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Boeing today announced that it will sponsor Polish researchers who will study under the auspices of the International Institute of Theoretical and Applied Physics (IITAP) at Iowa State University.

Under the institute's Eastern European Technology Access Program (EETAP), scholars from leading Polish research institutes will be selected on a competitive basis to visit the United States for up to three months. During their visit, they will be the guests of a research group at Iowa State University or other leading universities, as well as guests of scientists/technical specialists at Boeing.

The mission of IITAP is to foster excellence in scientific research and teaching, with an emphasis on advanced studies and original research in physics and overlapping disciplines. IITAP was founded in 1993 as a joint project of Iowa State University and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and is open to qualified scientists of all countries.

"IITAP established its Eastern European Technology Access Program to provide a stimulus for scientists and technologists to have an opportunity to meet with their U.S. colleagues and to develop mutually beneficial long-term cooperative projects," said Dr. James Vary, director of IITAP.

"We are pleased to be working with Boeing through our EETAP program, to bring top Polish scientists and engineers to the U.S. to meet colleagues in their disciplines," Vary said. "These visits will promote the development of international collaborative research projects. These collaborations will lead to scientific and technical advances with mutual benefits and will promote greater understanding between our countries."

The goal of the project is to foster long-term partnerships and productive collaborations between the U.S. and Polish researchers; to enable Polish scientists and technologists to acquire needed skills and familiarity with U.S. research and development interests; and to enable U.S. scientists to become familiar with the accomplishments and capabilities of their Polish colleagues.

"IITAP forms long-term partnerships with research and teaching institutions in other countries to help strengthen their infrastructure in science and technology," said Jean Boyle, Boeing vice president of international business development at the company's McDonnell Aircraft and Missile Systems unit. "This approach is in complete accordance with our strategy of developing long-term relationships with our international customers."

During their visit, the researchers will both present and attend seminars and visit Boeing scientists and specialists to explore cooperative projects.

Boeing will sponsor two scholars per year for the next three years. IITAP will manage the recruitment of applicants and administer the program.

This is the third joint Polish-U.S. scholarship program undertaken by Boeing this year. This summer, before merging with Boeing, McDonnell Douglas sponsored seven Polish law students in a special Polish-American graduate seminar at Jagellonian University in Krakow, and this fall Boeing will sponsor Polish graduate students who are pursuing studies in scientific and technical areas at American colleges or universities.

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