

## current events

This section carries events of interest to the synchrotron radiation community. Full or partial inclusion is subject to the approval of the Main Editors, to whom all correspondence should be sent.

### APS gets funding for new beamlines for structural biology

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) are supporting the design and construction of a user facility consisting of three new beamlines at Argonne National Laboratory's Advanced Photon Source. The beamlines themselves will be custom designed and constructed by ACCEL GmbH, a company located in Bergish Gladbach, Germany. NIGMS and NCI plan to spend a total of around \$23 million on the project and estimate that the three beamlines will be fully operational in about three years.

"The primary motive for the project is to benefit the scientific community by facilitating access to synchrotron beamlines. This is particularly important as the structural genomics effort at NIGMS begins to pick up speed," said Dr Marvin Cassman, Director of NIGMS.

NCI is particularly interested in how the synchrotron facilities will advance the study of cancer-related molecules. "A detailed understanding of protein structure will help cancer researchers develop drugs targeted to specific types of cancer," said Dr Dinah Singer, Director of NCI's Division of Cancer Biology.

### SSRL and Daresbury enter into a Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding between Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory and the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils (CCLRC) operating through Daresbury Laboratory was signed on 29 November 2001. The two laboratories undertook to establish a general framework of collaboration on synchrotron radiation projects to be implemented by SSRL and CCLRC Daresbury and to increase cooperation between the two laboratories. The key areas where collaborations are expected in the near future include the development of synchrotron radiation high-throughput tools, particularly those related to structural genomics, and accelerator science and technology projects particularly those related to FELs.



Left to right: Samar Hasnain, Keith Hodgson, Jerry Jobe, Hywel Price, Brit Hedman and John Galayda.

### Technical Director for DIAMOND appointed

Dr Richard Walker has been appointed Technical Director for the DIAMOND synchrotron project, due to be built at the CLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire. The appointment has been made jointly by the OST, the Wellcome Trust and the French Government. He takes up his position on 7 January 2002. Dr Walker has been employed at the Sincrotron Trieste in Italy since 1988, where he is currently Director of the Light Sources Division. Prior to his employment in Italy, Dr Walker spent 13 years in the Accelerator Physics group at Daresbury Laboratory.



Dr Richard Walker.

### John Helliwell becomes CCLRC's Director of Synchrotron Radiation Science based at Daresbury

John Helliwell, Professor of Structural Chemistry at the University of Manchester, one of the founding editors of the *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* and the Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Crystallographica* published by the International Union of Crystallography, becomes CCLRC's Director of Synchrotron Radiation Science based at Daresbury Laboratory on a five-year secondment from the University. John Helliwell has had close links with the laboratory since 1979. The post involves all the operational and scientific matters regarding the operation and development of the Synchrotron Radiation Source, as well as involving corporate responsibilities for advising CCLRC on its strategic direction in the field of synchrotron radiation.



John Helliwell.