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Ring Laser Design

In relation to the article "Ring laser senses Earth's spin" by Alexander Hellemans (Research News, 5 Sept., p. 1435) about the C-II laser gyroscope, we note a letter by H. R. Bilger (3 Oct., p. 17), asserting sole authorship of the design of this ring laser. This is incorrect.

1) In particular, even the inaugural design document ("The C-11 design manual," August 1994), itself skeletal in places, had two authors, Hans Bilger and Ulrich Schreiber. Early input at this level by Schreiber in the design document and from experience operating a large ring laser in New Zealand is not adequately acknowledged in Bilger's letter.

2) Bilger's letter omits mention of the more detailed and lengthy design work for C-11 by the Carl Zeiss company in subsequent years. This was necessary to provide a substantial part of the novel applied technology and to make the instrument possible.

3) The setup and the conditions of operation have changed drastically over the last 15 months. Major modifications were made during the 8-month commissioning by Schreiber on site at Christchurch, New Zealand.

In summary, Bilger's letter underrates the contribution of others at all levels and ignores items 2 and 3.

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Corrections and Clarifications

■ The affiliation of Frederick Prete, the second author of the report "Visual input to the efferent control system of a fly's 'gyroscope'"by Wai Pang Chan *et al.* (10 Apr., p. 289) was given incorrectly. He is in the Department of Biological Sciences (not "Psychology") at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

■ In the Meeting Brief "Clues to unsolved arsenic case" by Jocelyn Kaiser (20 Mar., p. 1850), the affiliation for Michael Waalkes should have been given as the National Cancer Institute.

Letters to the Editor

Letters may be submitted by e-mail (at science_letters@aaas.org), fax (202-789-4669), or regular mail (*Science*, 1200 New York Avenue, 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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