

FY89 FUSION FUNDING PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN

President Reagan's FY89 budget, submitted to Congress on February 18, proposes \$74.3 million for the continuation of research on the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) and \$27 million in funding for R&D, design, and initial construction of Compact Ignition Tokamak (CIT). The budget must now be approved by Congress.

"We are encouraged by the strong support for the Laboratory's work that is demonstrated in President Reagan's Budget for 1989," noted PPPL Director Harold P. Furth. "This level of funding will enable us to proceed vigorously with our plans for

TFTR, including preparations underway for the attainment of 'scientific breakeven'. The budget also supports progress in the design and engineering of CIT during 1989. Our goal is to bring the new experiment on-line during the mid 1990's, after TFTR is shut down."

TFTR's primary goal is the attainment of "scientific breakeven," where the fusion power produced by the plasma equals the auxiliary heating power required to maintain the plasma at reactor temperatures. The objective of CIT will be to demonstrate an ignited plasma, which will keep itself hot dur-

ing pulses lasting a few seconds, without the need for auxiliary heating.

Both TFTR and CIT are designed to use small quantities of plasma fuel consisting of deuterium and tritium, the heavy isotopes of hydrogen. To date only hydrogen and deuterium have been used in fusion experiments. A deuterium-tritium fuel mixture is required for the breakeven and ignition experiments. The President's FY89 TFTR budget would allow PPPL to proceed with the testing of tritium storage and handling systems in late 1988, using minute amounts of tritium. Breakeven experiments on TFTR could then begin at the end of 1990.○

Employee Assistance Program Begins Confidentiality a Key Element

PPPL has contracted with the Corporate Health Department of the Medical Center at Princeton to provide a more complete program of assistance to PPPL employees and their families. The PPPL Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is designed to help employees and family members deal with interpersonal problems in the workplace or home, emotional difficulties, stress, substance dependence, as well as legal and financial crises. The primary goal of the EAP is to retain valued employees.

The Medical Center maintains 800 telephone numbers which are available to employees and their families 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In New Jersey the number is 1-800-624-

1754 and in Pennsylvania 1-800-527-6035. The Medical Center will not identify PPPL employees who utilize the EAP or discuss their problems with PPPL supervisors or management.

Entry into the EAP is usually by self-referral by the employee or family member. A telephone call to the above numbers will set up an initial meeting with a Medical Center staff member. In acute emergency cases the caller will be referred to a local facility with which the Center has a relationship. At the initial meeting the nature and magnitude of the problem is explored and a "game plan" formed for resolving it. Relatively minor problems may be addressed in a few additional counseling sessions at the Center. More

complex situations involving long-term counseling or financial or legal counseling are handled by referral to other agencies.

Another means of entry into the EAP is via supervisor referral. If an employee's work performance has deteriorated to the point where supervisory intervention is necessary, the supervisor will suggest to the employee that he or she contact the Center in order to resolve the problem which is interfering with the employee's work performance. If the employee participates in the rehabilitation in good faith, the supervisor will normally withhold disciplinary or other administrative action pending the outcome.

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A mainstay of the Employee Assistance Program is the confidential handling of the employee's identity and problem by the Medical Center. In cases where the supervisor referred the employee in lieu of disciplinary or other administrative action the supervisor will be kept informed of the employee's cooperation, but details of the problem and its treatment will not be released. The Medical Center will not furnish additional information to the Laboratory supervisor or PPPL management. The Center will provide the Laboratory Medical Director with statistical reports on a quarterly basis but these reports will not identify or discuss individual cases.

The cost of the contract with the Medical Center is covered by the Laboratory as an employee benefit. Employees and family members living with them are welcome to utilize this service as often as they wish. There is no limit to the number of problems an individual may consult the Center about. If the nature of the problem is such that long-term counseling or in-patient treatment, or legal or financial counseling are necessary, the cost of these services are the employee or family member's responsibility. The University health insurance benefit program will cover those services to the extent normally included in the program as usual medical expenses.

Announcements

Joseph A. Wiencko, Jr., Associated Director Fiber and Electro-Optics Research Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, will

present two lectures on Fiber Optics Fundamentals and Applications. The lectures will be held on March 3 and 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the MBG Auditorium, LOB, C-Site. Contact John Lowrance, ext. 3374, for further details.

The 1988 Sherwood Theory Conference also known as the Annual Controlled Fusion Theory Conference will be April 18-20 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Contact Barbara Sarfaty, ext. 2440, for details.

TRANSITIONS

The HOTLINE offers its congratulations to the following employees, who recently became proud parents:

Nat Fisch in the Theory Division and his wife, Tobe, whose son, Jacob Mandel, was born November 5.

Bill Zimmer in the Vacuum Shop and his wife, Vivian, whose son, Jeffrey Douglas, was born February 7.

Winter Getaway Offered

The Princeton University Education Center at Blairstown, N.J. is once again offering its "Winter Weekend" to University faculty, staff, students, and their families and friends. Scheduled for 26, 27, and 28 February, the cost is \$65 per adult, \$45 for students, and \$30 for children 12 and under. Advance registration is required with a nonrefundable deposit of \$25 per per-

son or \$50 per family. All meals and accommodations are included. The weekend begins Friday at 6:00 p.m. with check-in and a light supper and ends with Sunday brunch, about 3:00 p.m. The activities are varied and include snow hiking, ice skating, cross country skiing, ice fishing, and evening slide shows around a cozy fireplace. Meals are served family style. Call the Princeton Education Center at Blairstown, 201-362-6765, to make your reservations. Reservations are limited to 60 and will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

If space is available, reservations for Saturday arrival will be accepted. Cost is \$55 per adult, \$35 for students, and \$20 for children 12 and under.

'Lending' Library of Tapes

If you're interested in seeing videotapes of PPPL's video magazine, "In Focus," or some of the other tapes on various subjects, you can borrow these overnight from the Photography Services Section, located in LOB, Room A138.

Call ext. 2090 if you have any questions.

Princeton University and Laboratory policy state that bi-weekly employees are entitled to 20 minutes break time each day. How this is divided, e.g., one 20-minute break or two 10-minute breaks is at the discretion of the Division Head.

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