

Ramon Latorre de la Cruz, executive director of the Centro de Estudios Científicos de Santiago in Santiago, Chile

Raphael D. Levine, a professor of theoretical chemistry at Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel

Enid MacRobbie, a professor of plant biophysics at the University of Cambridge

Yakov G. Sinai, a professor of mathematics at Princeton University

Horst L. Stormer, a professor of physics and applied physics at Columbia University

Yasuyuki Yamada, president of the Nara Institute of Science and Technology in Nara, Japan

IN BRIEF

Anton Zeilinger has left the University of Innsbruck for the University of Vienna, where he has accepted the Chair of Experimental Physics.

In June, **Goetz Oertel** retired as president of the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy. **William Smith** has been named interim president until Oertel's successor is appointed.

The National Science Board has presented its organizational Public Service Award for 1999 to the producers of the Public Broadcasting System's television series *Bill Nye the Science Guy*. The production team includes executive producers **Elizabeth Brock**, **Erren Gottlieb**, and **James McKenna**, as well as host and head writer **Bill Nye**. The individual Public Service Award for 1999 was awarded to **Stephen Jay Gould**. Gould is the Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology and a professor of geology at Harvard University, and curator of invertebrate paleontology in the university's Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Ramon E. Lopez, director of education and outreach for the American Physical Society, has received the first Scientist in Education Achievement Award from the Space Science Institute for what the institute calls "his extraordinary efforts during the past 7 years to engage scientists in the science reform process."

Among the winners of the 1999 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's Steacie fellowships are **Mark Freeman**, an associate professor of physics at the University of Alberta; **Douglass Bonn**, an associate professor of physics at the University of British Columbia; and **Barbara Sherwood Lollar**, an associate professor of geology and di-

rector of the Stable Isotope Laboratory at the University of Toronto.

The UK's Institution of Electrical Engineers presented its 1998 Achievement Medal for Science, Education and Technology to **John Allen**, a professor emeritus of engineering science at the University of Oxford.

The European Space Agency has conferred its first Director of Science Medals on four European astronomers for their roles in the Hipparcos mission: **Jean Kovalevsky** of the Cote d'Azur Observatory in Grasse, France; **Erik Høg** of the Copenhagen University Ob-

servatory in Denmark; **Catherine Turon** of the Paris Observatory in Meudon, France; and **Lennart Lindegren** of the Lund Observatory in Sweden.

At its annual meeting in October, the National Academy of Engineering will present its 1999 Founders Award to **Stephen D. Bechtel Jr.**, chairman emeritus and director of the Bechtel Group in San Francisco and the first NAE chairman (1982–1986). He is being cited "for his exceptional accomplishments in civil engineering, corporate management, and civic, educational and professional development."

OBITUARIES

Bjørn Wiik

News of Bjørn Wiik's untimely death was greeted with disbelief and profound sadness by his friends and particle physicists all around the world. The director of the German Electron-Synchrotron (DESY), Wiik died on 26 February after having an accident while cutting down trees in his garden near Hamburg. Wiik shaped his field, experimental particle physics, through his outstanding contributions to experiment and accelerator technology, as well as through his success as a science innovator and administrator.

Born on 17 February 1937 in Bruvik, Norway, Wiik studied physics at the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany, where he earned his diploma in 1963 and his PhD in 1965. He then moved to Stanford University and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, where he worked on particle production using photon beams.

In 1972, he returned to Germany and joined the staff of DESY. Despite many tempting offers from abroad, he remained in Hamburg for the rest of his career—first as a physics professor at the University of Hamburg and later, from 1993 on, as the director of DESY.

Wiik was a leading member of the DASP collaboration at DESY's first electron-positron storage ring, DORIS, which in 1975 discovered the P-wave charmonium states. The discovery proved that the J/ψ is a bound state of the charmed quark and its antiquark, which gave birth to the rich field of heavy quark spectroscopy. Many still remember Wiik's talk at the lepton-photon symposium at Stanford in 1975 in which he presented the P-wave charmonium discovery in his typically quiet, utterly convincing way.

In 1976, he started working at the PETRA electron-positron storage ring



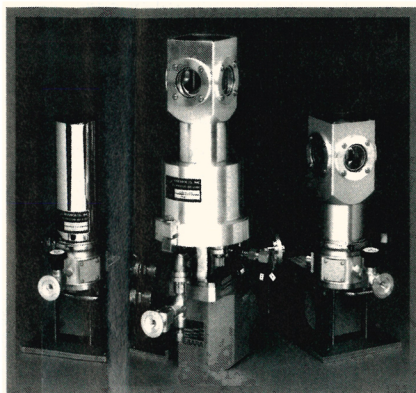
BJØRN H. WIIK

with the TASSO collaboration. Three years later, the collaboration announced the first evidence of three-jet events in electron-positron collision, and thereby got credit for having made the first direct observation of the gluon. (In three-jet events, one of the two quarks created in the annihilation of an electron and positron radiates a gluon, leading to a third jet of particles.)

Wiik developed a strong interest in accelerators during his early days at Stanford and maintained it throughout his career. In 1972, he studied the question of whether the electron-positron collider DORIS could be used as an electron-proton storage ring to achieve higher resolution in the structure analysis of the nucleon in deep inelastic scattering.

He returned to this idea when he initiated the HERA electron-proton collider project, which was approved in 1984. Gustav-Adolf Voss was responsible for the electron ring and the civil engineering, while Wiik became the driving force behind the 820 GeV superconducting proton ring. This very

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high proton energy was a consequence of Wiik's conviction that it was essential to reach a center-of-mass energy high enough for the electromagnetic and weak forces to become equal in strength.

With the untiring support of Volker Soergel, then director of DESY, Wiik assembled a team of scientists and technicians from around the world to work on the proton ring and to master the very challenging construction phase in the face of the team's near-complete lack of previous experience with superconducting magnets. HERA began operating in 1992, and it continues to yield a wealth of new results about the structure of matter, such as the discovery of the high density of constituents in the proton.

As DESY director, Wiik started in 1993 to prepare for the organization's long-term future. His guiding principle was scientific excellence. In particular, he looked to build on DESY's effective marriage of particle physics and applied synchrotron radiation that directly led to a proposal for a superconducting linear electron-positron collider with an integrated x-ray free electron laser, TESLA. For particle physics, such a collider would provide energies of 500 GeV and above at very high luminosities, which are essential for understanding the generation of mass, for example. The free electron laser, which would provide a source of radiation of unprecedented quality in the x-ray domain, would find application in solid-state physics, chemistry, and biology.

Wiik gained broad national and international support for this project, which has made excellent progress within the framework of the TESLA collaboration. It has led to the reliable production of superconducting cavities with accelerating voltages exceeding 25 MV/m, and the first beams have been accelerated in DESY's TESLA test facility. The first proof-of-principle of the laser is expected this year, and a technical design report will be completed by 2001.

Wiik was an untiring advocate of particle physics in particular and science in general, and he was honored in many ways. He will be remembered for his outstanding achievements, especially as a scientist, administrator, and innovator. His personal qualities were also compelling. In his soft-spoken way, he impressed and convinced people and got them to listen carefully to his arguments. His charm was captivating, his enthusiasm contagious. He was universally admired as a person of vision with the strength to make his vision become reality.

ALBRECHT WAGNER

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