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Space Propulsion

James Glanz ("Plasma physicists seek new uses for the legacy of fusion," News, 8 Dec., p. 1569) describes a space propulsion device based on a "leaky" nuclear fusion mirror machine, as proposed by Terry Kammash of the University of Michigan. I proposed the same device almost 40 years ago, providing a detailed preliminary engineering design in two reports, both entitled "The thermonuclear rocket engine" (dated 1 February 1957 and 30 June 1957) to the Aerojet General Corporation. The concept was also described in some detail in the open literature (1) and to a generation of graduate aerospace engineering students at Princeton University who took my course "Nuclear Powerplants" (1957-1967). I guess the old adage "there's nothing new in the world" may have some basis after all.

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1. J. Grey, Astronautics, October 1959, p. 23.

Corrections and Clarifications

A table entitled "The favored 30" accompanying a News & Comment article by Jocelyn Kaiser about Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) grants to medical schools ("Med schools receive Hughes windfall," 12 Jan., p. 138) inadvertently omitted two schools. Those omitted were the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, each of which received a \$4-million award—the largest awards given by HHMI. The missing grants awarded by HHMI are shown below. Also, the name of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine was misspelled.

THE MISSING TWO

\$4,000,000

University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

In the news article by Jon Cohen "AIDS trials take on peer review" (News & Comment, 5 Jan., p. 20), the table on page 21 should have listed the University of Washington at Seattle instead of Seattle University and the University of Pennsylvania instead of Pennsylvania State University.

Letters to the Editor

Letters may be submitted by e-mail (at science_letters@aaas.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. Letter writers are not consulted before publication.

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