

THE BIG BANG

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS, HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

No. 8 Submit information to jan.mangana@hamptonu.edu and type THE BIG BANG in the subject line MARCH 24 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Accomplishments:

Congratulations! Peter D. Amedzake successfully defended his research dissertation on Friday, March 21 in the Harvey Library. His title is "Crystal Growth and Spectroscopic Characterization of Pr³⁺ - and Dy³⁺ - doped KPb₂ Br₅ and KPb₂ Cl₅ for Mid-Infrared Laser Applications." His advisor is Uwe Hommerich.

Congratulations to Heritage High School students, Jasmine Berry and Kierra Johnson, for winning first place in the poster presentation session at the School of Science Research Day Symposium, March 14, 2008. Their research was entitled, "Spectroscopic studies of Yb doped crystals for 1µm applications". They have both been admitted to HU for the fall 2008. Uwe Hommerich is their research advisor.

SIGMA PI SIGMA Induction Ceremony—

The HU Department of Physics chapter of ΣΠΣ, the national honor society for physics students, will proudly induct new members on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, in Turner Hall 139 at 6:00 p.m. Any graduate students who are interested in being inducted should contact Jan Mangana by this Friday, March 28th. Dr. Gary White, Director, Society of Physics Students & Sigma Pi Sigma, American Institute of Physics, will be the speaker for the event. All faculty and students are strongly encouraged to attend. Seminar classes PHY-117, 217 317, 410, and 500 are required to attend.



Department Seminar

Speaker: Gordon D. Cates, University of Virginia Professor of Physics and Radiology, and Director, Institute for Nuclear and Particle Physics.)

Title: *Spin-Polarized Nobel Gases: Visualizing Human Lungs in Action*

Date & Time: Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 2:00 pm

Place: Olin Room 128

Annual Fund

Contributions from physics faculty and staff will be solely earmarked for the Department of Physics, and will be used for the renovation of our Reading Room, Olin 518. Therefore, you are encouraged to make a contribution. Please see Dr. Temple before submitting

anything to ensure that it will be earmarked for physics. Thank you

REMINDERS

Pre-registration is March 17 - April 11. You must check on the website under REGISTRATION to see when you are scheduled to register according to classification and last name. The penalty for not pre-registering is \$100.00. You will be responsible to pay that fee if you fail to pre-register. No exceptions!! Graduate students see Dr. Whitney for advisement and pin numbers, undergraduates see Dr. Temple.

FYI

Rockets with Dr. T.

Please email jan.mangana@hamptonu.edu if you would like to build a rocket this spring.



FREE-CYCLE

<i>stuff you have and don't want</i>	<i>stuff you want and don't have</i>
<i>Ceiling fan (new)</i>	<i>Wood desk</i>
<i>Bathroom fixtures(new)</i>	<i>Bicycle</i>

Call 727-5277 for information on the items listed above.

March Birthdays:

Eric Christy, March 17

Marcus Wiggs, March 26

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"This intense heat they project in a parallel beam against any object they choose by means of a polished parabolic mirror . . . heat, and invisible, instead of visible, light. Whatever is combustible flashes into flame at its touch lead runs like water, it softens iron, cracks and melts glass, and when it falls upon water, incontinently that explodes into steam."

HG Wells

War of the Worlds -- 1898