



the Photon online

July 2006– Issue 48
Summer Supplement



The Physics Walking Club received shirts, from the UMD Health Center, on May 24, 2006. They are now the newest contingent of Terps on the Move.



We've received more pictures from the 2006 Spring Commencement. Click [here](#) to view the latest additions to the album.

O.W. Greenberg was chosen as a Fulbright in Ireland. He will spend the fall semester, of 2006, at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. For more faculty awards, visit the News section.

Jim Yorke has been mentioned in two best selling novels. The following is an excerpt from Mark Haddon's, the Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time:

“...when lambda is greater than 3.57, the population becomes chaotic...this was discovered by Robert May and George Oster and Jim Yorke. And it means that sometimes things are so complicated that it is impossible to predict what they're going to do next, but they are only obeying really simple rules.”

To read more, or to view more faculty in the news, visit the News section.

The Staff Awards Ceremony was held on June 21, 2006 in the John S. Toll building. This year, Robert Dahms was awarded the Chair's Award and Aaron McQueen was awarded the Sibylle Sampson Award. To view a list of award recipients and nominees, visit the Recent Events section.

Andrew Baden took over as Chair of the Physics Department on July 1, 2006. Click [here](#) to view the Letter from the Chair, his first contribution, to the Photon online, as chair.

The Physics Department recently received a copy of an illustrated notebook from Lt. Col. David W. Starr '56. The notebook includes details from the Nike-Zeus anti-missile and Explorer I (the fist American Satellite placed in orbit).

To view Starr's notebook and articles click [here](#).

Emeritus Professor, Manoj Banerjee, passed away on February 18, 2006. Click [here](#) to view an obituary that was submitted to Physics Today.

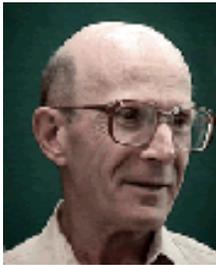


DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICS
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



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Congratulations



O.W. Greenberg was chosen as a Fulbright in Ireland. He will spend the fall semester, of 2006, at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. His project title is "Theory of Elementary Particles Based on Quantum Field Theory on Noncommutative Spacetime."



Dan Lathrop will be the new Director of the Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics, serving a five-year term. He has served as an interim director for the past year.

In June, a meeting in Aveiro, Portugal is being held in honor of the 65 th birthdays of Jim Yorke and Arrigo Cellina. Cellina received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from UMD. They will both be celebrating their 65 th birthdays on August 03, 2006

In the News

Jim Yorke has been mentioned in two best selling novels. The following is an excerpt from Mark Haddon's, the Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time:

"...when lambda is greater than 3.57, the population becomes chaotic...this was discovered by Robert May and George Oster and Jim Yorke. And it means that sometimes things are so complicated that it is impossible to predict what they are going to do next, but they are only obeying really simple rules."

In addition, the following is an excerpt from Brad Meltzer's, The Zero Game:

"Minsky again scratches at his beard... 'Have you ever heard of Dr. James A. Yorke,' he finally asks. We both shake our heads. I can barely sit still. 'He is the father of chaos---even coined the term...'"

William Dorland was quoted in the New Scientists on May 22 in an article about nuclear fusion and how it could become a more viable energy solution with the discovery of a way to prevent super-hot gases from causing damage within reactors.

To view the article, visit: <http://www.newscientisttech.com/article/dn9202-nuclear-fusion-plasma-problem-tackled.html>

Michael Fuhrer, was quoted in Inside Science New Service on May 3 speaking about the American institute of Physics 75 th anniversary and where physics is going today.

Douglas Hamilton and his research on Triton, a satellite of Neptune, was the cover story on May 10 th 's edition of Nature. The story and research was also published on Physicsweb.org, the New Scientists Xinhua News Agency China and National Geographic on May 10, the United Press International on May 11, the Washington Post on May 15 and he spoke with the Discovery Channel on May 10 and the BBC News on May 11th.

RECENT EVENTS



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Staff Awards

Robert Dahms was awarded the Chair's Award for recently taking on the position of departmental compliance officer. The position gave Bob additional duties that required him to attend training courses, act as a conduit for safety information and handle all safety aspects for the department. Nominees for this award included the following: Bernie Kozlowski, Bob Woodworth, Jane Hessing, Cheryl Ekstrom and Loretta Robinette.

