

The Department of Physics 50th Anniversary Celebration

DETAILED EVENT SCHEDULE



Friday May 1, 2009

1:00-4:00pm

Registration

Physics Department Office

Come by the Department Office and say hello. Be sure to pick up your packet, name tag, and, of course, some commemorative bling! Bring a few bucks if you want to buy the t-shirt. If you can't get here by 4:00pm, no worries. We'll get your stuff to you later.

2:00-4:00pm

Floyd English Scholarship Reception

Bell Memorial Union 210

Floyd English was the first graduate of the Department of Physics. Every year his foundation bestows \$50,000 of scholarships on the best and brightest science majors at CSU Chico. We have been invited to join the festivities. There will be light refreshments.

4:00-7:00pm

Dinner in small groups

Since many of you will just be getting here Friday evening, we decided not to arrange dinner. Come by the Department Office and join a group heading for a downtown restaurant.

7:00pm-10:00pm

Wine & Cheese - Show & Tell

Physical Science Courtyard

We want each of you to stand up and share something. Us education types might do a physics demo, while industry folks might show off a short video of their latest project, others might present an unusual physics toy they found, and some might just have a photo of their family. It will be a blast, but beware of the five minute gong! We will be welcomed by the Dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Dr. James Houpis. Adult beverages and an amazing array of hor d'oeuvres will be provided.

DETAILED EVENT SCHEDULE



Saturday May 2, 2009

8:00-9:00am **Bagels, Sweet Rolls, Fruit, & Coffee** **Physical Science Room 106**
 A lovely spread of breakfast nibbles and some of the best light conversation you've had at this time on a Saturday morning in years!

9:00-9:15am **Welcome** **Ayres 120**
 Chris Gaffney, Physics Department Chair will kick off the day.

9:15-10:05am **Invited Presentation** **Ayres 120**
"The Importance of Gamma-Ray Detector Energy Resolution for Homeland Security"
 Mr. Thomas Gosnell, Radiation Physicist, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
 The Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office has established numerous radiation detectors at U.S. ports of entry to identify the presence of radioactive threat materials entering the United States. Identification is done primarily by recognition of the unique gamma-ray signatures of radionuclides. We have completed the first systematic study of the gamma-ray detector energy resolution needed to unambiguously discriminate between threat sources and the many non-threat sources encountered in daily in commerce.

10:15-11:45am **Contributed talks** **Physical Science lab rooms**

Time	PS 104	PS 105
10:15-10:40am	<i>Life of a 1st Year Grad Student</i> Ms. Tiara Diamond Physics Graduate Student Florida State University	<i>More Scientists and Engineers Please! Some ways to trick high school students into liking physics and pursuing scientific courses of study in college.</i> Mr. David Atkinson Physics Teacher Lindhurst High School
10:45-11:10am	<i>Angels and Demons and Physics or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Media</i> Mr. Brendan Diamond Physics Graduate Student Florida State University	<i>Electronic Part Reliability in Earth, Mars, and Jupiter Missions</i> Mr. Joseph Piacentine Electrical Engineer Jet Propulsion Laboratory
11:15-11:40am	<i>Fusion Cross Sections to Internal Transport Barriers: An Overview of Tokamak Physics</i> Mr. Eric Edlund Physics Graduate Student Massachusetts Institute of Technology	<i>Trains, More Than Bells & Whistles... You Gotta Have a One Track Mind!</i> Mr. Tuka Gafari Union Pacific Railroad

DETAILED EVENT SCHEDULE



Noon-1:00pm **Picnic lunch** **Alumni Glen**
 A terrific luncheon await us under the trees and next to the creek at the beautiful Alumni Glen.

1:15-1:30pm **CSU Chico President Dr. Paul Zingg** **Ayers 120**
 President Zingg has a few words to share with us on our special day.

1:30-2:20pm **Invited talk** **Ayres 120**
"ElectroMagnetic Tools for Exploration"
 Dr. Thomas Nielsen, Chief Technology Officer, Quasar Geophysical Technologies
 The talk will give a brief overview of a number of past, present, and future electromagnetic sensing systems developed by the Quasar family of companies. Most of these systems will eventually end up on the seafloor, where they are used as exploration tools for hydrocarbons.

2:30-4:30pm **Contributed talks** **Physical Science lab rooms**

Time	PS 104	PS 105
2:30-2:55pm	<i>Electromagnetically Induced Transparency in GaAs Quantum Wells</i> Mr. Tim Sweeney Physics Graduate Student University of Oregon	<i>Chemical Plant Process Improvement</i> Mr. David Snyder Plant Superintendent Georgia-Pacific Chemicals LLC
3:00-3:25pm	<i>Atmospheric Boundary Layer Flow Visualization with the Raman-shifted Eye-safe Aerosol Lidar (REAL)</i> Dr. Shane Mayor Research Professor California State University, Chico	<i>The Anatomy of a Pitch: Using Pitch/FX Data from Major League Baseball</i> Dr. David Kagan Professor of Physics California State University, Chico
3:30-3:55pm	<i>Trends in Optics and Lasers at Chico State</i> Dr. Anna Petrova-Mayor Professor of Physics California State University, Chico	<i>Making a Case for Case Studies</i> Ms. Lynda Klein Professor of Physics California State University, Chico
4:00-4:25pm	<i>Einsteinian Quantum Theory</i> Dr. Tom Love Professor of Mathematics CSU Dominguez Hill	<i>Critical Thinking and You! Ramblings of a New Skeptic</i> Mr. Andrew Fisher L-3 Communications

DETAILED EVENT SCHEDULE



6:00-10:00pm

Banquet & Graduates Gala

CARD Center

We will send this year's class of graduates off right with a program that highlights our alumni and friends. Fresh Approach Catering has a fabulous feast planned from hor d'oeuvres to dessert [menu]. The CARD Center is at 545 Vallombrosa Avenue.

Time	Event
6:00-6:30pm	Hor d'oeuvres and hosted bar
6:30-6:45pm	Group photograph
6:45-7:30pm	Let the feasting begin!
7:30-9:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Banquet Speaker: Dr. James Millerd Chief Technology Officer 4DTechnology <i>"Grease Monkey to Quantum Mechanics: How Chico State and Physics Changed My Life."</i>Scholarship AwardsSigma-Pi-Sigma InstallationRecognition of Graduates

THANK YOU

for making the

**The Department of Physics
50th Anniversary Celebration
a wonderful success!**