現在三個小孩都睡了,讓我來和學弟妹們談談一些物理新兵應該關心的事。先從我身邊說起,有一個學生今年 3月底論文口試通過,將於五月拿學位。他在二月底在紐約華爾街一家證券行找到一份很具挑戰性的工作,內容仍離不開電腦和數學模型。薪水當然比我高。他聰明、靈活、勇敢、用功、應該做那一行都能很出色。問他以後不能做物理,心痛不心痛?他毫不考慮的說:「長痛不如短痛!」

這是1994,記得1974年,鄭伯昆教授曾對我們說:「… 所以,和尚和貴族才最適合做物理…」這20年來社會經濟 以及人文思潮的轉型使我們不得不正這個問題。什麼問題? SSC被削減的問題。什麼問題?美國NSF(國科會)差點 被改名成NSTF的問題(T是Technology)。在總預算大 餅不夠分配,國防工業走下坡時,基礎科學的優先順序, 就不見得能像以往50年般愛寵了。高涌泉在1986時曾說: 「在這社會裏,做一個物理學家實在有夠好命!」的確, 我們是必需正視這個基礎科學重新定位的過程。學生們, 教授們都該需要從象牙塔探出頭來檢視一下。

我們的社會到底養得起養不起這一大批科學家?那藝術家呢?這些問題答案是「見仁見智」。我說「見仁見智」 是非常字面的。社會意識強烈而常能體恤勞苦大衆的「仁者」,當然主張要普渡衆生,先搞社會福利。

另一方面,純種的學術「智者」,當然主張要眼光放遠,不能放慢科學研究腳步。仁者見仁,智者見智。沒有標準答案!

對!沒有標準答案。更令人覺得無奈的是我們人生充滿了太多的「第一次」,「第一次」上小學,「第一次」考聯考,「第一次」上大學。連第二次考聯考都是「第一次」考第二次聯考。…八十歲的老人都「第一次」當八十歲的老人。不要以為八十歲的老人就很能勝任演八十歲老人的角色。我們都是一輩子徹頭徹尾的「生手」。所以,生命中一些重要的抉擇,其實沒有太困難,關鍵在於用活潑的態度來處理嚴肅的問題。

現在讓我這個老嬉皮來"八股"一下,講講一些原則性的話題。物理新兵要如何調適?小時候,別人問「你長大要做什麼?」很多小孩會說「我長大要和爸爸一樣,做…」真正長大了,不見得會這樣做。可是,你問100個物理研究生以後要做什麼,大多數會答:「我想和我的我的教授一樣,做…」其實,物理系所提供的訓練,實在是太好了以這種專長用心在各專業中求發展都非常可取。中央大學教授闕志鴻在大四時有句名言「並不是所有聰明人都必需去搞高能理論。」這句話應該可以在這「系友來鴻」中找到許多見證。

我想以下四點,是缺一不可的要素,如果想把物理生涯活 得有聲有色的話

- 1. 盡全力 —— 俗稱努力,用功。請教高涌泉教授,林淸涼 教授。
- 2. 勇於變動 對自己誠實,心胸開放能接受新事物挑戰 ,活潑不堅持道統」。請教張國龍教授, 楊信男教授,和蔡爾成教授。
- 3. 勤吸收 大量接高品質資料來源(期刊、雜誌、交談…),請教王亢沛教授,黃暉理教授。
- 4.少抱怨 善於利用現有環境。請教曹培熙教授。

最後,送大家一個SUBROUTINE,請三不五時在自己身上用一用。有興趣要SOURCE CODE可來要。(提示:興趣大戰責任心)

「 興趣 」和「 責任心 」 之間的取捨和挣扎,實在是成長過程中重要的一頁。請勿忽視!

