



March & April 2006

Published by the Community Relations Office  
Building 130, P.O. Box 5000  
Upton, NY 11973  
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www.bnl.gov

## **\$13-Million Donation Helps Make This Year's RHIC Run a Reality** *Hedge-Fund Founder and BSA Board Member Jim Simons Raises Funds on Behalf of BNL*

- Funded primarily by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Brookhaven Lab has an annual budget of more than \$450 million. Last November, however, BNL learned that some \$20 million in federal funding had been cut from our fiscal year (FY) 2006 budget.
- Of that, \$13 million had been taken out of money needed to run the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC). Operating since 2000, RHIC is the machine with which scientists recently discovered that the primordial state of matter last created microseconds after the Big Bang is a perfect liquid, not a plasma as they had expected (see Laboratory Link, January 2006).
- The new year dawned more brightly, however, when Jim Simons, who is founder and president of the East



The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven Lab is the world's highest energy heavy-ion collider. A \$13-million private donation added to \$117 million in annual funding from the U.S. Department of Energy is making possible the current 20-week run of this big machine and its experiments.

Setauket-based hedge fund called Renaissance Technologies, and other generous contributors donated \$13 million — \$12 million for RHIC, and \$1 million for its two major experiments.

- A former chairman of the mathematics department at Stony Brook University (SBU), Dr. Simons is a member of the board of directors of Brookhaven Science Associates, the company founded by SBU and Battelle in 1997 to manage BNL for DOE's Office of Science.

- The \$13-million donation supplements \$117 million DOE dollars supporting RHIC and its physics experiments this year. The donation, however, is making the collider's sixth physics run, which began on March 5th, a 20-week reality for the 1,000-plus researchers who use this big machine for research.

## **Next Year's BNL Budget to Increase Under Federal Science Initiative** *Senators Schumer & Clinton, Rep. Bishop Work to Ensure Laboratory's Federal Support*

- On the heels of the good news regarding the \$13-million donation for fiscal year (FY) 2006 (see story above) came great news for FY07: In President George W. Bush's State of the Union speech on January 31, he announced his "American Competitiveness Initiative." It will boost spending for the physical sciences, math and science education, and applied energy sciences — in all of which the Lab is involved. The initiative promises a 10-year budget doubling for, among other agencies, DOE's Office of Science, which funds BNL.
- Under the initiative, Energy Secretary Samuel

Bodman announced a DOE request for a 14-percent increase for next fiscal year. This includes some \$87 million more to keep RHIC and DOE's other large nuclear physics facility up and running. In addition, BNL is promised \$45 million toward the development of the National Synchrotron Light Source-II, which the Lab hopes to build as the replacement for the current light source.

- Working in concert toward ensuring full federal funding of BNL's nationally important research and facilities, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Hillary  
*continued on reverse*

## Next Year's BNL Budget

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Clinton, and U.S. Representative Timothy Bishop welcomed news of the initiative.



Senator Chuck Schumer

- “The promise of this competitiveness initiative represents a down-payment on the long-term, priority investment needed to maintain our competitive edge in the global economy,” comments Representative Bishop.

“Considering the commitment the President has expressed in funding critical science research, we should expect nothing less than a major increase in funds for BNL,” notes Senator Clinton.



Representative Tim Bishop

- Senator Schumer concludes: “The funding is a step in the right direction, but, now, we must keep our efforts focused throughout the appropriations process to ensure that this money goes to Brookhaven.”



Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

- Among those credited with successfully advocating for the President's science initiative is White House science adviser John Marburger III. A former president of Stony Brook University, 1980-94, Dr. Marburger had served as BNL's sixth Laboratory Director from 1998 until he left BNL in 2001 to head the Office of Science & Technology Policy.

## Search for Eighth Director of Brookhaven Lab Now Underway

*Leaving Lab in 'Very Good Shape,' Praveen Chaudhari to Step Down Effective April 30th*

- After almost three years in the dual role of Director of Brookhaven Lab and President of Brookhaven Science Associates (BSA), the company that operates BNL under contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Praveen Chaudhari announced in February his intention to resign, effective April 30th.



Praveen Chaudhari

- As Dr. Chaudhari notes, “The Laboratory is in very good shape, and, I feel, it is time for me to make a change: to spend more time at home and to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities to do science at BNL.”

- In response, BSA immediately began a search for a new Laboratory Director, who will be BNL's eighth since its founding in 1947. If a successor has not been found as Chaudhari's departure date approaches, then an interim director will be named.

- During Dr. Chaudhari's tenure: a sixth Nobel Prize was awarded for research performed at Brookhaven Lab; a major discovery was made at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC); construction started on the Center for Functional Nanomaterials and a new research-support building; DOE approved the need for BNL's proposed National Synchrotron Light Source-II; cleanup of the Peconic River and contaminated soils was accomplished; and all groundwater-treatment systems were installed.

- During his directorship, Dr. Chaudhari attended the monthly meetings of the Community Advisory Council (CAC), which was established in 1998 to ensure increased public participation in the Laboratory's decision-making process, and which is made up of 27 representatives of business, civic, educational, environmental

and other interest groups. Through its recommendations, the CAC provides counsel directly to the Laboratory Director.

- Praveen Chaudhari, Ph.D., came to BNL on April 1, 2003, after 36 years at IBM as a scientist and senior research manager.

- A recipient of the National Medal of Technology, Dr. Chaudhari is a member of the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the American Physical Society.

## Upcoming, Open-to-the-Public Event at Brookhaven National Laboratory

- **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22ND, 12 NOON** — Pianist Jia-yin Shen will present a free concert in Berkner Hall, Bldg. 488. Ms. Shen came to the U.S. from her native China in 1997, and, today, she holds a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Michigan. She made her American debut in 2002 with the University of Michigan Philharmonic. Call (631) 344-2345 for more info.

- **SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH, 8 P.M.** — Afterlife: the Ultimate Progressive Rock Experience will perform in concert in Berkner Hall, Bldg. 488, featuring the symphonic and classical rock sounds of Emerson, Lake and Palmer, Genesis, and YES. Tickets for the concert cost \$15 per person and may be purchased in advance from [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com). Call (631) 344-5257 for more info.

**PLEASE NOTE: All visitors to the Laboratory ages 16 and over must bring photo ID.**