

AIP | Matters

A bi-weekly publication of the American Institute of Physics

November 2, 2016

Director's Matters

Guest column by Catherine O'Riordan, Chief Operating Officer



Innovation and entrepreneurship in South Africa

Customized apps that connect patients and doctors to drug information. Transport and storage service for genetic samples. Improving plant systems to optimize growth and make more clothing fabric. Creating better accounting software for schools. These are just a few of the ideas that were explored by more than 30 participants of “Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Scientists and Engineers,” a short course co-sponsored by AIP held September 27–28 at the IBM research facility in Johannesburg, South Africa. Working together with the Joburg Centre for Software Engineering (JCSE) and the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), the short course was timed to coincide with the inauguration of the new IBM Research Center in Africa.

[Read more.](#)

Around AIP

AIP visits the Augmentarium

Members of AIP staff were given a tour of the University of Maryland’s Augmentarium in College Park, a revolutionary virtual and augmented (VR and AR) reality facility in the university’s Institute for Advanced Computer Studies. The center features state-of-the-art projection displays, VR and AR visors, in-house graphical computing clusters, and human-computer interaction technologies.

[Read more.](#)



Off the Press

Physics Today, November 2016

ON THE COVER: Through deforestation, farming, and urbanization, humans have left their mark on virtually every corner of Earth’s habitable landscape—even the rugged terrain of eastern Kazakhstan, shown in this satellite image. Agricultural plots, visible as rectangular patches, blanket

the plains in the lower half of the image and extend into the narrow mountain valleys near the top. (The image is a superimposition of near-IR, red, and blue spectral bands represented as red, green, and blue, respectively.)

- **Page 34: Ocean spray: An outsized influence on weather and climate**
by David H. Richter and Fabrice Veron
- **Page 40: Land's complex role in climate change**
by Roger A. Pielke Sr., Rezaul Mahmood, and Clive McAlpine
- **Page 48: The carbon cycle in a changing climate**
by Heather D. Graven



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Coming Up

November 3-5

- 2016 Quadrennial Physics Congress (San Francisco, CA)

November 9

- Brownbag Talk: History of Meteorology in Japan (College Park, MD)

November 11

- Education Liaison Committee Meeting (College Park, MD)

November 15-16

- AIP Publishing Board of Managers Meeting (Melville, NY)

November 16

- "Bring Your Parents to Work Day" (College Park, MD)
- AIP Chatters (College Park, MD)

November 17

- AIP Publishing All-Staff Meeting (Melville, NY)

November 18-19

- Physics and Astronomy Fall New Faculty Workshop (College Park, MD)

November 24-25

- AIP and AIP Publishing closed - Thanksgiving holiday

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