PRESS RELEASE

Knight Commander's Cross (Badge and Star) of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ketterle (MIT)

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Johannes Rau, has awarded Professor Dr. Wolfgang Ketterle, John D. MacArthur Professor of Physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Knight Commander's Cross (Badge and Star) of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of his outstanding research accomplishments in the field of atomic physics. In 2001 Professor Ketterle received the Nobel Prize in Physics, together with the American scholars Eric A. Cornell and Carl E. Wieman, for a major breakthrough in research on Bose-Einstein Condensation (BEC).

On November 27, 2002, the German Consul General to the New England States, Mr. Rolf-Dieter Schnelle, will present this very prestigious decoration to Professor Ketterle in a private ceremony, with his family and his colleague and mentor, Professor David Pritchard, present.

Boston, November 27, 2002