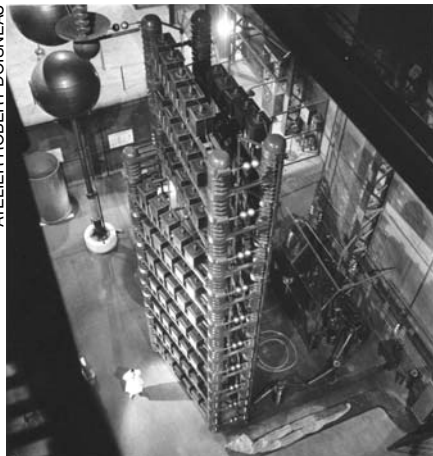




ments, and a cyclotron log book from the time of Germany's occupation of France. Both the photo above and part of the 12-m-high, 3-MV impulse generator it depicts are in the exhibit. **TF**

**OSTP scientists move to NIST, NSF.** Two deputy directors at the Office of Science and Technology Policy have



Jeffrey

Olsen

been nominated by President Bush to move to more influential management positions in government. Astronomer William Jeffrey, who spent much of his career working on defense and national-security issues, will become the director of NIST; Kathie Olsen, associate director for science at OSTP, will become the deputy director of NSF. Jeffrey, the senior director for homeland and national security and the assistant director for space and aeronautics at OSTP, is expected to continue NIST's work on developing technology for the federal government's electronic identification systems. Jeffrey has a PhD in astronomy. Olsen, who has a PhD in neuroscience, was acting deputy director for NSF's division of integrative biology and neuroscience in the mid-1990s. She became NASA's chief scientist in 1999 and moved to OSTP in 2002. At press time, both Jeffrey and Olsen were expected to be easily confirmed by the Senate. **JLD**

**European women in science.** A stronger voice for women scientists in the research policy debate is the overarching goal of the European Platform of Women Scientists, an umbrella organization that is getting started with C2 million (\$2.5 million) in seed money from the European Commission.

To begin with, the platform is linking existing networks of women scientists through an open-source electronic forum for exchanging information and organizing advocacy activities.

The most pressing issues are "empowering women scientists in their careers and bringing the gender issue into the mainstream of discourse," says project coordinator Brigitte Muehlenbruch. Across Europe, she notes, Latvia has the highest percentage (23%) of women in senior academic staff positions in the natural sciences and engineering; by comparison, France has 16%, the UK 14%, and Germany 8%; taking up the rear is Malta, with 2%.

For purposes of the platform, science is broadly defined: Membership is open to organizations and individual researchers in any field that is taught at the university level. For more information, visit <http://www.epws.org>. **TF**

**Intel prizes.** Projects in space science, chemistry, and behavioral and social sciences took the grand prizes in this year's Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, the world's largest pre-college science competition. More

than 1400 high-school students from 45 countries made it to the finals, which were held in May in Phoenix, Arizona.

Gabrielle Gianelli, 17, of Orlando, Florida, had the most physics-related project of the three top winners. By applying fractal geometry to a topographic map of Mars, she identified a possible ancient coastline. The other top prizes went to Ameen Abdulrasool, 18, of Chicago, Illinois, for developing a navigational system for the blind



Gianelli

that combines GPS technology with verbal, directional, and vibrational signals, and to Stephen Schultz, 19, of Gelsenkirchen, Germany, for his electrochemical analysis of flavonoids, radical inhibitors that may combat cancer and other diseases. Each won a \$50 000 college scholarship and other prizes.

These and other Intel prizes, plus a slew of awards by other sponsors given out through the science fair, totaled \$3 million. **TF ■**

## WEB WATCH

<http://www.eh.doe.gov/ohre>

From the early 1940s through the cold war, US government scientists conducted radiation experiments on human subjects. To preserve and make public that troubling history, the Department of Energy in 1994 formed the **Office of Human Radiation Experiments**. The office's website provides access to a growing collection of documents, oral histories, and photographs.



<http://www.vertic.org/trustandverify.html>

**Trust & Verify** is a bimonthly newsletter devoted to developments in the verification of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and other pacts that preserve and promote peace. The newsletter is published by VERTIC, an independent, non-governmental organization based in London.

<http://eqworld.ipmnet.ru>

Under the editorship of Moscow-based mathematician Andrei Polyaniin, **EqWorld** provides general solutions to many types of equations that scientists and engineers are likely to encounter. The website also includes articles and reading lists.



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

*Compiled and edited by Charles Day*