

above absolute zero using lasers and magnetic traps. The result was a quantum state in which atoms behave like waves.

James Faller, chief of NIST's quantum physics division, said he was delighted at Jin's achievement.

"Debbie has an inquiring and creative mind. She is a super scientist and an incredible human being," said Faller. "During the five-year term of her fellowship, I'm certain that the MacArthur Foundation will be incredibly proud of her."

A graduate of Princeton University in 1990, Jin went on to receive a Ph.D from the University of Chicago in 1995.

She then spent two years as a National Research Council research associate with NIST, working at the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA).

After her post-doctorate assignment, Jin was hired as a NIST physicist and assistant professor adjoint.

Jin's colleagues in the physics department were thrilled to hear she had been honored, according to Katharine Gebbie, director of NIST's physics laboratory.

Gebbie described Jin as having the intellect and drive to be one of the most innovative scientists of the century.

"Within two years of her appointment at NIST, (Jin) has seen the first evidence of degeneracy in a fermionic atomic gas, and she has run it from there," said Gebbie. "This is a great honor for Debbie, for JILA, for the physics laboratory and for NIST."

Jin is among four CU-Boulder professors who have received the fellowship since it began in 1981.

Others include Daniel Jurafsky of computational linguistics in 2002, Norman Pace of molecular, cellular and developmental biology in 2001, and Patricia Limerick of history in 1995.

CU-Boulder chancellor Richard Byyny said it was a remarkable fourth time in four years that he had the honor to congratulate a Boulder faculty member receiving the MacArthur award.

"Deborah Jin is an outstanding physicist and a valued teacher of undergraduate and graduate students, and this recognition is another example of the benefits of partnering with Boulder laboratories," said Byyny.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 7, 2003]

HOT WORK, LOW TEMPERATURE

(By T.R. Reid)

BOULDER, CO.—After her sophomore year at Princeton, Deborah Jin landed a summer job with the federal government, doing research at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland.

"That summer pretty much settled things," Jin recalls now. "I think I knew from that point on that I was going to be a physicist."

And one other career choice was settled as well, although Jin said she didn't realize it back in the summer of 1988. She would pursue her research as a federal employee, working in government labs where some of the world's most advanced work in atomic physics and super-cooled, super-conducting materials is going forward.

One could say that turned out to be a wise choice. For Deborah Shiu-lan Jin, now a fellow with the National Institute of Standards and Technology here, has emerged as a major force in the world of extremely low temperature physics. She has won a string of scientific awards. On Sunday, her achievements and potential were recognized in the form of a \$500,000 prize from the MacArthur Fellows Program.

Jin—who works amid a jungle of piping, gauges, hoses and computer monitors at a

lab operated jointly by NIST and the University of Colorado—said the U.S. government has proved to be a near-perfect employer for a young scientist working at the extreme leading edge of her field.

"I'm sort of isolated from the academic politics," the 34-year-old wife and mother said, "and being a federal employee frees you up from the teaching load and the other requirements they have for [university] faculty. I don't have to wait the six years to find out if I'm going to get tenure. The government just leaves you alone to do your work."

Even in a period of overstretched federal budgets, Jin said she has been able to obtain most of the equipment and research help she needs. "Frankly, the people on the university side are having more trouble than we are. The state budget crunch has been really severe."

The physicist is so wrapped up in her lab work that she is one of the few federal employees anywhere who doesn't know her pay grade. "It's a GS-something," she said. "I guess I ought to know." NIST said that Jin holds a rank of ZP-5 in the agency's specialized pay system, the equivalent of a GS-15.

Jin said she doesn't pay much attention to that because "it doesn't make much difference in a research job. I have my lab and my grad students and I work closely with my colleagues, and that doesn't really depend on what rank you are."

What does matter in a scientific field is results, and Jin's lab, the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, has been producing them in spades. Her colleagues include two physicists—Eric A. Cornell of NIST and Carl E. Wieman of Colorado—who created a new state of matter ("the Bose-Einstein condensate") in 1995 and won a Nobel Prize for it six years later.

The Bose-Einstein work involved cooling atoms to a point extremely close to absolute zero and trapping them in a magnetic or laser field for study.

Jin is doing similar work now, reducing potassium atoms to a temperature 50 billionths of a degree above absolute zero—the point, near 459.6 degrees below zero on the Fahrenheit scale, at which all motion stops. At that temperature, the atoms form a vapor of sorts and "degenerate," acting more like waves than particles, a phenomenon predicted decades ago by physicist Enrico Fermi. Jin has been recognized internationally for identifying this "vaporphase degenerate Fermi gas."

