The department of Physics hosted a reception in honor of all those graduating in Spring 2006.

Congratulations!

Undergraduate Majors

Neesha Anderson  David Bagwell  Layla Booshehri  Christopher Cook  Rodrigo Delgadillo  David Elam  Ian Fajer  Grace Greenlee  John Harter  Katherine Keller  Simcha Korenblit  Nicholas Kvaltine

David Mahfood  Conor Mancone  Zolt Marcet  Mitchell McCarthy  Shawn Mitryk  Jared Novick  Lawrence Pecan  Michael Pavel  Douglas Sparks  Emmitt Thompson  Catherine Yeh  Justin Zumsteg

PhD Graduates

Aparna Baskaran, Advisor, Dr. Jim Dufty  Rachel Cruz, Advisor, Dr. Guido Mueller  Partha Mitra, Advisor, Dr. Arthur Hebard  Jeremy Nesbitt, Advisor, Dr. Arthur Hebard  Ju-Hyun Park, Advisor, Dr. Mark Meisel  Vijay Potlia, Advisor, Dr. John Yelton  Ryan Rairigh, Advisor, Dr. Arthur Hebard  Stacy Wise, Advisor, Dr. David Tanner  Shengbo Xu, Advisor, Dr. David Reitze

Gheorghe Lungu was unable to attend the ceremony as he is presently working at Fermi National Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois.

Graduation Spring 2006

Graduate Student, Ju-Hyan Park, pictured with advisor, Mark Meisel

Graduate Student, Rachel Cruz, pictured with advisor, Guido Mueller

Undergraduate Student, Simcha Korenblit, pictured with advisor, Yoonseok Lee
STUDENT NEWS

Awards

Aparna Baskaran, graduate research assistant in Physics, has received the University’s prestigious Alec Courtelis Award. The Alec Courtelis Award is given annually to honor distinguished international graduate students for academic excellence and service to the university community. Her award will consist of $3,000 and a plaque. Aparna received her award April 27 at the International Student Academic Awards Ceremony. Pictured are Aparna Baskaran, and advisor, Prof. Jim Dufty.

Physics students, Sung-Soo Kim, Aravind Natarajan, Gheorghe Lungu, and Aparna Baskaran received awards at the Twelfth Annual International Student Academic Awards Ceremony, April 27. Sung-Soo, Gheorghe and Aravind were recipients of the Outstanding Student Award and Aparna Baskaran was recipient of the Alec Courtelis Award. Pictured are Sung-Soo Kim, Aravind Natarajan and Aparna Baskaran.

Awards

QUALIFYING EXAMS for PhD

May 2, MICHAEL HOUST SCHMITT, Prof. Avery, Chair, "Search for Universal Extra Dimensions in Events with Muon(s) plus Jets and Missing Transverse Energy at the CMS Detector"

FINAL EXAMS for PhD

May 10, CHAO CAO, Prof. Cheng, Chair, "Million Atom Multi-Center Multi-Scale Simulation on SiO_2 Systems"

May 30, RONOJOY SAHA, Prof. Maslov, Chair, "Manifestations of One-dimensional Electronic Correlations and Quantum Transport in Higher Dimensional Systems"

Former Student Awarded Postdoc Fellowship at NRC/NA

Mao-Hua Du, a former student of Professor Haiping Cheng, has been recently awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Research Council of the National Academies. He is going to continue his research in the area of computational material physics in the US Naval Research Laboratory.
Prof. James Dufty has received an American Institute of Physics (AIP) fellowship from the State Department in Washington, DC. He will serve a one-year term that begins September 1. As a fellow, Dufty will choose an assignment designed to broaden the reach and visibility of scientific expertise within the State Department.

“The fellowship is a rare opportunity for me to observe and learn the process by which such difficult decisions are made and to influence some of them during my tenure,” he says. “I am honored by the expectation of my peers that I can reflect the value and expertise of scientists in the quite different forum of political policy formation.”

Through the development of the State Department fellowship program in 2001, the AIP became the first scientific society to financially support one scientist annually to work in a bureau or office of the State Department to provide scientific expertise to those who make the nation’s foreign policy.

FACULTY NEWS

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences held its annual recognition ceremony on May 2, and several of our staff were recognized for their service and loyalty to the university. The following people received service awards:

John Graham: 5 years service, Darlene Latimer: 10 years service, Brent Nelson: 10 years service, John Mocko: 15 years service, Judy Parker: 15 years service, Janet Germany: 20 years service, Greg Labbe: 20 years service

Congratulations to Marc Link, Engineer Supervisor, who received the Staff Excellence Award at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Employee Recognition Ceremony on May 2. Marc’s award consists of a plaque and $1,500.
Positions Available

Scientist/Scholar Position in Ultrafast Spectroscopy of Condensed Matter Systems

The National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL) in Tallahassee, FL is seeking a scientist/scholar in the area of optical spectroscopy, with a particular emphasis on performing ultrafast spectroscopy of condensed matter systems in high magnetic fields. We seek candidates with experience in performing time-resolved (femtosecond) spectroscopy and ultrafast optical techniques on condensed matter systems. Minimum qualifications include a Ph.D. in Physics or related field. Experience with CW and ultrafast laser systems, optical spectroscopy techniques (absorption, reflection, PL and PLE, etc.) and time-resolved techniques (pump-probe, four wave mixing, etc.) of condensed matter systems in magnetic fields is essential.

Please attach your curriculum vitae, cover letter describing your research experience, and names and contact information of at least three references. For additional info, please contact Ms. Bettina Roberson, National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, Florida State University, 1800 E. Paul Dirac Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32310-2740, 850-644-0855.

Also, if you have any questions, or want to check directly about the position, please do not hesitate to contact J. Brooks at brooks@magnet.fsu.edu for further information.

Scientist

The University of Florida Physics Department has immediate openings for a scientist at the University of Florida to be based at the LIGO Livingston Observatory in Livingston, LA. While expertise in high average power and stabilized lasers, high precision measurements, and control systems is desirable, we are looking for talented individuals who are willing to actively contribute to an exciting and rapidly growing area of astrophysics. The position is available beginning in Summer 2006. Further information may be found at http://www.phys.ufl.edu/ligo/.

Appointments will be made at either the research scientist and or postdoctoral level depending upon qualifications. Interested persons should send a CV and the names and addresses of three references to:  Prof. David Reitze, Physics Department, University of Florida, PO Box 118440, Gainesville, FL 32611-8440 reitze@phys.ufl.edu

Postdoctoral Position in Computational Materials Physics

A postdoctoral position is open in one of the following two areas:
1) Multi-scale quantum/classical simulation of hydrolytic weakening in materials under stress;
2) Electronic transport at nano scale via first-principles DFT and Green function approaches.

Requirement: A Ph.D in Physics, Chemistry, or Materials Science. Experience with quantum modeling and simulation is desirable.

For information about the Quantum Theory Project at the University of Florida, please visit our website at http://www.qtp.ufl.edu

Interested candidates should send a copy of CV, a list of publications, and three letters or recommendation to

Professor Hai-Ping Cheng ,Department of Physics and the Quantum Theory Project, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-8440