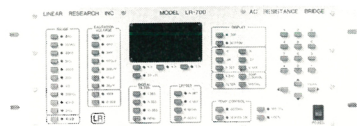


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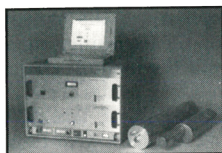
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employment dropped significantly between the summer and winter—from 19% to 4%; temporary employment also fell, from 8% to 6%. Nearly a quarter of the employed PhD respondents reported that they were working in fields other than physics. Median annual salaries varied widely—among the PhDs in permanent positions, for example, those employed outside of physics drew salaries of \$60 000, while those in physics earned \$50 000.

The 1996 *Initial Employment Report* also includes some data on master's degree and bachelor's degree recipients. (Other findings from the survey will be discussed in an expanded version of the report, to be issued in several months.) Single copies of the report are available free of charge by contacting AIP, Education and Employment Statistics Division, One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740-3843; phone 301-209-3070, e-mail stats@aip.org.

IN BRIEF

The National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy have created a joint program to fund

basic plasma science and engineering. The program's aim is to address "fundamental issues in plasma science and engineering which can have impact in other areas or disciplines." Proposals related to fusion studies are not eligible. The two agencies plan to award a total of about \$13 million, pooled from existing plasma research funds within NSF and DOE's Office of Energy Research, to cover 25–30 grants. The deadline for abstracts is 28 February; the proposal deadline is 21 March. The program announcement can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nsf.gov/nsf/nsfpubs/nsf9739.htm>.

A set of guidelines for conducting international research in geophysics has been issued by geophysical societies, including the American Geophysical Union, in 22 countries. The guidelines outline obligations that researchers have when conducting field work in foreign countries. For example, they stress the need to obtain legal authorization before importing or exporting equipment or specimens. They also encourage collaborations and the sharing of data and results with scientists in the host country. ■

Web Watch: Jobs On-Line

Web Watch is a new PHYSICS TODAY feature that will highlight World Wide Web sites of interest to physicists. All links mentioned here are included on PHYSICS TODAY's home page, <http://www.aip.org/pt/>. This month we focus on sites of interest to seekers of physics-related jobs. If you have suggestions for other topics or specific sites to be covered in Web Watch, please e-mail them to ptwww@aip.acp.org.

▷ <http://www.aip.org/careersvc/> AIP's Career Services Division has job listings divided into three categories: academic; bachelor's positions; and government, nonprofit and other. The division also has a substantial list of other sites, including general employment sites and those of specific companies. Its home page, <http://www.aip.org/careers/>, has links to information on the division's Résumé Search Service and Bulletin Board. Many of AIP's member societies (see <http://www.aip.org/aip/memsoc.html> for links to all ten home pages) have job or résumé listings, resources for job seekers and links to a variety of other such sites.

▷ <http://xxx.lanl.gov/announce/jobs/> Better known for its preprint server, the Los Alamos site also maintains this automated forum for listing jobs. The list can be browsed by date, subject, author or "thread." Before submitting an announcement, check the instructions at <http://xxx.lanl.gov/announce/>.

▷ <http://www.tp.umu.se/TIPTOP/forum/jobs/> TIPTOP (The Internet Pilot TO Physics) has a well-organized list of jobs, divided into full-time positions, postdocs, PhD studentships and summer jobs. Keyword lists allow searching by subfield. Browsers can also sign up for services such as weekly e-mail announcements of new jobs and impending deadlines. TIPTOP, run by a collaboration of universities and the European Physical Society (EPS), now includes the "Physics Around the World" Web site of Umeå University (Sweden), McGill University and the Vienna University of Technology.

▷ <http://www.nikhef.nl/~ed/herpeter.html> The EPS has links to physics job lists in several European countries.

▷ To cast your net more widely, try the IEEE's extensive list of jobs, information and related links at <http://www.ieee.org/jobs.html> or the "Optics.Org" site of the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE), which has job listings and résumés at <http://butler.spie.org/employment/employmentforum.qry>.

Compiled by GRAHAM P. COLLINS