THE CLOTHES African culture now influences every aspect of fashion. Beads embellish necklines, adorn hems, and cover even basic bags with intricate designs. Tribal patchworks and batiks give tailored clothes a well-traveled air. Clearly the successor to the bohemian trend, this is the big fashionista look of the season. Shown here on Lisa Randall: Dana Buchman’s beaded viscose V-neck ($250) and Nanette Lepore’s patchwork pencil skirt ($750). Guiseppe Zanotti Design tortoiseshell wedges ($525).

THE ACCESSORIES Shown opposite: Fabric bags like Jamin Puech’s silk tote ($620), embroidered and appliquéd with beads and sequins, make a lightweight but sturdy alternative to leather or nylon bags. Bettye Mueller’s peep-toe pumps ($370) or Camper’s T-strap sandals ($125) add unexpected style to capris and pantsuits. M

INTERVIEWS BY GAIL GRUBER SIEGEL
“As a female professor in a male-dominated field, I tend to play it safe in the way I dress, but seeing these trends has opened my mind to more colors and styles.”

LISA RANDALL | 43
PROFESSOR OF THEORETICAL PHYSICS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, AND AUTHOR OF WARPED PASSAGES: UNRAVELING THE MYSTERIES OF THE UNIVERSE’S HIDDEN DIMENSIONS