無題

王名儒

前陣子回台大逛逛,不小心被時空約稿,想想超導加速器的計劃在美國已被否決,今後學弟妹們該不會往高能實驗這方面發展。其實參加高能這種大實驗,有不少東西可學的,尤其是一些做事的態度。以下就是我個人的心得,願供大家參考。

- 一、在一個分工細密的實驗裏,作研究的成就感較少,大部分的時間都是花在確保自己的所作是對的。這聽起來似乎可笑,不過唯有踏實的做法方能減少整個實驗的困擾及贏得旁人的信任。
- 二、要學東西不能等待老師或周圍的人教,因為他們不見得是這方面的專家。在一個龐大的實驗裏,為了有效率,最好直接去問專家及查資料,如此方能了解到深入的一面及廣結善緣。
- 三、學習雖然有趣,但一定要學以致用,勇於任事。如果 自己發現一些事情該作或一些問題可解決,一定要主 動積極,負責釘到底。大系統慣量也大,沒人負責推 動,一件事可能非常有意義,也會不了了之。

拉雜寫了一堆太嚴肅的話,實在不知如何結尾,總不 能以三民主義統一中國之類的收場。事實上,心得歸心得 ,很多時候我自己都做不到,但願這些老生常談能偶有惕 勵的作用,對大家有所幫助。

主編同學:

很高興看到大學部的學弟妹們決定出版新的一期時空。這讓我想起八年之前,大三時參與時空編輯的情景。雖然我只負責了一小部分剪貼的工作,但當時班上以孟心飛為首的一夥人在系圖的大桌子上工作的景象,仍然歷歷在目。

大學畢業之後先當兵,同時申請美國的學校。記得大 學成績並不是很理想,申請了十家學校,只有兩家錄取, 其中一家就是我現在就讀的北卡大學教堂山分校。

美國有許多歷史悠久的大學,像是哈佛、耶魯等,這些都是私人創辦的,而且多半學費高昻,有貴族學校之稱。全美第一所公立大學直到1774年(淸乾隆五十九年),才由北卡羅萊納州州議會通過設立於該州中部的教堂山鎮,也就是我現在所在的學校。今年正逢本校兩百週年校慶,全校都將盛大慶祝。本校因為是公立的,所以相當多的經費是由州教育預算中支出。這幾年美國經濟不景氣,預算跟著被刪,學費也因而每年都在提高。但相比之下,本校學費仍是全美前一二十名大學中最低的。這正顯示出本校平民化的作風。

本校沒有工學院,主要科系是在文、理、法、醫及公衛各方面。大學部的全美排名大約都在前十名之內,但感覺上學生比較傾向於人文學科和生命科學,而比較不重視物質科學、研究所較出名的是醫學院和公衛學院各系、化學系、某些人文方面的系和MBA。物理系在本校不能算是大系,而在全美排名中,也是落於史丹福、柏克萊等一流的物理系之後。值得一提的,本校的電腦系(屬於文理學院)在圖像處理方面據說是全美第一。全校共有兩萬四千個學生,其中外國學生只佔百分之三點七,約九百人;台灣來的學生目前只有八十七人。這和一些西岸的大學相比,是小巫見大巫。畢竟南方民風保守,對收外國學生的興趣不大。

本校物理系的規模和台大物理系接近或稍大,現在有 三十四終身職教授和七十五個研究生,研究生絕大部份是 攻讀博士的。系裏的儀器設備還不錯,而且各類資訊都十 分靈通,我想這是一般美國主要大學的共通點,是台灣的 大學所無法比擬的。我們系主要研究範圍有凝態物理、天 文物理、核物理和理論物理。其中我感最活躍的是天文物 理組,他們現在正在智利某一座高山的山頂上興建一個直 徑四公尺的反射式望遠鏡。我所在的凝態物理組近年來老 教授相繼退休,而陸續加入了好幾個年輕的助理教授,活 力大增,聲勢也不弱。

我自己的研究題目是低溫(低於絕對溫度零點一度)下半導體內電子的運動。這種電子運動所表現出來的效應大部份是屬於"中觀(Mesoscopic)現象"。所謂中觀現象,就是指介於宏觀和微觀之間的系統所表現出來的行為。例如在溫度小於IK時,固體中導電電子波函數的相位相干長(Phase Coherence Length,相當於平均自由徑)就大於一微米,所以當導線寬度小於一微米時,古典的導電理論(例如歐姆定律)就不再適用。這時我們可以觀察到導線的導率出現量子式的不連續變化。這就好像光學中的繞射現象;當狹縫寬度相當於光波波長時,就必須以波

動光學來取代幾何光學。但是一微米的寬度相當於一萬個左右的原子,要用量子力學來解這樣的問題是相當困難的,於是就有必要用一些特殊的模型來描述它。這些模型可以是量子的,也可以是古典的,也可以是兩者混合的,這類問題最近被大家所注意,一個原因是半導體元件愈做愈小,總有一天會小到中觀的尺寸,那時誰懂得多誰就主宰了電子工業。另一個原因是目前的半導體技術已經可以製造出次微米和更小的元件,使得製備中觀實驗所需的樣品不再是困難的事。

