Physics welcomes **Prof. John Yelton** as the department’s new chairman beginning July 1st. Yelton’s appointment was recently announced by the College of Liberal Arts and Science’s Dean, **Paul D’Anieri**. “John has a wealth of experience”, said D’Anieri, “as well as the skills to take on this considerable challenge.” Yelton, who has served as Associate Chair for six years looks forward to the challenges the new position will bring "I am very happy to be selected as chairman. Although the University budget situation is not good, federal funding for the sciences is on an upswing and there are many exciting research opportunities for students and faculty.” Yelton takes over for **Prof. Alan Dorsey** who has been the department chairman since 2002. **Prof. Kevin Ingersent** takes over from Yelton as Associate Chairman.

**Physics Alumni Instrumental in Recent Shuttle Mission**

Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. The Space Shuttle Atlantis launched from Kennedy Space Center on May 11, 2009, at 2:01 EDT. Astronauts are scheduled to install two Ball science instruments and restore two previously installed Ball instruments to peak performance. When the astronauts return to Earth following the 11-day mission, they expect to leave the Hubble at the apex of its scientific capabilities.

Astronauts will install the Ball Aerospace-built Cosmic Origins Spectrograph (COS) and the Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3); and upgrade two critical Ball instruments: the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS), installed in 1997; and the Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS), installed during the 2002 servicing mission. The celebrated mission will extend the operating life of the telescope and greatly enhance its scientific capability. **Thomas Delker**, Ball Aerospace Principal Optical Engineer, and the Department of Physics alumni (2001, **Prof David Reitze**), attended the launch as optics lead engineer. For more information on the project please visit the following link from the Reuters News Agency website: http://www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS121916+01-May-2009+PRN20090501

**Colonel Allan R. and Margaret G. Crow Term Professor**

**Andrey Korytov** has been named the 2009-2010 Colonel Allan R. and Margaret G. Crow Term Professor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. These professorships recognize a select group of faculty who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service. Congratulations to Andrey on receiving this well-earned distinction!

**New Undergraduate Coordinator**

**Professor Yoonseok Lee** has taken over the duties of Undergraduate Coordinator in Physics. He replaces **Selman Hershfield**, who has been undergraduate coordinator since 2003.

**Physics Outreach**

**Physics is Fun!**

**Showing Science at Work**

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**Editors**

Alan Dorsey, Chair
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The Theoretical Astrophysics Group and the Department of Physics hosted a reception in honor of Robert Buchler and Jim Ipser, upon their retirement after a combined 62 years of teaching, research and service in the Department of Physics at UF. More photos can be viewed at:  http://www.phys.ufl.edu/media/ipser-buchler-retirement

L to R: Cynthia Chennault, Daniele Buchler, and Robert Buchler

James and Kathy Ipser

Robert Buchler and James Ipser share some parting thoughts

Professor James Fry presenting gifts

Enjoying the presentations

Stephen Gottesman, retired professor from Astronomy, makes a presentation

Photos by P. Marlin
The Department of Physics hosted a reception in honor of all graduating physics students. The undergraduate awards were presented by Selman Hershfield, Undergraduate Advisor.

Award recipients (L to R) are Katelyn Milliman recipient of the Gene and Richard Garrett Award; Victor Albert recipient of the Ruth and Earl Sawyer Award; and Gage Redler recipient of the Best Senior Thesis Award.

Professor Gary Ihas (center), with graduates Ivan Lozano (L) and Brice Bolin (R)

Selman Hershfield presents the boxed set of Feynman Lectures to the Society of Physics Students President, Art Ianuzzi, for their service in running the coffee and cookie period before the colloquium.

Photo far left: Award recipient Katelyn Milliman with her parents

Photo right: Lloyd Dunkleberger, who has been working with Alex Madorsky

Photos by P. Marlin
PhD Graduates

**PRADEEP BHUPATHI**
"Construction of an Ultralow Temperature Cryostat and Transverse Acoustic Spectroscopy in Superfluid Helium-3 in Compressed Aerogels"
Chair: Yoonseok Lee

**SAITI DATTA**
"Studying the Effects of Interplay between Anisotropy and Exchange in Molecular Nanomagnets"
Chair: Stephen Hill

