
News in Brief

Newyddion yn Fyr

Nominations are now open for the [Royal Society's Medals](#), Awards, Prizes and Prize Lectures (to be given in 2008). Nominations close 21 February 2007.

The UK higher education funding councils and Research Councils UK, in association with the Wellcome Trust, invite proposals from higher education institutions for collaborative [Beacons for Public Engagement](#), including one National Co-ordinating Centre. A total of up to £8 million will be available over four years for this pilot initiative.

[Sciencehorizons](#) is a new government-funded scheme which aims to get people talking about their hopes and fears about future science and technology, and their impact on society. Nationwide events will be taking place over the next six months and responses will be fed-back to the government.

The importance of [mentoring in science](#).

500 schools would fail to meet proposed [new GCSE targets](#). The gender gap has narrowed slightly in latest league tables.

Universities unite for joint physics school. Birmingham, Nottingham and Warwick universities today announced the creation of a joint graduate school for physics. The [Midlands Physics Alliance \(MPA\)](#), with £3.9m backing from the HEFCE, will bring together academics from all three institutions to undertake large-scale research and attract the best students to develop and train the next generation of scientists.

A [summit of Africa's leaders](#) marks a deepening commitment to science and technology in the continent.

[Prospect's State of Science 2006](#) survey has revealed that more than four in ten working scientists are either sure they will leave or are uncertain about their future in science, despite over 77% stating that they would like to remain in science.

Institute of Physics in Wales

Sefydliad Ffiseg yng Nghymru

Mobile Careers 2007 - Do you want to re-valuate your skills and position in the job market? Are you uncertain about your career path? Are you returning to work? This summer there will be an opportunity to have one-to-one appointments with a qualified careers adviser. If you wish to pre-register your interest then please e-mail Vishanti.Lall@iop.org. More information about dates and location will be available in the

next e-bulletin. To see what the careers service at the Institute can offer visit the [website](#).

Institute of Physics

Sefydliad Ffiseg

The Institute has produced a booklet to help graduate students who are seeking [information on postgraduate \(pre-doctoral\) courses in physics](#) and cognate subjects in the United Kingdom and The Republic of Ireland.

[Forthcoming Institute Conferences](#)

[What's on in Physics](#)

physicsweb events listing which lists [all physics related events](#).

Useful Links

Cysylltiadau Defnyddiol

[EPSRC](#) – Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

[PPARC](#) – Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council

[HEFCW](#) – Higher Education Funding Council for Wales

[DTI](#) – Department of Trade and Industry

[bbc.co.uk/wales](#) / [bbc.co.uk/cymru](#) – BBC Wales / BBC Cymru website

[The National Assembly for Wales](#) / [Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru](#)

[The Welsh Assembly Government](#) / [Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru](#)

[European Commission – Research](#)