一般來說中觀現象的能量範圍都很小,所以想觀察到它們必須先抑制電子的熱運動,否則所要觀察的現象被淹沒在熱運動之下而根本看不到。通常是把樣品冷到極低溫以減低電子和晶格的熱運動。我的實驗室是用一個液氦同位素稀釋致冷機(He 4/He 3 dilution refrigerator),目前可做到0.03K的低溫。至於如何操作它,那是一門複雜的技術,甚至可說是一門藝術,在此就不贅述。

現在美國物堙博士畢業後的就業市場已經飽和,隨便一個求職廣告都有好幾百人申請。我認識的許多人都是在寄出上百封求職信後,才能找到一個非永久性的工作,即使是最頂尖大學的博十也不例外。曾有一個搞高能理論的美國同學對我說,他只要畢業後能到專科去教書就心滿意足了。整體來來說,目前美國的物理界是流行著一沮喪的心理,這牽涉到美國全國資源分配和產業政策的問題,即使最近有些經濟復甦的傳聞,短期內情形似乎還不會好轉。

聽說最近台灣的物理系畢業生出路也不是很理想。這 或許可以促使我們謹慎地參慮自己的未來。真實的物理研 究工作常常是單調的,或至少不像我們許多人在小中學時 所看的通俗科學讀物中形容的那麽多彩多姿。通常必須在 多次失敗的嘗試後,才能有些微的成果。而在工作的同時 ,又要分心去處理許多物理之外的問題——要經費、修儀 器、甚至同事之間的權力關係等等。和某些其他行業相比 ,物理研究在金錢和時間這些有形的投資報酬率上看,似 乎是偏低的。或許有些人不在意是否賺大錢,只要求一個 安定的工作,而這一點在目前物理人才僧多粥少的情況下 ,也不是輕易就能達到。套用一句老話: "知之者不如好 之者,好之者不如樂之者",如果真正有興趣、有能力, 能夠從研究工作中得到滿足並樂此不疲,這樣的人一定可 以在物理之中尋得安身立命之處。反之則不妨以物理訓練 作為自己向某他學科或其他行業進軍的基礎。世界上引人 入勝的事物到處都是,並不限於物理一端。只要是能夠自 得其樂,並且無害於人群的,都值得我們追求。

囉嗦了一大堆,希望不至於致人不耐煩。其中的觀點都只是我個人的,或許會和事實有出入。總之大家不妨多接觸各方面的資訊,"把天線伸長一些",才能在需要的時候,做出最恰當的決定。

祝

春祺

李國平上 3/27/94

Dear Keng-hui:

Thank you for your message about space and time. I am glad to know that you people are making effor to continue its publication, which has never been easy. The connection between alumni and current students are always weak, because as you know, most of the graduates are dispersed in the U.S. instead of in Taiwan. I was curious about the lives of "them" overseas, now I am one of them. However, like most of the recent graduates, I plan to go back to Taiwan in a few years and settle down. I am appending the addresses of my classmate in NTU physics department. You may broadcast a message to them about space and time or whatever you want. By the way, I am one of 3 or 4 people staying in physics. I am a postdoctoral associate in Rockefeller, as Prof. Lin probably told you.

All the best, Hsin-Fei

孟心飛 '87年畢業

It is nice to hear form "space and time". I and some of my friends here have started issuing a newspaper for almost one year. To be an editor I under-stant how sad if not get the meteroal enough and good and on time for printing.

I am still in physics department but doing things getting far and far away from physics. I really enjoy my research (acoustics). It is full of fun to deal with things which are transparent, tangible even audible and beautiful. (ps I am not saying pure physics is not like thins, it should be all like this to people who are thousands time smarter than me.) I also made many good friends here. Life has been treating me much better than I would hope.

