SU PHYSICS NEWS – FEBRUARY 2015

Presentations by Faculty:


Scott Watson:

• joint string seminar, “How well can we really know the scale of inflation?” Duke and the North Carolina University (February 5, 2015).
• talk, “How well can we really know the scale of inflation?” University of Utah, Department of Physics & Astronomy (February 27, 2015).
• colloquium, “Cosmology as a Probe of Physics Beyond the Standard Model”, Northeastern University (February 19, 2015).

Presentations by Emeritus Faculty:

A.P. Balachandran, invited talk on “Local Quantum Fields and Gauge transformations”, at the workshop on Quantum Physics: Foundations and Applications from 3 to 13 February, 2015, National Institute for Theoretical Physics, Wallenberg Research Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa (February 6 and 9, 2015).

Presentations by Research Faculty, Postdocs and Students:

Samantha Usman (undergraduate) was awarded a Caltech LIGO Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship.

Lisa Manning received a Cottrell Scholar Award. Her proposed work is “Using Single-Cell Mechanical Properties to Predict Pattern Formation and Mechanical Response in Biological Tissues”. Cottrell Scholar Awards recognize early career faculty with exceptional potential in both research and academic leadership and provides $75,000 over three years for research support.

Announcing a new endowed professorship in Physics: the Charles Brightman Endowed Professorship. This professorship is based on a very generous gift to physics by the family of the daughter of Prof. Brightman, who was on the faculty in the Department of Physics from 1927 through 1950. Please see the announcement at http://news.syr.edu/university-unveils-charles-brightman-endowed-professorship-of-physics-54542/.

Participation in Advisory and Review Boards:

Duncan Brown: elected member at large for executive committee of APS Division of Computational Physics.

Liviu Movileanu has served as Grant Reviewer and Study Section Member at Biomaterials and Biointerfaces (BMBI) Study Section, The US National Institutes of Health, San Francisco (February 4-5, 2015).

Other:

Mark Bowick: one of the principal organizers of ICERM Semester Program on “Phase Transitions and Emergent Properties”, Brown University, Providence, RI (February 2 - May 8, 2015).

Britton Plourde:
- participant at the IARPA Multi-Qubit Coherent Operations Program Technical Exchange meeting in New York City (February 6, 2015).
- served on a virtual panel for proposal review for the NSF Division of Materials Research, Condensed Matter Physics (February 23-24, 2015).

Additional January News:

Mark Bowick represented the Cornell-Syracuse-Harvard Graphene Metamaterials Origami and Kirigami collaboration at the DOE/NSF Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) Principal Investigators’ Meeting in Bethesda, Maryland (January 12-13, 2015).