

Untangling complex signals

Introducing the Comm Analyzer



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Circle number 19 on Reader Service Card

management contract for Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico was not extended, and a new contract will be awarded by 30 September 2005, after competitive bidding. The timetable has not been set for bidding on the contract for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the third DOE lab managed by UC. Security and financial scandals at Los Alamos triggered the DOE action to open bidding on that contract, and Congress followed with a requirement that several other lab contracts be opened to competition.

The UC regents haven't officially decided that the university will compete for the contracts, which date back to the founding of the labs, but school officials have indicated they will fight hard to keep them. Contract extensions of a year or more were also granted to DOE's six other national laboratories.

JLD

LBLN director steps down. Charles Shank, director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for the past 15 years, announced he is leaving the position and returning to a faculty post at the University of California, Berkeley. Shank, 60, the longest-serving Department of Energy national lab director, said he felt he had "accomplished what I've come here to do," and noted that "any institution needs new leadership after 15 years."

University of California President Robert Dynes said in a prepared

statement that Shank "has made a major contribution to the cause of scientific advancement in this country." In addition to overseeing a lab that is a major center for x-ray science with the Advanced Light Source x-ray synchrotron, Shank said he takes "great satisfaction" from having been a member of the Joint Genome Institute, which is a collaboration between Brookhaven, Lawrence Livermore, and Los Alamos national laboratories.

Dynes said Shank will play an important role in the university's effort to keep the lab's management contract when it is put up for bid by DOE at the end of 2005. Dynes said he is launching "an immediate nationwide search for a new laboratory director."

JLD

CERN stamp. Switzerland has issued

a postage stamp honoring the 50th birthday of CERN, the particle and nuclear physics laboratory on the Swiss-French border. The stamp, for overseas letters, marks the start of a series of events celebrating the lab's first half-century. A recap of the scientific milestones and a schedule of events planned in CERN's 20 member states is available on the Web at <http://info.web.cern.ch/info/ES/CERN50>. A commemorative monthly calendar can also be downloaded from



WEB WATCH

<http://www.cs.umd.edu/~oleary/faculty/whole.html>

Five years ago, the paucity of women in computer science departments prompted the University of Maryland's Diana O'Leary to write a set of thought-provoking discussion points entitled **Accessibility of Computer Science: A Reflection for Faculty Members**. Perhaps not surprisingly, most of O'Leary's points apply with equal validity to physics departments.

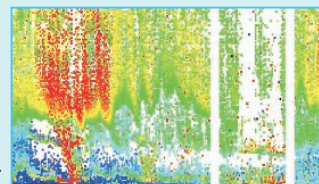
<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/6/4/index-e.html>



In 1965, the National Library of Canada established the Theses Canada program to archive all the academic theses produced in that country. Now, as part of the program, many of those theses have been made available online in their entirety through the **Theses Canada Portal**.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/IONO/Dynasonde>

Ionosondes send radio pulses up into space and measure the strength, frequency, and travel time of the pulses that bounce back from the ionosphere. NOAA's **Dynasonde** project uses ionosondes to monitor the dynamics of the ionosphere. On the project's Web site are interactive graphics that chart the ionosphere's current state.



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

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