Wish your journal come out nice and easy. #

Fang-Chu

陳芳祝 '87年畢業

閫鴻基學長1988年畢業,在今年初寫給林淸涼教授的信中 節錄出。他現在在slac下的一個實驗室(位於stanford內)

在研究方面,這一年多裡我們倒是有不少突破,去年(93)7月裡,我們終於偵測到了我們苦心尋找的遠紅外光,經過幾個月的努力,我們証實了這是所謂的同調(coherent)光源,我們並且成功地將理論値與實驗值的差距縮到上下20%,從實驗值推斷,我的pluselength 平均為480fsec(10 ^-15sec),最短的約為200fsec,也是說我們的光源波長由數個mm到大約140mμm,而它的強度約為2000k 黑體輻射光源強度的10^4-10^5倍。這樣的強度,據我們所知是世界最高的!所以我們現在正積極地找尋它的應用領域。我的指導教授相信前景應該很好。

由於這樣的成果,也使我有機會參加在洛杉磯舉行的 SPIE研討會,從這次研討會,裡更進一步証實了我們的看 法--我們的結果尙無人能匹敵;另一方面,在這個會裡,最 熱 門 的 話 題 竟 是 -Applications of ultra-short pluses。這更增加了我們的信心!

回顧過去三年,自從一開始參與這劃,我便很幸運地跟著它一起成長,我學了很多須要動手做的經驗,並且有機會設計紅外光偵測器、Michelson 干涉儀及其他電子方面的儀器,除了關於這些東西有關的知識,我也體會到了身爲一個設計者的重要性一一除了要考慮到實際與理想間的差距,還要留下未來發展的空間。可以說是一個難得的機會,而我也會掌握這個機會去學到最多的知識。我曾跟我的指導教授提及畢業後回台發展的可能性(因爲家庭因素,我也須要如此做),他對我所受的訓練也信心十足。他是一個難得的指導教授。

除了專業訓練,來到美國也讓開了眼界。來美之前,由於有限的知識,往往會有一種"歐美先進"的錯覺,但來此觀察了美國,使我不再有這種感覺,反而開始對中國傳統的價值觀給了新的定位。科技、生產技術的進步不是真正的進步,它只是改善了生的標準;相對的,人們內心的充實社會的和諧等等道德層面的進化,才是真正的進步,而這兩者習習相關,過度重視其中之一都不對。美國雖然科技進步,卻也呈現了一般人內心的空虛。社會的進配是美國今日的問題所在,而團隊合作的典範算是日本、德國。我想台灣今日要努力的是尊重個人發展的自由,並且加強團隊合作的體認。以英國爲借鏡,師法德國、日本,並且回頭發掘老祖宗留下的寶藏,因爲這些教訓都在他們的墳墓裡,我們今天卻任其荒廢。不好意思,魯班門前弄大斧,這些只是學生的一些淺見,希望老師指教。

Wei-Chih Liu

(1)Right now, I am studying for my Ph.D. degree in University of Maryland, Chemical Physics Program. This program is very fine, emphasizing with statistical mechanics and atomic & molecular physics. Besides, UMD is near DC, there are several federal research institutes around here--National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST), NIH, NASA..... They communicate with UMD very closely and are very important research resources. My research is on atom in intense laser fields, with theoretical investigation and numerical calculations. Playing with atom and supercomputer is sometimes exciting and sometimes frustrating.

(2)Words for juniors

At first, if any of you are interested in UMD or my research, please feel free to contact with me. The best way is via e-mail. My e-mail accounts are wcliu@wam.umd.edu and liu@bruce.nist.gov.

Second, as you know, in USA the job market for scientists is very harsh recently. When you think about your future (and physics'), I think you'd better be fully aware of this situation. Lots of have been said (I am afraid less has been done), you can refer to following articles:

ials and insightful articles in their digest. You can mail-s "help" ysn-request@ren.salk.edu for information or anonymous ftp to snorri.cpac.washington.edu, then cd/ ysn for back issues of YSN.

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Sorry, I don't know what's the best way under this situation. However, one must face the reality and find his own way out.

Best Wishes!

Sincerely, / Wei-Chih Liu 別成志 '87年畢業

Name: Min-Jay Wang

Sex: Male Age: 25 Student ID: B76202016

I do not study physics anymore, ... in fact, I should say I chose some area very close to physics, electrical engineering. As a matter of fact, I chose optics as my major which is not too far from physics. I am sure physics will accompany with me for the rest of my life as a good friend but a career. Optics is an interesting subject because a lot of things associated with it, expecially you can explore the the bea uty of light far beyond the capability of traditional electrical circuits. Also, the most important thing I need to mention is you can "eventually" find some job after you graduate.