Her latest award, from the MacArthur Foundation, and the no-strings-attached half-million-dollar grant that goes with it, could have "a lot of uses in my life," Jin said. "I could use it for a new laser. I could definitely use it for secretarial support, because we don't have that in this lab. Or maybe it can be college money for my daughter."

One thing the prize won't do, Jin said, is induce her to move her research elsewhere. "NIST has been a fantastic place to do the kind of work I'm involved in," she said. "I don't think I'll be leaving the government any time soon."

IN RECOGNITION OF 50 YEARS OF
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY
LOUDOUN COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to recognize Loudoun Country Day School as

it celebrates Founders' Day on October 15 and 50 years of academic excellence.

Located in Leesburg, Virginia, Loudoun Country Day School is an accredited, independent, co-educational school which enrolls students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade cultivating the intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth of each child. Its rigorous core curriculum, nurturing environment and extensive programs in foreign languages, arts, computers and athletics inspires excellence and builds character, preparing each child for the challenges ahead.

In 1953, Dorothy McDonald and Edith Newland founded the school with only seven students. Their dedication to helping each individual student develop their potential to the fullest set the foundation for the success of Loudoun Country Day School.

The pages of the school's history are filled with those who worked long, hard hours to create a facility characterized by challenging students to excel and tailoring curriculum to a student's needs. Books and materials are selected to emphasize the basics and to stimulate interest, challenge capabilities and maximize potential.

The school's humble beginnings in a modern-day one room schoolhouse expanded when Mrs. Stanley Brown donated the family farmhouse and land to the school. In honoring her father's dream of establishing a private school in Loudoun County, Mrs. Brown provided a precious gift to the community.

Many such generous gifts have aided the efforts of the dedicated staff at Loudoun Country Day School. Their continued dedication to program expansion and refinement with emphasis on findings from educational research, coupled with the ongoing professional development of the faculty, have provided the foundation on which their programs have risen to higher levels of excellence.

Loudoun Country Day School and its staff have received numerous honors in the past decade. During the past six years, readers of Leesburg Today have named it the "Best Private School" in Loudoun County. In 2002, the headmaster, Dr. Randall Hollister, received the Washington Post's prestigious Distinguished Educational Leadership Award.

Founded on the vision of offering a program beyond what was normally available in the public schools in Loudoun County, Loudoun Country Day School continues to investigate new ways of teaching, with its one goal remaining true to its earliest roots: dedication to helping each individual student develop their potential to the fullest. This is the same objective the school embraced 50 years ago when those first five students stepped into their one-room school.

I salute Loudoun Country Day School, its founders, faculty, students and their families and wish them another 50 years of academic excellence. I enclose for the Record highlights of the 50-year history of Loudoun Country Day School.

BRIEF HISTORY OF LOUDOUN COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

1953: School founded by Dorothy McDonald and Edith Newcomb with 7 students. Classes are held in the Old Community College Building on Market Street.

1957-1958: Through the generosity of Mrs. Stanley Brown, the original farmhouse (Old Newcomb) and adjacent 5.4 acres are made available to the school.

1959-1960: In March, LCDS is incorporated.

1960-1961: The first section of a new building is completed with four finished classrooms and one unfinished room for further expansion. Enrollment—53.

1963: First Headmistress, Mrs. Edith Newcomb, resigns.

1963-1965: Mr. W.D. Harrison is appointed Headmaster. He serves for 2 years, resigning due to poor health.

1972-1973: Col. Boleyn resigns and A. Thomas Jackson becomes Headmaster. The third wing of the building is completed. Enrollment—132.

1975: The school purchases 2.5 additional acres for soccer fields from Mrs. Lowell Riley.

1979-1980: Firestone Fieldhouse is completed. Enrollment—155.

1980-1981: A. Thomas Jackson resigns and Raymond C. Nance becomes Headmaster.

1989-1990: The library is renovated and a computer lab with 10 computers is created.

1992-1993: Raymond Nance resigns and Dr. Randall Hollister becomes headmaster. Enrollment—178.

1998: A second computer lab of 22 systems added; computer network added—2 computers per classroom.

1999: School receives gift of 55 acres ("White's Ferry property) and \$200,000 gift made possible by Mr. Henry Brown.

