

Yale climate-change institute launched

Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will head a new climate and energy research institute at Yale University. The institute and its head were announced on 10 March at an international climate-change conference in Copenhagen (see 'Soundbites from Copenhagen').

Pachauri, *Nature's* Newsmaker of the Year in 2007, will work part-time at the Yale institute, retaining his current positions with the IPCC and as director-general of India's Energy and Resources Institute in New Delhi.



E. SCHULZ/AP

Rajendra Pachauri.

NIH research to become permanently open access

The annually renewable public-access policy first implemented by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) a year ago was

made permanent in a spending bill signed into law on 11 March. The provision specifies that all NIH-funded investigators must submit an electronic version of their peer-reviewed manuscripts to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central. The manuscripts must be made publicly available no later than 12 months after publication.

The new law specifies that it must be implemented in a manner consistent with copyright law. Congressman John Conyers (Democrat, Michigan) is hoping to use that clause to upend the policy. His Fair Copyright

in Research Works Act would amend US copyright law to forbid federal agencies from making funding agreements, such as NIH grants, conditional on authors making copies of their peer-reviewed articles freely available.

Maths mistake blamed for killing off 'clean coal' plant

The huge cost overruns cited as a reason for cancelling the US government's flagship carbon-sequestration plant, FutureGen,

SOUNDBITES FROM COPENHAGEN

Views from the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change, 10–12 March.

“On any kind of pragmatic timescale, I think we should see loss of the Amazon forest as irreversible.”

Chris Jones Met Office Hadley Centre, Exeter, UK

“I'm frustrated, as are many of my colleagues, that 30 years after the US National Academy of Sciences issued a strong warning on CO₂ warming, the full urgency of this problem hasn't dawned on politicians and the general public.”

Stefan Rahmstorf Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany

“Ice loss in Greenland has accelerated over the last decade. The upper range of sea level rise by 2100 might be 1 metre or more.”

Konrad Steffen University of Colorado, Boulder

“Do the politicians understand just how difficult it could be, just how devastating 4, 5, 6 degrees centigrade would be? I think, not yet.”

Nicholas Stern former UK government economics adviser

For coverage of the conference, see <http://tinyurl.com/dm9plg> and <http://tinyurl.com/daroma>