Optical interconnect is my research topic, although I think it's hard to be done. However, I learned a lot from it, either in the theoretical or practical point of view, because I know what's the most important issue need to be solved in the industry and this kind of recognition can help me to catch the trend of future technology.

I am with the electrical engineering department at University of California, San Diego. Nothing much to mention, but nice climate, beach, almost no rain and little earthquake compared with LA or SF.

王名保(為王名儒之弟)

[&]quot;Depressed by Lack of Grants and Jobs, Materials Scientists Warm to OSTP Plan," (Physics Today, June 1991)

[&]quot;Survey Finds Gloomier Job Market for PhDs," (Physics Today, Dec. 1991).

[&]quot;Signs of Tighter Job Market Grow; More than Recession at Work" and "PhDs Fared Worse in 1990 Job Market, Survey Shows," (Physics Today, Mar. 1992)

[&]quot;Condensed Matter Physics in a Market Economy" by John M. Rowell (Physics Today, May, 1992)

[&]quot;Roundtable: Physics in Transition," (Physics Today, Feb. 1993)

[&]quot;APS Issues: The Employment Problem--Cyclical or Structural," (APS News Mar. 1993)

[&]quot;The Physics Market: Bleak for Young Physicists" and "Initial Employment of Physics Doctorate Recipients: Class of 1992" (Physics Today, Dec. 1993)

And lots of articles "Letters" section of Physics Today from May, 1992 Another valuable resource is YSN-Young Scientist Network, whose members are mostly physicists. There are many informative mater-

HI! Lin Keng-Hui,

I am the students graduated in 1991. My std ID is 76202012.

I went to University of Washington, Seattle in Sept. 1993. My major is E.E. now. For me, the most difficult thing is the communication barrier. Americ have no patiency to hear your bad accent. My physics background came up with the proficient training in Math. I think that's where I am more execellent than the other american classmates. My research intesest is computer application, so I choose the parallel processing field right now. In this field, the main research topic is how we can implement an high performance parallel computer architechture with the fault tolerant ability. Current application is to design the commercial parallel high performance machines use the RISC cpu. My project is to compare the architechtures between the INTEL PARAGON parallel supercomputer and UW own designed parallel supercomputer by the benchmarks.

EE dept in UW is quite lousy. It's more tough than the Phys Dept of NTU, because the students need to know how to deal with the regular classes and project researchs in the quarter system, which is only 3 month long per quarter. In our EE dept, the POWER field has the most resources in money and assistant-ships.

Language barrier -- to learn English. Overcome the culture barrier and get married with the blond. The scenery is so different with Taiwan's. You can make friends with lots of people from the other countries.

I like the challenge, as the pain I am sufferring now in UW. I sleep quite less and get into a bad physical condition. But I think that's OK. Because that's the challenge for you life. If you can beat it and jump to a new environment eventually, you sucessfuly fullfill your dream and goal.

Please feel free if you want a further description about UW.

Hsiao-Ping

曾晚平

I graduated in 1991. I am not studying in Physics. I am studying in computer engineering now in Santa Clara University. It is a very small school located in Santa Clara, California, U.S.A.. Yet it is the earliest university in the west coast. It is also in so-called silicon valley. That's one of the reasons I went here.

Computer science is a "big field". It really has many faces. The theory of computing, analysis of algorithm, computer graphics, design and analysis of a computer are mathematics. The architecture of computer is related to E.E. The rest of it is software. I should say it is related to problem solving. How do you solve a problem by a computer language? If you think computer is kind of scary. Most of the reasons are you are not very familiar with a computer language or computer system. Don't worry. It takes time. In the curriculums of physics department. We didn't have any computer training but these instructors assumed us know about it. That may be the "computational problem. I didn't take the course physics", but I had heard about it. It is not a really computer-oriented course. My physics background doesn't help me much. This field is more practical and realistic. And you can also find a lot of interesting stuff here. For people interested in computer science, I will suggest them to take some courses in Taiwan and do further study in States. Two basic courses are algorthms and operating system. If you can have some hand-on experience in UNIX, even though using it to send E-mail, that will be helpful.

Hope I can receive the "Space and Time" very soon!:-)

-- Jiun-jiun

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