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3. J. J. Pérez Camacho, I. Sols Lucía, *Rev. Filos.* 7(12), 455 (1994), p. 471, available at <http://www.ucm.es/BUCM/revistas/fsl/00348244/articulos/RESF9494220455A.PDF>.

4. W. A. Wallace, in *Texts and Contexts in Ancient and Medieval Science*, E. Sylla, M. McVaugh, eds., Brill, Leiden, the Netherlands (1997), p. 286.

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Making partners of universities and corporations

I commend PHYSICS TODAY for its publication of the story "Universities and Industry Find Roadblocks to R&D Partnering" (PHYSICS TODAY, May 2008, page 20). The author indicates a number of sore spots in university-industry partnerships, especially the negotiation of intellectual property rights in research agreements. The University-Industry Demonstration Partnership, of which I am a past president, has been doing important work in providing a neutral forum, under the auspices of the National Academies, for open and frank discussions between companies and universities about their differences and their commonalities. Issues for discussion include contract negotiations, IP rights in collaborative research, the Bayh-Dole Act, competition from overseas research organizations, Internal Revenue Service policies on the use of buildings financed through tax-exempt bonds, and open source collaborations. The UIDP is interested in improving and streamlining connections between companies and universities for their mutual benefit, the betterment of society, and the country's economic security.

The UIDP strives to remain objective and politically neutral. It fosters the free and open expression of frustrations so they do not silently eat away at mutual trust. The partnership encourages the parties to seek common ground and a shared vision and, when that doesn't work, to look for adequate compromise.

Currently the UIDP has 94 members, one-third of them from industry. Our industrial membership is quite evenly spread over health and life sciences, chemicals and materials, information technology, and consumer products manufacturing. Our university membership is also a mix of land grant colleges and universities, state and other public institutions of higher education,

and private institutions.

The UIDP hopes to continue its work and to connect even more companies and academic institutions.

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Correcting the record of manmade VLF radiation

The story by Charles Day (PHYSICS TODAY, August 2008, page 18) on the effects of very low-frequency radio waves on trapped electrons in the radiation belts describes interesting results obtained on the interaction of man-made VLF radiation with radiation-belt particles.¹

Unfortunately, the PHYSICS TODAY piece contains several errors.

► The absence of radiation in a region of the North Atlantic Ocean is depicted in figure 3 of Day's story—conjugate to the region of radiation detected by the instruments of Jean-André Sauvaud and coworkers¹ at 700 km in the South Atlantic Anomaly. That absence is not because of the loss of that radiation by precipitation into the atmosphere but because the northern particle mirror points conjugate to the South Atlantic Anomaly radiation lie at altitudes well above the altitude of the satellite carrying the instruments of Sauvaud's team.

► In the South Atlantic in late August and early September 1958, there were three nuclear tests, not one as the author states.

► The first artificial aurora created by a nuclear test was the result of the Teak test in early August 1958, albeit at low latitudes near the Pacific test site of Johnson Island.

► The treaty prohibiting tests in the atmosphere, in space, and under water had a far more complex ancestry than just the results and effects of Starfish Prime, as stated by the author. Widespread concerns regarding the biological effects of fallout and the desire to tamp down the arms race were the major factors that led to the limited test ban treaty of 1963.

Reference

1. J.-A. Sauvaud, R. Maggiolo, C. Jacquey, M. Parrot, J.-J. Berthelier, R. J. Gamble, C. J. Rodger, *Geophys. Res. Lett.* **35**, L09101 (2008), doi:10.1029/2008GL033194.

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