Physics at Work 2012

Bookings for the 28th annual *Physics at Work* exhibition opened a couple of months ago, and all the spaces are now taken. This unique exhibition runs for three days, this year from 18th until 20th September, with two sessions each day (morning sessions begin at 9am and afternoon sessions at 1pm). During each half day session school groups will see six different exhibits, selected by the organisers to include both internal and industrial exhibitors, and show the many varied ways in which physics is used in the real world. We are delighted to welcome both seasoned and new exhibitors to the event once again this year, bringing our total number of exhibits for 2012 to twenty-four.

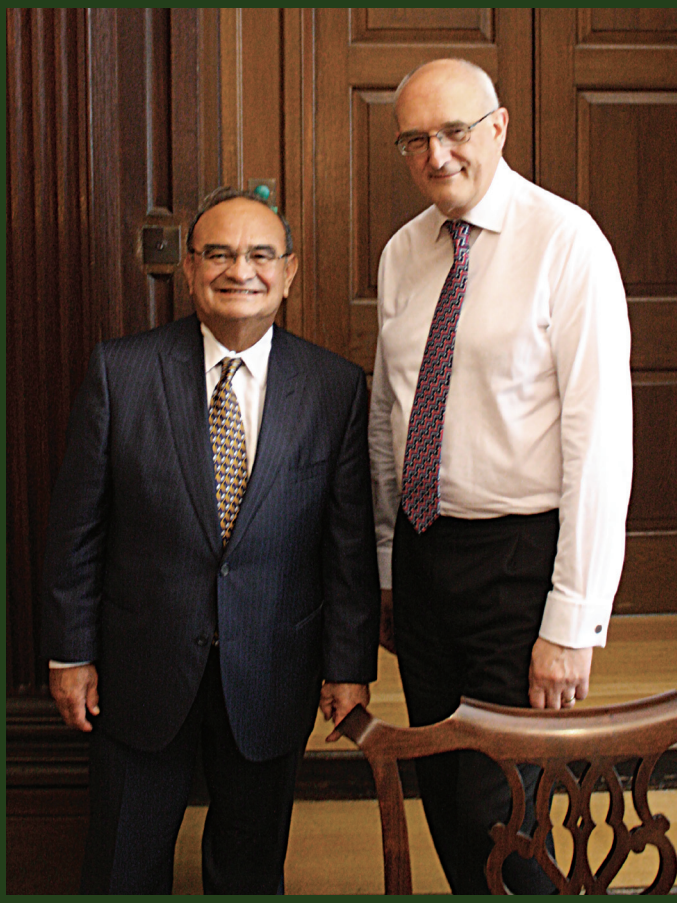
The exhibition is targeted at 14 -16 year olds with some schools bringing their *gifted and talented* year 9 students and others bringing year 12 students who are considering potential careers in physics. Schools are welcome to bring as many students as they are able (given a student to teacher ratio of about 15). On arrival at the Cavendish a given school party will be split into groups of approximately 15 students with 1 accompanying teacher. Map in hand each group is then led to their first exhibit to follow their own tailored route around the Cavendish.

Schools travel from all over London and the South East to attend this event. Although all places are now taken, we are accepting reserve bookings, which should be made online on our website.

www-outreach.phy.cam.ac.uk

More general residential and outreach initiatives are coordinated by the Cambridge Admissions Office in conjunction with the University departments, and further information can be found at their website:

www.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/events



President Lopez with Sir Leszek Borysiewicz

President Daniel Lopez of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology visits Cambridge

We were delighted that President Lopez was able to visit the Cavendish in June to discuss the future of the Magdalena Ridge Observatory project, in particular, the completion of the first phases of the optical-infrared interferometer which promises to be the world's leading instrument for extremely high resolution imaging of all classes of compact astronomical objects. The Cambridge efforts are led by Chris Haniff and David Buscher who have made major technological contributions to the project, particularly in the design of the telescopes and the many aspects of systems engineering. In particular, the crucial interferometer delay lines will enable images to be taken of bright objects with 50 times sharper angular resolution than the Hubble Space Telescope. During President Lopez's visit, he met the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, who reaffirmed Cambridge's full commitment to the project. The immediate goal is to complete a fully functioning 4-element optical-infrared interferometric array over the next four years.