

dents, warn Haghighat and colleagues.

The FAS report recommended further in-depth examinations of the issues raised in the Haghighat paper.

David Kramer

## news notes

**HAWC inauguration.** With its 300th detector tank in place, the High-Altitude Water Cherenkov Observatory (HAWC) marked its completion on 20 March. Located at an altitude of 4100 m on the flank of the Sierra Negra, an extinct volcano east of Mexico City, the observatory keeps a constant lookout for high-energy gamma rays; data-taking began in August 2013 with a partial array (see PHYSICS TODAY, October 2013, page 22).

HAWC detects Cherenkov radiation from charged particles speeding through its 190 000-liter tanks of water. The particles originate from high-energy (100-GeV to 100-TeV) gamma rays colliding with the atmosphere.

Among the HAWC goals are to map TeV sources in the Milky Way and detect transient emissions from active galaxies and other sources. Unlike most Cherenkov telescopes, which are more sensitive but can only observe small patches of the sky, “we look at the entire overhead sky, so we have a reasonable chance of catching a gamma-ray burst,” says spokesman Jordan Goodman of the University of Maryland at College Park. HAWC will also watch for signals

of dark matter in dwarf galaxies and of primordial black holes. It will collect about 2 terabytes of data each day.

The US–Mexico facility was completed on time and on budget, with the US ponying up about three-quarters of the \$14 million in construction and Mexico covering the rest. The HAWC collaboration includes scientists from 15 institutions in the US and 14 in Mexico, plus a few participants from Poland and Costa Rica. Images of the site are

updated roughly every 20 seconds at <http://www.webcamsdemexico.com> (click on Pico de Orizaba). TF

**Job hunting for physicists.** Physics professors often know little about career paths outside academia. And students may not know what jobs to look for or how to market themselves. A short and easy fact sheet sets out to help faculty and career counselors help physics bachelor’s recipients find and get jobs that use their skills. The guide is part of the Career Pathways Project conducted by the Education Division and the Statistical Research Center of the American Institute of Physics.

One challenge in the search is that job titles often don’t include the word “physics”; the fact sheet lists more than three dozen examples, from programmer to product manager. Another challenge is that hirers may not know what skills a physics graduate has.

The sheet encourages students to stress their specific skills and capabilities, rather than to rely on their degree qualification, to catch the eye of prospective employers. Typical abilities honed during the undergraduate physics experience might be critical thinking, inventiveness, problem solving, computer programming, and teamwork.

The fact sheet also includes a list of online databases to help physics bachelors in their job search. *Connecting Physics Students to Career Opportunities* is available at <http://www.aip.org/statistics/reports/fact-sheet-connecting-physics-students-career-opportunities>. TF ■



HAWC

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### ◀ The Dayside

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