participation in SPS programs. Sarah Anderson of Bethel University (right) and Alison Earnhart of Juniata College (left) took the top prizes. See the SPS website for the winners' photos and profiles.

49th Annual Meeting of the AAPM

AIP staff, Jeff Bebee, Director of Marketing for Physics Today, and Jerry Hobbs, Director of Industrial Outreach, joined over 2,270 medical physicists and 1,320 exhibitors at the AAPM annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Bebee represented Computing in Science and Engineering (CiSE), a joint publication of the American Institute of Physics and the IEEE Computer Society. Hobbs' role was to learn how AIP might better serve this constituency and discover more about the companies and applications most closely linked to AAPM. What exactly is a medical physicist? Check out the AAPM website for a description and the scope of practice of a medical physicist.

Flying colors

Both of the child care centers at AIP (New York and Maryland) are staffed with trained professionals who provide a nurturing, developmental environment while upholding very high standards of care and operations for AIP employees' children. The Melville Child Care Center showed its true colors when it passed its most recent licensing inspection, conducted by the New York State Office of Children & Family Services on June 26, the last in a series of meticulous inspections required by New York State. The ACP Child Care Center demonstrated a standard of excellence on July 24, when the Maryland State Department of Education -- Office of Child Care arrived at ACP for a surprise inspection -- the first in the history of ACP. The ACP child care staff was proud to learn that they, too, passed the inspection with flying colors! Congratulations to both child care centers' staffs on the outstanding quality of service to our children!