

Dr. Hannes Alfvén honored for plasma physics, astrophysics achievements

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Dr. Hannes Alfvén, professor of applied physics in residence, University of California, San Diego, has been granted the highest award of the Soviet Academy of Sciences for 1971 for "outstanding achievements in plasma physics and astrophysics."

Alfvén was notified by cable from Moscow that the presidium of the academy had voted to award him the Lomonosov gold medal. Academy president Matislav V. Keldysh, who signed the cable, said the medal is the organization's highest recognition.

Alfvén, regarded as the father of the modern discipline of classical physics known as hydromagnetism, or magnetohydrodynamics, was awarded the Nobel prize for physics in 1970. In 1971 he received the Franklin Medal from the Franklin Institute.

The Swedish scientist, who divides his time between UCSD and the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, is the author of numerous books and more than 100 articles in his fields of specialization.

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