**UNDER EMARGO UNTIL 00.01 JULY 1 2016**

**Institute of Physics awards Gold medal to Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility Director for outstanding leadership**

**The Glazebrook medal, recognising those who demonstrate exceptional leadership within physics, has been awarded this year to Hugh Elliot Montgomery**

The Glazebrook medal is one of four Gold medals awarded annually by the IOP which, after the Isaac Newton Medal, are the most prestigious of all of the medals awarded by the Institute.

Hugh Elliot Montgomery, director of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility since 2008, has been awarded the Glazebrook medal for repeatedly demonstrating remarkable leadership capabilities throughout his physics career.

Montgomery has been co-spokesperson and spokesperson for several key high energy particle experiments, including the D0 collaboration based at the Tevatron accelerator at Fermilab and the muon-scattering experiment EMC at CERN. Under his directive, both projects resulted in ground-breaking research, including the discovery of the top quark in the early 1990s.

He later became research director at Fermilab and was then invited to be director of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in 2008. During his tenure, he has led Jefferson Lab in its collaborative efforts with Brookhaven National Lab in the research and development for a future Electron-Ion Collider, which would push further the current understanding of hadronic physics.

Montgomery will receive his medal and monetary prize of £1000 at the IOP Awards Dinner, taking place later this year.

**President of the IOP, Professor Roy Sambles,** said of Montgomery receiving the Glazebrook medal: “Professor Hugh Montgomery’s ability to inspire and lead other physicists is exemplary; throughout his career he has led numerous projects, all of which flourished under his stewardship.

“His ability to support his fellow researchers and bring out the best of those who work around him is exceptional, and he is fully deserving of this medal.”

The Glazebrook medal is named after Sir Richard Tetley Glazebrook, the first Director of the National Physical Laboratory and the first President of the Institute of Physics. The medal is presented each year in recognition of those who display outstanding leadership within the physics community.

The IOP awards a number of medals each year to physicists who are exceptional in their field of research, industry, education or outreach.

Alongside the Isaac Newton award there are the Gold medal awards, six subject medals to recognise outstanding researchers in particular fields of physics or industry, two Education and Outreach medals for those who contribute to widening participation within physics education and public engagement, and three early career medals, that are bestowed upon physicists who are still in the beginnings of their career but have already experienced considerable success.

The IOP has been recognising exceptional physicists through their medals and awards since 1914.

**NOTES**

**The Institute of Physics**

The Institute of Physics is a leading scientific society. We are a charitable organisation with a worldwide membership of more than 50,000, working together to advance physics education, research and application.

We engage with policymakers and the general public to develop awareness and understanding of the value of physics and, through IOP Publishing, we are world leaders in professional scientific communications.

Follow the Institute of Physics at @PhysicsNews for more information about our publication and news from IOP.