

Applications for congressional fellowships are due early in 2005. AIP will not sponsor a congressional fellow next year. For details about member society programs, see http://www.agu.org/sci_soc/policy (AGU); http://www.aps.org/public_affairs/fellow (APS); and <http://www.osa.org/publicpolicy/fellowships> (OSA). White House fellowships are also open to scientists. Applications are due on 1 February 2005. For details see <http://www.whitehouse.gov/fellows>.

longer-term comprehensive energy policy. That's what I get to do," she says. Thomas's connections to Holt go way back: As an undergraduate at Swarthmore College, she took a physics course he taught, and he has been her congressman for part of her 15 years working on arms control and energy sustainability at Princeton University. "I am really pleased to be doing this as someone who has experience under my belt, and I want to encourage other mid-career people to do it—even if it means a pay cut," says Thomas. After the fellowship she will join Georgia Tech as an associate professor in the school of industrial and systems engineering.

Jana Davis, this year's AGU fellow, left a tenure-track position to become a fellow in Sen. Frank Lautenberg's (D-NJ) office. Davis expects her portfolio to include her area of expertise, shoreline erosion and its ef-

fects on ecology. Two key figures in ocean policymaking are retiring, she says, "so it will be interesting to see what happens and who picks up the reins." **Toni Feder**

News Notes

Canadian academies. Higher visibility and greater impact on policymaking are what scientists in Canada say the Canadian Academies of Science augurs. In October, Prime Minister Paul Martin said the new body will "operate at arm's length from government," will be "a source of expert advice on scientific aspects of important domestic and international issues, and will give our country a prestigious voice among the choir of international science groups."

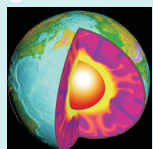
The Canadian Academies of Science will be an umbrella to three existing organizations: the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering, and the Canadian Institute of Academic Medicine. In both structure and function, it is parallel to the US National Academies. The Canadian academies will receive Can\$3.5 million (US\$2.85 million) a year for 10 years from the government.

The announcement of the academies is the second bit of recent good news for Canadian science: Earlier this year, the government created the position of science adviser (see PHYSICS TODAY, March 2004, page 32). **TF ■**

WEB WATCH

<http://www.edge.org/documents/archive/edge145.html>

Since 1996, the online magazine *The Edge* has covered developments in science and society. In a recent issue, two physicists, Lee Smolin of the Perimeter Institute and Len Susskind of Stanford University, debate the merits of the anthropic principle. The debate, **Smolin vs. Susskind: The Anthropic Principle**, takes the form of an e-mail exchange followed by closing arguments.



<http://geomag.usgs.gov>

The **National Geomagnetism Program** of the US Geological Survey provides calibration, measurement, and other services to clients in government, academia, and business. But it also offers the general public a host of educational resources about Earth's magnetic field, including movies of how the field fluctuates.

http://www.physics.colostate.edu/hadley_html

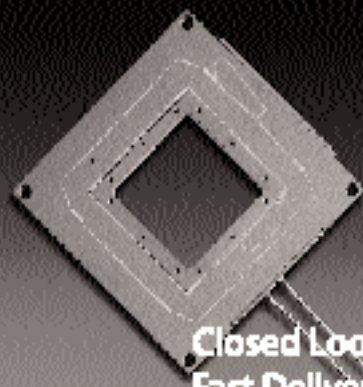
For reassurance that Earth is indeed rotating, you can watch the precession of the Foucault pendulum installed in the physics department at Colorado State University. Named in honor of CSU physicist Lawrence Hadley, the **Hadley Pendulum** has an oscillation period of 5 seconds and precesses at about 10° per hour. Three webcams observe its progress.



To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please visit <http://www.physicstoday.org/suggestwebwatch.html>.

Compiled and edited by **Charles Day**

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