

Steve Chu Bio

Steven Chu is Professor of Physics, Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and Energy Science and Engineering at Stanford University. He received the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics for laser cooling and trapping of atoms. Other contributions include the optical tweezers of biomolecules, atom interferometry and single molecule biology, medical imaging, batteries, and CO₂ capture. Previously, he was U.S. Secretary of Energy, where he began ARPA-E, the Energy Innovation Hubs, and helped BP stop the Macondo Oil leak. He was also director of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a department head at Bell Laboratories. He received degrees in mathematics and physics from the University of Rochester, and a Ph.D. in physics from the University of California, Berkeley. He has 35 honorary degrees, is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and 8 foreign academies.