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References

1. Academic Senate, University of California, *Notice* 20 (no. 4), 1 (February 1996).

DOE Privatization

Dan W. Reicher of the Department of Energy (DOE) (Letters, 19 Jan., p. 279) writes that DOE "is considering privatizing NIPER (the National Institute for Petroleum and Energy Research)." He does not mention that DOE has already privatized NIPER once. The IIT Research Institute (IITRI), of which I became senior vice president in 1988, won a competition in 1983 for a cooperative agreement with DOE. Under this agreement, the NIPER staff became employees of IITRI, and IITRI was responsible for running the lab and obtaining funding from private or governmental sources like IITRI's other contract research and development units. The line-item budget from DOE went to zero over 5 years, and the privatization should have been considered a success. However, DOE was unhappy with the loss of "their" facility, and in 1994, NIPER reverted to being a traditional government-owned, contractor-operated facility like the other DOE labs.

So much for progress at DOE!

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Corrections and Clarifications

The Research News article "Tilting against a major theory of movement control" by E. Pennisi (5 Apr., p. 32) should have mentioned that Hiroaki Gomi is now based at NTT Basic Research Labs in Atsugi, Japan.

In the Research News article "Manic-depression findings spark polarized debate" by Virginia Morell (5 Apr., p. 31), the description of the study led by Douglas H. R. Blackwood at Edinburgh University should have noted that the findings of a locus associated with bipolar disorder 1 on chromosome 4 were supported by a similar association in 2 of 11 Scottish families vulnerable to the disease.

In line 25 of the technical comment "Faunal evidence and Sterkfontein Member 2 foot bones of early hominid" by Jeffrey K. McKee (1 Mar., p. 1301), "*Chasmaphorthetes silberbegi*" was spelled incorrectly.

The TBS documentary mentioned in "Journal of plague years" (Random Samples, 23 Feb., p. 1063) is based on Laurie Garrett's book *The Coming Plague* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 1994).

The mean time of treatment and follow-up in the Beta Carotene and Retinol Efficacy Trial (CARET) sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) was 4 years, not 8 years, as might be concluded from the News & Comment article "'Natural' cancer prevention trial halted" by Kim Peterson (26 Jan., p. 441). In the same article, the Physician's Health Study was described as NCI "contract research," when, in fact, it was funded by an investigator-initiated grant.

In the letter of 19 January (p. 275) from Sheldon F. Gottlieb and Sidney Fox, the antepenultimate sentence should have read, "Their actions concerning the insert are not representative of the people of Alabama."

Letters to the Editor

Letters may be submitted by e-mail (at science_letters@aaaas.org), fax (202-289-7562), or regular mail (*Science*, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, USA). Letters are not routinely acknowledged. Full addresses, signatures, and daytime phone numbers should be included. Letters should be brief (300 words or less) and may be edited for reasons of clarity or space. They may appear in print and/or on the World Wide Web. Letter writers are not consulted before publication.

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