

CANDLE PERSPECTIVES CLARIFY THEMSELVES

The progress of the CANDLE project attracts increasing interest among the international scientific community as the facility for the frontier research in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, nano-technology, pharmacology, environmental science, biotechnology. Though over 40 synchrotron light sources operate worldwide, sited mainly in the USA, Western Europe, and Japan, the capacities are far beyond the increasing demand. The proposals for the experiments are sometimes tenfold as much as the existing potential. CANDLE project in Yerevan has not passed to the construction phase yet, while the foreign scientists expressing their interest for utilization the bright light that will provide the new facility.



The Ambassador of USA in Armenia, His Excellency John M. Ordway visited CANDLE Center last week, where being aware of the achievements expressed his satisfaction for the development of the project.

An official delegation of French scientists arrived Yerevan the same day to visit CANDLE with the aim to adjust the possibilities of the creation and usage of two beamlines for long-term research programs on microelectronics, as well as medicine and structural biology. During they stay in Armenia the French physicists had time to acquainted with CANDLE and its activity in detail, as well as visited the Institute for Physical Research, Institute of Organic Chemistry, met the President of Armenian national Academy of Sciences, the President of Yerevan State University, and Catholicos Garegin II.

Prof. Guy Le Lay from the University of Provence, member of European Round Table on SR usage, considers the creation of the new synchrotron radiation center in Yerevan will strongly promote the development of advanced technologies in Armenia and will engage a vast number of foreign users to work at CANDLE. The companies related to high technologies seek after the opportunities to perform applied research using synchrotron radiation, and that will find positive great outcomes for the education and economy of Armenia, he concluded.

Prof. Jean Mark Layet from University of Provence, Head of Matter Science Department, feels there are all the reasons to make the most favorable forecasts on the development of science in Armenia. "I am deeply impressed by the meetings with Armenian scientists. Despite the difficulties in having access to modern experimental tools, the research level and the number of scientific publications remain rather high. The fact, that in Armenia has been developed the world class project of such caliber as CANDLE, shows the high intellectual potential of the country which is strategically the most important resource for Armenia.", Prof. Jean Mark Layet said.

“After detailed study of the CANDLE project I can certainly state that this will be one of the cutting-edge machines in the world. Already today the project is a subject of keen interest for the scientific community. The realization of the project will enhance the integration of Armenia with the world technological development.”, said **Prof. Patrick Soukissian** of University of Paris.

In the opinion of **Dr. Georges Terzian** from the University of Provence, Armenia possesses all the capabilities for the realization of the CANLDE project.

Finally, University de Provence in Marseille and CANDLE signed the memorandum of understanding that expects the establishment of joint research groups, development of beamline instrumentation and end stations, exchange and training of specialists. The result of this collaboration could be the funding of collaborative research programs and the development of high technologies on CANDLE basis.

G. SARMAKESHIAN