2000: LCS adds 10,000 square feet of classroom space.

2001-2002: Dr. Randall Hollister receives Washington Post Distinguished Leadership Award.

2003: LCDS offers 2 sections of classes for all grades except 6th and 8th; enrollment is 256.

October 15, 2003: Founders' Day—Loudoun Country Day School celebrates 50 years of educational excellence.

92ND TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2003, one of our largest trading partners, the Republic of China, Taiwan, will be celebrating the 92nd anniversary of its National Day. I wish to join my colleagues in the United States Congress in sending best wishes to the twenty-two million residents of this lovely island. I also commend President Chen Shui-bian and Vice President Annette Lu as they continue to lead Taiwan to greater economic prosperity at home and greater participation in international activities abroad.

Just like our 4th of July, October 10th marks the beginning of a fantastic story of economic, social and political success that has culminated in Taiwan becoming a vibrant democracy in the Pacific Region. These are exciting times in the history of relations between the United States and Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, on this 92nd occasion of the Republic of China's National Day, it is important to remember that Taiwan has a strong relationship with the United States, and we hope this relationship will continue to flourish and grow in the years to come.

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION GRANTS (SBIR) ELIGIBILITY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Small Business Committee to continue working to restore the eligibility for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants to venture backed biotechnology start-up companies. Under the SBIR program, a specific percentage of all Federal research and development grant monies are reserved for small business applicants. These funds provide critical "seed" money to new business innovators.

However, recent changes in the Small Business Administration's (SBA) interpretation of eligibility standards for SBIR grants now disqualify many start-up biotechnology companies with venture capital backing. Specifically, SBA regulations require that, in order to be eligible for a grant, a small company must be at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals. Recently, the SBA has interpreted "individuals" to mean only natural persons, resulting in the disqualification of companies with venture capital backing from the SBIR program.

Home to a burgeoning biotech industry, Missouri relies on the SBIR program to fund early-stage companies. In addition, venture capital plays a vital role in the financial support of the very companies the SBIR program has been designed to benefit. However, this interpretation will prevent the most innovative small biotech companies in Missouri from participating in SBIR grant programs, resulting in an adverse impact on the industry as well as the economy.

Clearly, this new interpretation threatens an important funding source for Missouri's start-up biotech companies. Once again, Mr. Speaker, I urge the Small Business Committee to restore the eligibility for SBIR grants to venture backed biotechnology start-up companies so Missourians can take the first steps in this new century to secure a sustainable and beneficial future in the biotechnology industry.

AUGSBURG COLLEGE CONGRATULATES DR. PETER AGRE, WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Peter Agree, M.D. who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry today. Although he is now at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore where he received his M.D., I am proud to say that Dr. Agree received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Agree's father, the late Courtland Agree, taught chemistry at Augsburg College from the 1950s to the 1970s.

Dr. Agree's award is for the discovery of transportation channels in cell walls. The

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences believes the work of Peter Agree and Roderick MacKinnon, with whom he shares the prize, is of great importance for our understanding of many diseases of the kidneys, heart, muscles and nervous system.

Today the entire Augsburg College community, including alumni like me, congratulates Dr. Agree for a discovery that benefits all of humanity. I hope that the young people in our schools and colleges and universities are inspired by your example and will explore the exciting possibilities that lie in scientific discovery.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR. AND MRS. JOHN O. MONTGOMERY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, John and Dorothy Montgomery were united in marriage on September 25, 1953; and

Whereas John and Dorothy Montgomery are celebrating 50 years of marriage; and,

Whereas, John and Dorothy Montgomery have demonstrated love and commitment to each other; and

Whereas, John and Dorothy Montgomery must be commended for their loyalty and dedication to their family; and

Whereas, John and Dorothy Montgomery have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating John and Dorothy Montgomery as they celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Taiwan's forthcoming National Day, I wish to congratulate Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian and the people of Taiwan for their economic and political successes during the years past.

Economically, the people in Taiwan enjoy one of the highest standards of living. Politically, it is a vibrant democracy with free elections, respect for human rights and a free press.

Taiwan also has a strong relationship with the United States. It is one of our major trading partners. Their students study in our colleges and universities and their people frequently choose the United States to spend their tourist dollars. In addition, their government has given us their total support of our war against global terrorism.

On their forthcoming National Day, I wish to assure our friends in Taiwan that we acknowledge and appreciate the strong ties between our two peoples.