

ening scholars and scientific societies, the judge found that the evidence “persuasively demonstrated that the present suit is but one battle in a ‘global campaign by G&B to suppress all adverse comment upon its journals.’”

In his carefully written 32-page opinion, Sand concluded that “Barschall’s methodology was sufficiently sound and reliably established his results.” G&B had claimed that Barschall was “fatally biased,” having served as a member of APS’s publications committee, and therefore was unable to conduct an impartial survey. To this argument, Sand stated that Barschall was a distinguished physicist, with some 80 scientific papers to his name. “His aptitude at collecting and analyzing quantitative data cannot seriously be contested, and the court thus finds that Barschall was sufficiently skilled to carry out the analyses that he performed.”

To the argument that Barschall’s methodology doesn’t establish journal cost-effectiveness and is therefore inappropriate for subscribers to rely upon when considering which journals to buy, Sand disagreed, stating that

Barschall’s 1988 article in *PHYSICS TODAY* begins with a careful qualification—specifically, that the survey did not imply it was “the only conceivable measure of cost-effectiveness.” Sand also wrote: “If G&B believes librarians will make more optimal decisions if they consider information other than that provided by defendants, its solution is to augment rather than censor the available truthful information.”

G&B intends to appeal Sand’s decision, Gordon declared during an interview by telephone. “We can do no less,” he stated, “because the court in France said Barschall’s studies were unfair and wrong, and because the usefulness of our journals never entered into Barschall’s calculations.”

Representing AIP and APS, Richard Meserve, a Washington attorney who also is a PhD physicist, said after Sand’s decision that Barschall and the societies only claimed to assess the cost-effectiveness as measured by the cost/impact ratio and that the societies stood up to G&B “because of their commitment to the open exchange of ideas and information.”

IRWIN GOODWIN

Gemini partnership, Van Citters says. Chile, meanwhile, was given first dibs on rejoining the project by 1 September.

The Chilean government had actually allocated funds for Gemini in each of the past two years, but it had withheld authorization to spend the money from Chile’s national science foundation, CONICYT, until the project’s legal and tax status could be resolved. The other international observatories in Chile—the European Southern Observatory, the Las Campanas Observatory of the Carnegie Institution and the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory (CTIO)—operate tax-free. In addition, the observatories’ foreign employees are allowed to import cars and other personal goods duty- and tax-free, and they have diplomatic immunity, so they can’t be prosecuted under Chilean law. Some in the Chilean government are opposed to granting the observatories these privileges—an arrangement that has its roots in a 1953 agreement between the Chilean government and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, and was introduced as an incentive to attract skilled people to Chile. But the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, or AURA, which manages Gemini for the NSF, wanted the same conditions to apply for Gemini as for CTIO, which it also runs, and the other international observatories in Chile, according to Van Citters.

About 10 days before the 1 September deadline, the Chilean parliament voted to satisfy the Gemini board’s terms of privileges and payment and rejoin the project—making Gemini the first international observatory in which Chile is a partner, rather than just the host country. But intense parliamentary debate continues regarding the status of future international observatories in Chile.

Chile gets 10% of the observation

Chile Rejoins Gemini Telescope Project as a Full-Fledged Member

After being bumped last May from the Gemini telescope project for failure to pay its share of construction costs, Chile paid up \$3.52 million in time to rejoin the project before the 1 September deadline.

Gemini will consist of twin 8-meter optical-infrared telescopes, one in each hemisphere, which together will provide complete sky coverage. Gemini North is under construction on Mauna Kea in Hawaii, and Gemini South is being built on Cerro Pachon in Chile. The partners in the project are the US (50% share), the UK (25%), Canada (15%), Chile (5%) and Brazil and Argentina (2.5% each).

When the Gemini board tightened the screws on Chile, it was because, two years behind in its payments, Chile hadn’t yet contributed a cent. “Unfortunately, we had to say that we would seek an additional party to make up for the missing money,” says Wayne Van Citters of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the executive agency for the Gemini partnership. Chile’s share of the \$184 million project is \$9.2 million, and it owed \$2.2 million for 1995 and 1996, with another \$1.32 million due at the end of this year. In addition, Chile’s 5% share of operating costs is expected to come to about

Gemini has won tax-free status for the project and diplomatic immunity for its foreign participants—perks that future international observatories in Chile may find hard to come by.

\$700 000 annually, once both telescopes are up and running. So, to keep construction on schedule, the board started talking to the Australian Research Council, which had made a strong bid to buy Chile’s share in the



GEMINI SOUTH, under construction on Cerro Pachon, Chile, is scheduled to see first light in 2000, and to be fully operational in 2001.

GEMINI 8M TELESCOPES PROJECT

time on any telescope built there. But, says Maria Teresa Ruiz of the University of Chile and a member of the AURA board, "Under those agreements, we Chilean astronomers can just use the facilities. We have no say about what instruments will be built, so we are not putting money or brains into [those projects]. With Gemini this will be different." The University of Chile's José Maza, a member of CONICYT's astrophysics advisory committee who, from 1993 to 1995, was also Chile's project scientist for Gemini, adds that "this should give Chile a chance to train technicians and engineers and make high technology available to students." For example, some Chilean engineers and technicians will go to Mauna Kea to help get Gemini North running next year. Then they'll return to Chile in time to do the same at Gemini South, which is scheduled to see first light in 2000. Another benefit of partnership, says Maza, "is that we will have access to the northern sky."