The Sibylle Sampson Award was given to Aaron McQueen for his creativity, initiative and self-motivation in the creation of the G station (Graduation Station) program. Aaron was willing to take on this project that was clearly out of the scope of his position. The Sibylle Sampson is given to recognize someone who successfully completes a task that benefits the department or specific unit there in. Nominees for this award included the following: Aaron McQueen, Dave Cogswell, Cleopatra White and Robert Dahms.

The following staff members celebrated their anniversaries:

Brian Barnaby (10 years)-Superconductivity
George Butler (5 years) – Receiving
Robert Dahms (10 years)- Procurement
Cheryl Ekstrom (5 years)- Business and Finance
Al Godinez (10 years)- Receiving
Dan Marguilies (5 years)- Lecture Demonstration
Allen Monroe (25 years) – Instructional Laboratories
Bill Norwood (35 years)- Instructional Laboratories
Belta Pollard (20 years) – Superconductivity
Pauline Rirksopa (15 years) – Superconductivity
Francoise Santos (10 years)-Payroll
Cleopatra White (10 years) – Superconductivity



Physics Cookout

On May 31, 2006, the Department of Physics hosted a Physics Cookout for the facilities management staff. The facilities management and staff are an integral part of the department; this barbeque was held to thank them for all of their hard work this past year.

UP NEXT



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July 4, 2006 Independence Day Holiday

July 17, 2006 Summer II Classes Begin

August 2, 2006 MRSEC Poster Session for REU

August 30, 2006 Fall Classes Start

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



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Dear Colleagues,

I would like to start off by thanking Jordan Goodman, for the outstanding leadership that he has provided this department for the past 7 years. He steps down from this position, leaving us with great successes and many memories. They are big shoes to fill, but I'd like to begin my term by informing you all of my goals to help maintain the outstanding reputation and momentum Jordan has created. My main priorities will focus on supporting our excellent faculty in their research endeavors, improving our educational experience for our undergraduate and graduate students and the Physical Sciences Complex (PSC).



The department is also currently working toward establishing a new Joint Quantum Institute (JQI) with NIST. This exciting new venture promises to cultivate research collaborations between our institutions. In addition to JQI, all of our research groups and centers are exploring a vast amount of physics topics and consistently produce outstanding results. During my term, I hope to maintain continued excellence in our research missions.

In a few weeks we will begin yet another academic year. I am fortunate to have an excellent administrative team to help me at the start of my term. Greg Sullivan and Doug Roberts will serve as the associate chairs for student services. Greg will be an outstanding Associate Chair of Graduate Education. I am very grateful for his generosity in offering to step up and help with the graduate admissions process, especially given his ever increasing role in commissioning the Ice Cube experiment and getting ready for physics with the additional strings expected to be placed in the ice next winter.

In addition, Doug Roberts will serve as Associate Chair for the undergraduate program for another year, continuing the high level of excellence of the past 2 years. Doug has accumulated a great deal of experience in this job, and this has served the department well and will continue to do so. In the next year, I hope to work with Doug to further improve the undergraduate experience for our students.

I have seen the Physical Science Complex evolve from an idea to a reality. With the help of Steve Rolston, I hope to move into the PSC by the end of my term. Steve has agreed to take over as Associate Chair for Facilities and Personnel. This position is central to the department, and Steve will take over all of the usual duties of this position. He will also play a role in the new PSC project from now until it is built.

None of this would be possible without the support of the department's outstanding staff. I consider them to be the lifeblood of the department, together, we will remain one of the top physics departments in the nation. I hope that you enjoy the rest of the summer and get ready for an exciting new academic year.

-Drew

EDITOR'S NOTE



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Dear Readers,

Ray Davies once said, "People take pictures of the summer, just in case someone thought they had missed it, and to prove that it really existed." This Summer Supplement of the Photon is filled with photos to attest to the exciting events we've held these past few months. Visit our Recent Events section to view our albums from the physics staff awards and the physics cookout. We've also added pictures from Graduate Appreciation Day, in the Graduate Blog, and new pictures from the 2006 Commencement Ceremony.



There's still a lot of summer left, enjoy.

And take lots of pictures!

Best,
Carole

CONTACT US



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The Photon Online is the official University of Maryland-Physics online newsletter. We release an issue monthly to highlight researches, alumni, awards, honors and events. The views and opinions of our readers are valued; please contact us with any questions, ideas or comments.

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