is more that physics department faculties can and should do to expand options for their graduates.

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Science in Franco's Spain

I was pleasantly surprised to see a full two-page article devoted to Spanish physicists (PHYSICS TODAY, August 2001, page 20).

In 1964, I was a research collaborator in the neutron diffraction group at Brookhaven National Laboratory. I came back to Spain in 1975, just after Francisco Franco died, and found a number of colleagues, including Julio Palacios, Luis Bru, Nicolas Cabrera, Fernando Agulló, Basilio Jiménez, and Federico Garcia Molíner, doing significant work in solid-state physics. Of course, in the following years, research activity in both theoretical and experimental physics increased greatly in Spain. But the initial impetus was already quite visible in 1976.

So I think it is a little unfair for Toni Feder to begin her article by suggesting that Franco's government was doing nothing to promote physics in Spain. Franco's image in his final years was more one of a benign elder statesman than a fascist dictator. Perhaps Franco's unforgivable sin was that he won a decisive victory over communism—decisive for his country and for Western Europe. He did this with the help of Texas Oil Co president Torkhild Rieber,[1] who extended credit to the nationalists during the war and gave them all the oil they needed.[2] Among Franco's good deeds was the establishment of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas. A plaque in the CSIC building on Serrano Street in Madrid commemorates this act.

References

1. R. La Cierva, *Historia total de la Guerra de España*, Editorial Fénix, Madrid (1997).
2. R. La Cierva, *Hacienda pública Española* **46**, 115 (1977).

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Fano Footnote

I have a note to add to the obituary for Ugo Fano (PHYSICS TODAY, September 2001, page 73), namely, that he wrote an excellent textbook, *Physics of Atoms and Molecules: An Introduction to the Structure of Matter* (U. of Chicago Press, 1972). The book is illustrated with beautiful hand drawings by his wife, Camilla Fano, the second author. I learned to appreciate the book when I adopted it to teach an advanced atomic physics course at the University of Munich. I still find it worth consulting.

In 1985, I had a chance to meet Ugo Fano in Copenhagen. He told me that he didn't know why that book did not sell very well.

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Corrections

January 2002, page 21—The quotation attributed to Thomas Prettyman, a technical staff member at Los Alamos National Laboratory, should have been attributed to LANL technical staff member Rob York.

February 2002, page 67—The photograph identified as that of MacArthur Fellow Brooks Pate actually showed another MacArthur fellow. ■