**ANDREW DOUGLAS**
"Electron Transport near the Anderson Transition"
Chair: Khandker Muttalib

**JINHO LEE**
"Dense Quantized Magneto-Plasmas in High Magnetic Fields Probed by Ultrafast Lasers"
Chair: David Reitze

**RANJANI NARAYANAN**
"Time-Resolved Laser Spectroscopic Studies of Rate-Limiting Events in Protein Folding and Binding"
Chair: Stephen Hagen

**DANIEL SINDHIKARA**
"A Sampling of Molecular Dynamics"
Chair: Adrian Roitberg

**GUNEETA SINGH**
"Size Effects in Phase Separated Manganite Nanostructures"
Chair: Art Hebard

**COREY STAMBAUGH**
"Fluctuation Phenomenon in a Nonlinear Microelectromechanical Oscillator"
Chair: Ho Bun Chan

**CHI-DEUK YOO**
"Phenomenology of Supersolids"
Chair: Alan Dorsey

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**Faculty News**

**Faculty Promotions**
Professors Ho Bun Chan and Amlan Biswas have been promoted from the rank of Assistant Professor to the rank of Associate Professor, effective August 16, 2009. President Machen has also recommended to the UF Board of Trustees that both Ho Bun and Amlan be granted tenure; the Trustees are expected to vote on all of the tenure recommendations on June 12th.

**Visiting Scholars Program funds MINERvA experiment**
Professor Heather Ray has been awarded $11,000 by the United Research Association’s (URA) Visiting Scholars Program in support of her work on the MINERvA experiment.
Travel Awards

Jesus Escobar and Vivek Mishra have each received a Summer 2009 CLAS Graduate Travel Award of $250. Each also receives $250 from the Physics Department.

Jesus Escobar is a 4th-year student working with Professor Pierre Ramond in theoretical elementary particle physics. He plans to attend the Theoretical Advanced Study Institute (TASI) school in Elementary Particle Physics, "Physics of the Large and the Small," to be held June 1-26 in Boulder, Colorado. Each year typically fifty or so of "the most promising advanced theory graduate students in the United States," along with a few beginning postdoctoral fellows and experimental graduate students, attend the TASI school.


Recently Married

Jie Zou, a third year graduate student in Prof. Ho Bun Chan's group, married Ye Wang on March 29 at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Ye is a second year graduate student in Department of Educational Psychology. They met each other as undergraduates at Peking University and since then they have always stood by and supported each other in good times and bad. After long journey of dating, on March 29, the vows were exchanged, and the bridal bouquet was thrown. A new chapter of their love story has begun. May their love continue to grow!

Physics Outreach

John Mocko, Senior Teaching Laboratory Specialist, presents the Physics is Fun! Show to a large audience at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. The demonstration was part of the University of Florida's Center for Precollegiate Education and Training Recognition Ceremony for the Duke University Talent Identification Program.

Photos by P. Marlin
Showing science at work  The Physics Department hosted students from Lincoln Middle School as part of Math & Physics Day at UF. Jeffrey Bindell, physics lecturer, led the presentation. The following is an excerpt from the article in the Gainesville Sun:

About 30 students from Gainesville’s Lincoln Middle School watched Tuesday as a transmitter produced unseen electromagnetic waves. Moments later they let out an “Oooo!” as a bulb held above the device lit up - demonstrating the kind of technology used in cell phones. Without the technology, "your parents would never know where you are," said Jeffrey Bindell, a physics lecturer who led the demonstration.

The effort was part of the Florida High Tech Corridor Council's techPATH initiative to promote technology careers to middle and high school students. While Bindell has done a similar presentation 10 times before for students visiting the University of Central Florida, where he teaches, this marked his first on the UF campus. He said the presentation aimed to get the sixth-graders engaged in science at a time when it can make a difference in their future proficiency. What we're trying to do is show them science is interesting," he said. "If you do the math and science now - in the sixth grade - you can have a career that's fun and makes money." Read full article at http://tiny.cc/msEke.

Jeffrey Bindell uses a volunteer for one of the demonstrations

Pam Morgan, Alachua County Public School Secondary Math and Science Curriculum Specialist, is part of the demonstration

Bindell during presentation

Lincoln students try out the exhibits in the Physics building lobby

Lincoln students try out the exhibits in the Physics building lobby

Lincoln Middle School students enjoy the presentation

Photos by P. Marlin