

## Contacts

**Publisher:** Fabien Savenay

**Editor:** Paul Smaglik

**Sales Director:** Ben Crowe

### European Head Office, London

The Macmillan Building  
4 Crinan Street  
London N1 9XW, UK  
Tel +44 (0) 20 7843 4961  
Fax +44 (0) 20 7843 4996  
e-mail: [classified@nature.com](mailto:classified@nature.com)

### Group European Manager:

Leonie Welss (4954)

### European Manager:

Nevin Bayoumi (4978)

### European Sales Consultant:

Jonathan Bull (4973)

### UK/ RoW/ Ireland:

Matt Powell (4953), Ben Corp (4974),

Andy Douglas (4975)

**Holland/ Italy:** Nevin Bayoumi (4978)

**Scandinavia:** Sille Opstrup (4994)

### Production Manager:

Billie Franklin

To send films and materials use

London address above.

Tel +44 (0) 20 7843 4814

Fax +44 (0) 20 7843 4996

e-mail: [classified@nature.com](mailto:classified@nature.com)

### International

#### Advertising Coordinator:

Laura Pearson (4977)

#### Naturejobs web development:

Tom Hancock

#### Naturejobs online production:

Ben Lund

### European Satellite Offices

#### France/ Belgium:

Christine Niox-Chateau

Tel + 33 (0) 1 43 20 16 51

Fax + 33 (0) 1 43 20 51 52

e-mail: [c.nioxchateau@nature.com](mailto:c.nioxchateau@nature.com)

#### Spain/ Portugal:

Amanda Wren

Tel + 34 91 3913835

Fax + 34 91 319 0091

e-mail: [a.wren@nature.com](mailto:a.wren@nature.com)

#### Germany/ Austria/ Switzerland:

Patrick Phelan/ Kate Turner

Tel + 49 89 54 90 57 11/2

Fax + 49 89 54 90 57 20

e-mails: [p.phelan@nature.com](mailto:p.phelan@nature.com)

[k.turner@nature.com](mailto:k.turner@nature.com)

### US Head Office, New York

345 Park Avenue South,

10th Floor, New York, NY 10010-1707

Tel +1 800 989 7718

Fax +1 800 989 7103

e-mail: [classified@natureny.com](mailto:classified@natureny.com)

#### US Sales Director:

Ben Crowe

#### US Sales Manager:

Peyton Mason

#### US Advertising Coordinator:

Corissa Salzman

### Japan Head Office, Tokyo

Shin-Mitsuke Building (4F),

3-6 Ichigaya Tamachi Shinjuku-Ku,

Tokyo 162

Tel +81 3 3267 8751

Fax +81 3 3267 8746

e-mail: [k.cowan@naturejpn.com](mailto:k.cowan@naturejpn.com)

#### Japan Manager:

Kate Cowan

## Physics comes full circle

Just eight years ago, reports were bemoaning the plight of the young physicist. There were no jobs in academia, industry or government. These reports seemed to discourage students from pursuing a PhD in physics. Students who started a PhD anyway — despite the best available advice — are now emerging to a markedly changed job market in which all sectors are seeking physicists.

In this month's *Physics Today*, authors of a 1993 American Institutes of Physics article reflect on their earlier predictions, and draw some new conclusions from the present data (<http://physicstoday.org/pt/vol-54/iss-4/p36.html#bio>). US and European laboratories are now having a difficult time getting nationals to take up physics. It is also increasingly difficult to recruit physicists from Russia and China — traditionally good sources of talent.

The change in fortune serves as a cautionary tale about making long-range predictions of employment in any field, no matter how good the available data. The latest report could be in as much danger of being out of date as the one it replaces. After the report was published, the latest US budget proposal by President George W. Bush proved to be less than physics-friendly. And many of the technology companies that grabbed physicists when academic and government opportunities were scarce seem to be faltering in the stock market.

Of course, even if the stock market crashes and Bush gets his way with the budget, there will still be jobs for physicists. Many academic physicists are approaching retirement, and other disciplines, such as structural biology, are increasingly dependent on physics. So, even considering the worst-case scenarios, it may be prudent to find creative ways to attract the best talent into physics programmes, rather than scare them away.

**Paul Smaglik**  
Naturejobs editor



## Contents

### MOVERS

Cancer research scientist moves south, plant biologist becomes dean, Chinese ministry gets new boss, and more [Back page](#)

### WWW.NATURE.COM/ NATUREJOBS

Career centre  
Information on the scientific  
job market

### FOCUS

### SPOTLIGHT

### RECRUITMENT

### SCIENTIFIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS