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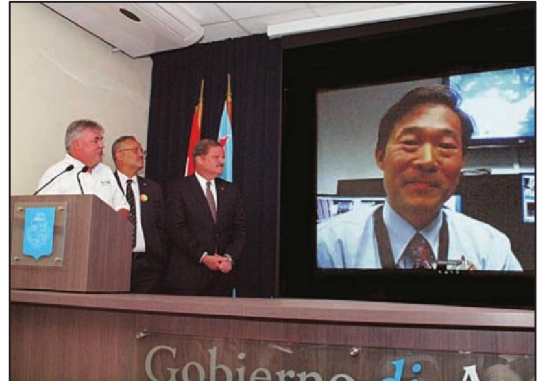
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## Aruban Government honors native son Dr. Ed Cheung with naming of new research center

This will be a momentous week on Aruba, as islanders eagerly anticipate a royal visit from HRM Queen Beatrix and the official opening of the facility which will house the new research and learning center dedicated to renewable energy and the Europe House, located at the outskirts of Oranjestad on the Sasaki Highway.

"We thought long and hard about a name for this facility which would convey all it could mean to Aruba," Prime Minister Mike Eman told media during a press confer-



*Dr Cheung confers with PM Eman, Minister de Meza and TNO official*

ence on Monday afternoon, "we could think of no name more appropriate than the island's premier scientist who has been an inspiration to us all during his nearly 20 year career with NASA-Dr. Edward Cheung."

Dr. Cheung, who earned his PhD in Electrical Engineering specializing in Robotics from Yale University with a scholarship funded by Phillips and NASA, has been with the space program since 1991, and served as Principal Engineer of the Hubble Space Telescope Service Project through the final mission to the telescope in 2009. He was also on duty and widely seen and heard commenting on the final

manned flight of the Atlantis as his team had innovative new equipment onboard related to the new work he will be doing for NASA, implementing a program of repairing and refueling satellites in space deploying robotics, and thus doubling their life span.

Dr. Cheung was present for the announcement via Skype, and could only respond "I am honored beyond words by this announcement. When the Prime Minister called me, I thought it was to invite me to the opening, to be told they decided to name the building after me has simply blown me away."

## Republican Rick Perry unveils 20% flat tax

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Republican presidential hopeful Rick Perry unveiled the center yesterday, proposing flat 20 percent income and corporate tax rates which he said would "unleash job creation."



Pinning his political fate to cherished conservative policies of low taxes, compulsory balanced budgets and dramatic cuts to government spending, Perry vowed to end "the federal nanny state's heavy-handed regulations."

"In exchange for a corporate tax free of carve-outs and exclusions, I offer a much lower rate of 20 percent that represents the average corporate rate among the developed nations," Perry said. "We will shut down the cottage industry of corporate tax evasion by creating a tax that is broad, fair and low."

Perry said individual taxpayers should be able to choose between their current income tax rate or a flat tax rate of 20 percent.

With Perry trailing in the race to become the Republican presidential nominee, the Texan will hope his plan firms-up his policy-making credentials and lends his campaign a tone of authority. But his announcement is just the latest shot in a battle among candidates to convince American voters they have the answers to the country's economic malaise.

"You can continue to pay taxes, as well as accountants and lawyers under the current system, or, you can file your taxes on a postcard," he said waving a slip of paper representing a simplified tax return.

cons for the richest Americans. Conservatives argue reduced taxes free up capital for investment and so benefit the broader economy.

Perry, currently Texas governor, insisted Americans would use the extra cash to invest in business as he warned government departments to expect tougher times ahead.

The shortfalls in government spending would be offset by cuts, with the Departments of Energy, Education and at the Environmental Protection Agency singled out by name. Defense spending would not be cut.

Perry said his reforms would balance the budget by 2020 and would change the constitution to introduce a clause meaning the government cannot spend more than it earns. The level would be set at 18 percent of gross domestic product, down from around 30 percent today, according to figures from the conservative Heritage Foundation.

Perry also proposed companies pay a compulsory flat 20 percent rate, 15 percentage points lower than the current nominal rate. In addition firms would no longer be taxed on income earned abroad, while capital-gains tax, dividends tax and inheritance taxes would also be scrapped.

Perry also proposed sweeping away many of the reforms made by President Barack Obama, including Wall Street reform. "It is time to review and scrap regulations that harm jobs and growth," he said.

*Continued on page 2*

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