

AWARDS

Shiju-Ho-Sho

The Japanese KEK Laboratory director-general, Hirotaka Sugawara, has received the prestigious Shiju-Ho-Sho (medal with purple ribbon) from the Emperor of Japan as one who has made an outstanding contribution to cultural activity in Japan. His achievements have been widely recognized, both in theoretical physics and in his management of KEK, where he has been director-general since 1989. Under his directorship, KEK has become one of the major world high-energy physics laboratories, with two forefront projects: the KEKB B factory and the K2K Long Baseline Neutrino Oscillation experiment. This award is not only a personal honour but also a recognition of high-energy physics achievement by a Japanese citizen, and it will help to further particle physics research in Japan.

1999 Dirac Medal

The Dirac Medal of The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics in

Trieste, Italy, is awarded this year to Giorgio Parisi of Rome I "La Sapienza". Parisi, who graduated from Rome in 1970, has made outstanding contributions in many areas of theoretical physics, including elementary particle physics, phase transitions, statistical mechanics, mathematical physics, string theory, neural networks and disordered systems. He has worked at the National Laboratories in Frascati (Italy), Rome University, and University of Rome II and I ("La Sapienza"). In addition, he has had one-year appointments at Columbia and at the Institute des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques and Ecole Normale Supérieure in France. He is the author/co-author of two books and 200 scientific articles and he received the Feltrinelli Prize for Physics in 1986, the Boltzman Medal in 1992 and the Italgas Prize in 1993.

Money for string

Two string theorists – Juan Maldacena of Harvard and Eva Silverstein of SLAC – were among the 32 recipients of 1999 MacArthur Fellowships.