And Australia may yet join Gemini. Australia was told "from the beginning that if Chile satisfied the conditions, negotiations would cease," notes Van Citters. But, he continues, "The [Gemini] partners will not lightly say, 'Thanks for your interest. Spend your money elsewhere.' The Australians would bring a lot of scientific and technical expertise to the partnership. So the possibility that they might add about \$9 million to a project that is just getting under way is something we will discuss seriously in the next month or two."

TONI FEDER

Biologist Baltimore Is Caltech President

On 15 October, David Baltimore will become president of Caltech. Baltimore, who won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1975 (with Howard Temin and Renato Dulbecco), will be the first biologist to hold the post—indeed, he'll be the first president in Caltech's history who is neither a physicist nor an engineer.

To Caltech developmental neurobiologist David Anderson, who served on the faculty search committee, "Having a biologist as president is profoundly significant. It makes a powerful statement that Caltech recognizes the importance of biology, and that it would be difficult to remain cutting edge if it didn't move biology closer to the center of intellectual priorities."

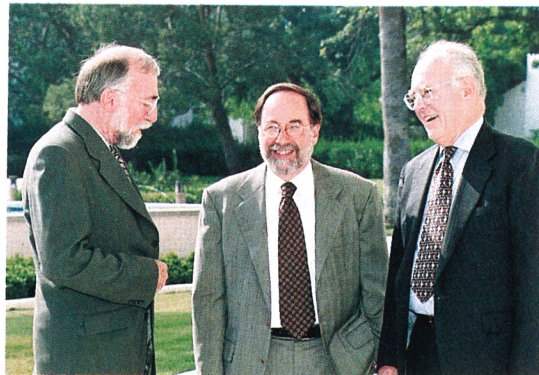
"We do see biology and its interfaces [with other sciences] as being an important major thrust for Caltech in the coming decade," agrees physicist Kip

Thorne, who chaired the search committee. But, he adds, while Baltimore's being a biologist was seen as a plus, it wasn't a key consideration. "We felt we needed a president who would have clout and visibility and influence in government, society and industry," says Thorne. "The relationships between universities and each of these other sectors are in the process of being redefined. Baltimore has enormous wisdom and strength of character and the ability to communicate. He will provide leadership within Caltech and will influence the external world with which we deal."

The choice of Baltimore has been widely welcomed by the Caltech faculty. The new president is known for his scientific achievements and for his long-time involvement in science policy, particularly in the areas of ethics of modern biology and AIDS research policy. He is also known in connection with charges of scientific fraud that were brought against his former colleague and coauthor Thereza Imanishi-Kari (who, after a decade-long saga, was exonerated last year). In general, the misconduct imbroglio isn't seen as a problem or disadvantage, says Gordon Moore, chair of Caltech's board of trustees and one of the founders of Intel. "It was a tough time in his life, but we think he came through it very well."

For the most part, the fact that Baltimore is a biologist doesn't seem to faze the physicists at Caltech, though a few worry about physics getting short shrift. As one self-described "narrow-minded and old-fashioned" Caltech physicist put it, "There is no doubt he is qualified. But we hope he recognizes that physics is the crown of science."

For his part, Baltimore says that maintaining Caltech's existing strengths will be a top priority. In addition, he notes that "there are tremendous opportunities at the interfaces between sciences. And Caltech is particularly well-positioned to take advantage [of this]. The tools physicists have are extremely important [for interdisciplinary research]." Adds Baltimore, "I have tremendous respect for physics, though it doesn't have the same direct appeal as biology." Regarding his priorities as president, Baltimore says he looks forward to working with the Caltech faculty "to solve problems as they arise."



DAVID BALTIMORE (center) with Kip Thorne (left) and Gordon Moore.

Baltimore will move his lab from MIT to Caltech, and plans to continue his research on molecular processes of the immune system. He will also stay on as chair of the National Institutes of Health's AIDS Vaccine Research Committee, to which he was appointed last January by NIH Director Harold Varmus. Baltimore's wife, Alice Huang, quit her job as dean for science at New York University to join him and, at least to begin with, will do fundraising work for Caltech.

Baltimore will be Caltech's fifth president. He succeeds Thomas Everhart, who is stepping down after 10 years. Everhart plans to take a year's sabbatical leave, and will remain on the Caltech faculty in electrical engineering.

TONI FEDER

IN BRIEF

Switzerland's new secretary of state for science and research is Charles Kleiber, an architect by training and more recently a hospital manager and economics professor. Kleiber told PHYSICS TODAY that his main priorities include maintaining the country's current scientific strengths, for example in the life sciences, nutrition and microtechnology; emphasizing foreign science policy to increase representation of Swiss science and technology abroad; stimulating cooperation among Switzerland's universities, industry and society; and getting Swiss industries to increase their investments in domestic R&D. Currently, more than half of about \$9 billion annually in such in-



CHARLES KLEIBER

HÉLÈNE TOBLER