

Bjorken, Callan Win Dirac Medal

On 8 August, the birth date of Nobel laureate Paul Dirac, the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy, announced that **James D. Bjorken** and **Curtis G. Callan** are this year's recipients of the Dirac Medal, which honors contributions to theoretical physics and mathematics.

The two winners were cited for their "theoretical investigations in the 1960s and 1970s, which led to the use of deep inelastic scattering for shedding light on the nature of strong interactions." Bjorken, professor emeritus



Bjorken

Callan

on the high-energy physics faculty at SLAC, was the first to perceive the importance of deep inelastic scattering and the first to comprehend the scaling of cross sections, now called Bjorken scaling.

Callan, professor of physics at Princeton University, and Kurt Symanzik (now deceased) reinvented the perturbative renormalization group—in a form now known as the Callan–Symanzik equations—and recognized that these equations are measures of scale invariance anomalies. Callan applied this version of the renormalization group to the analysis of deep inelastic scattering and made "substantial contributions to particle physics," including, more recently, to string theory, according to the citation.

Each Dirac medallist receives a cash prize of \$5000.

AAPT Bestows Honors

The American Association of Physics Teachers held its 129th national meeting in Sacramento, California, in July. At the gathering, AAPT presented awards to the following individuals for their contributions to physics education and research.

The Klopsteg Memorial Award went this year to **Anton Zeilinger**, professor of physics at the University of Vienna and codirector of the Institute of Quantum Optics and Quantum Information of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. AAPT praised Zeilinger and his experimental quantum physics research group, who have "realized in experiment many fundamental predictions of quantum theory and so proved their amazing consequences for our view of the world."

Kenneth S. Krane, emeritus professor of physics at Oregon State University in Corvallis, received the Robert A. Millikan Award. According to the association, Krane has distinguished himself as a physicist throughout his career in four areas: "research, education, authorship, and administration."

Robert W. Brown took home the Excellence in Undergraduate Physics Teaching Award. He was cited by AAPT for the achievements of his 34-year teaching and research career that has centered on undergraduate education and research in the physics department at Case Western Reserve University. Brown is an Institute Professor of Physics at the university.

The Excellence in Pre-College Physics Teaching Award recipient was **James L. Hicks**, who retired from Barrington High School in Barrington, Illinois, after teaching physics there for 37 years. He was honored by AAPT for his significant contributions to science education on the national, state, and local levels.

In Brief

This month, **Robert Birgeneau** joined the University of California, Berkeley, as its ninth chancellor, succeeding **Robert Berdahl**, who will return to the Berkeley faculty after a year-long sabbatical. Birgeneau comes to Berkeley from the University of Toronto, where he had served four years as president.

In July, **J. Anthony Tyson** became a member of the University of California, Davis, physics faculty as a distinguished professor. He is also now the director of the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope project, in which the university is a partner. Tyson previously was affiliated with Lucent Technologies' Bell Labs as a distinguished member of the technical staff.

Michael F. Thorpe has joined Arizona State University in Tempe as Foundation Professor to set up a new group in biophysics theory. He holds joint appointments in the departments of physics and astronomy and of chemistry and biochemistry, and in the Arizona Biodesign Institute. He previously was a university distinguished professor in the physics and astronomy department at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Pierre Hohenberg became New York University's senior vice provost for research this past May. Hohenberg relocated to NYU from Yale University, where he was the Eugene Higgins Adjunct Professor of Physics and Applied Physics and had served as Yale's deputy provost for science and technology from 1995 to 2003.

Maw-Kuen Wu, former director of the Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, in Taipei, Taiwan, was appointed in May as minister of the National Science Council of Taiwan.

Gary Sanders joined the Thirty Meter Telescope project in April as its project manager. The TMT is a collaboration of the Association of Canadian Universities for Research in Astronomy, the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Caltech, and the University of California. Sanders had been the project manager and deputy director of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory.

The Welch Foundation is bestowing this year's Welch Award in Chemistry on **Allen Bard**, Norman Hackerman–Welch Regents Chair in Chemistry at the University of Texas at Austin. Bard is being acknowledged for his "lifetime achievements in basic electrochemistry research. His work has led to such applications as self-cleaning glass, photocell production of computer memory and the use of light to decompose pollutants." The citation adds that Bard is "responsible for such inventions as the scanning electrochemical microscope, which has improved scientists' ability to study surface structures and measure reaction rates." The award, scheduled to be presented this month at the foundation's conference in Houston, Texas, includes a cash prize of \$300 000.