

95th Indian science congress. "We need a quantum jump in science education and research," he said.

The announcement came days after India launched the first of three new nanotechnology institutes as part of a five-year 9.8 billion rupee (US \$250 million) nanotechnology initiative. The initiative is to stop India from falling further behind China, the US, and the European Union, said Singh. The new institute, based at Bengaluru in the southern state of Karnataka, will open in 2009.

This is not the first time the Indian government has provided funds or a five-year strategy for nanotechnology, but the scale of the endeavor is 10 times larger than previous efforts. The new strategy is being led by a dozen academics and industrialists involved in nanotechnology and headed by C. N. R. Rao, president of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore and chairman of India's science advisory council. **PKG**

New CERN DG. The CERN Council has appointed Rolf-Dieter Heuer to succeed Robert Aymar as CERN's director general. Since 2004 Heuer has been the research director for particle and astroparticle physics at Germany's Electron Synchrotron (DESY) in Hamburg. He will start his five-year term at CERN on 1 January 2009.

Between 1984 and 1998, Heuer worked for the OPAL experiments on CERN's Large Electron-Positron Collider. He then took a professorship at the University of Hamburg, where he established a group working on preparations for experiments at a possible

future electron-positron collider. He will start at CERN just as the first results from its Large Hadron Collider become available (see *PHYSICS TODAY*, September 2007, page 32, and November 2007, page 26).

"This is a very exciting time for particle physics," says Heuer. "To become CERN's director general for the early years of LHC operation is a great honor, a great challenge, and probably the best job in physics research today. I'm looking forward to working with CERN's community of personnel and researchers from around the world as we embark on this great adventure." **PKG**

CERN



Heuer

AIP awards and prizes. Yu Lu, a theoretical physicist and research fellow in the institute of physics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is the recipient of the 2008 Tate Medal for International Leadership in Physics from the American Institute of Physics (AIP). The medal, named for the late John Torrence Tate, a former president of the American Physical Society, recognizes distinguished service to the physics profession by a non-US national. Yu, an APS fellow, is cited for landmark contributions in "bringing together the world's condensed matter physics community, the support of young scientists, the creation of important international conferences, and international statesmanship in theoretical physics." The medal and a check for \$10 000 will be awarded at the APS March Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Also at the March Meeting, AIP, APS, and the Heineman Foundation will jointly award the 2008 Dannie Heineman Prize for Mathematical Physics to Mitchell Feigenbaum of Rockefeller University for "developing the theory of deterministic chaos . . . and for profound influence of these discoveries on our understanding of nonlinear phenomena." His work in chaos theory has led to the so-called Feigenbaum constants. The prize consists of a certificate and \$7500.

In January, AIP and the American Astronomical Society named Andrew Fabian, professor of astronomy at the University of Cambridge, the recipient of the 2008 Dannie Heineman Prize for

Astrophysics for his "innovative and influential work in the field of x-ray astronomy." His research areas include black holes, neutron stars, and the x-ray background. Fabian is editor-in-chief of *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. He will receive \$7500 and a certificate.

Also awarded at the AAS meeting was AIP's 2007 Andrew W. Gemant Award for physics in culture. It was given to Andrew Fraknoi, an astrophysicist and physics professor at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills, California. Fraknoi received a \$5000 prize. He also designated an additional grant of \$3000 to be split between Foothill College and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, where he served as executive director, to further the communication of physics to the public. **JNAM ■**

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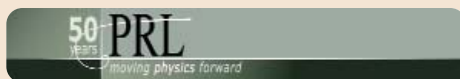
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<http://prl.aps.org/50years>

This July marks the 50th anniversary of the world's premier physics journal, *Physical Review Letters*. To learn about the planned celebrations, and to suggest some yourself, visit the journal's special anniversary website.



<http://mapecos.org/map>

MapEcos displays air-quality information about industrial facilities in the US. The information appears in the form of an interactive map and comes from the Environmental Protection Agency and—voluntarily—from the facilities themselves.

