

Greetings again, fellow physicists, physics teachers, physics aficionados, etc. This newsletter has most of the same stuff as the one I sent out last week, with a couple brief reminders and corrections.

REMINDERS:

****Registration for the upcoming Force and Motion workshop on October 4th at St Joseph's University closes this Thursday, September 18th. See below for details. There are still 10 slots available as of now. (If they sell out or you miss the deadline, Greer Richardson richards@lasalle.edu is the one to contact.)**

CORRECTIONS:

I had a typo in the introduction of last week's newsletter, and I erroneously stated that the workshop at St Joseph's University was on October 18th, not the 4th. The SEPS AAPT Demo Day at West Chester East is on the 18th. You should register for that (email Art Zadrozny ArtZadrozny@gmail.com) too!

Also, in listing our slate of SEPS leaders:

President: Jeremy Carlo, Villanova University
Past President: Paula Miller, Lincoln High School
Vice President: Sardari Khanna, York College of Pennsylvania
Treasurer: Art Zadrozny, West Chester East High School
Secretary: Jillian Waldman, Archmere Academy

I omitted several important people:

Webmaster: Martha Takats, Ursinus College
Section Rep: Jay Bagley
Members at Large: Anne Tabor-Morris, Bill Berner, Bob Schwartz, Ling Liang

Please let me know if there are any other errors!

Here's a brief summary of this newsletter:

1. Register now for free Force and Motion workshop at Saint Joseph's University (workshop 10/4, register by 9/18)
2. Register now for Inaugural Mid-Atlantic APS Meeting at Penn State University (meeting 10/3-10/5)
3. Register now for SEPS AAPT Fall Demo Day! (10/18 at West Chester East)
4. Save the date for SEPS AAPT's Spring Conference at Swarthmore College (March 5th and 6th, 2015)
5. Swarthmore College Hosts Telescope Open House on Second Tuesdays (next one 10/14)
6. Drexel University Hosts Annual Kaczmarczik Lecture: The 3D Universe (10/22)
7. Registration now open for Chesapeake Section AAPT Fall Meeting (10/24 at Loyola University in Baltimore)
8. EdCampNJ Hosts Free Education Unconference in North Brunswick (11/22)
9. Penn Outreach Lectures at LRSM (next lecture 10/17, then 11/14, 12/12)
10. LRSM Science Cafes at Saint Declan's Well and Stoney's British Pub (next science cafes 10/6 in

Wilmington, 10/15 and 11/5 in Philadelphia)

11. Vanderbilt University hosts new NSF-funded MOOC on Undergraduate STEM Education (free course begins 10/6)
12. Updates to AP Physics Exams and Formula Sheets (effective May 2015, affects C as well)
13. September Physics InSight Slideshow now available (about careers in physics)
14. Cool physics links: The topology of pizza and potato chips, Serious scientific answers to absurd hypothetical questions, Epic pendulum wave demonstration, Elegant ten-second inertia demo by a stage magician, MOOCulus online calculus course with free textbook and graded practice problems
15. SEPS AAPT Online

Please read on for more information and local events! If you know anyone who is in need of a biweeklyish info dump of local physics-education events, please pass their contact information on to me so that I can add them to the list! Or if you have any events you want to publicize, please let me know about those, too.

Feel free to email me or Jeremy Carlo (jeremy.carlo@villanova.edu) if you have any questions about our upcoming spring meeting. I look forward to seeing many of you at Villanova next month!

And as always, please let me know by email (jwaldman@archmereacademy.com) if you would like me to change your subscription, or if you have friends or colleagues who would like to be added.

Best,

Jillian Waldman
Secretary, SEPS AAPT
Science Teacher
Archmere Academy
Claymont, DE 19703

1. REGISTER NOW FOR FREE FORCE AND MOTION WORKSHOP AT SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

This hands-on workshop will address the topics of Newton's Laws of Motion, forces, friction, rotational motion, impulse and momentum conservation. Participants will also learn how data can be transferred wirelessly from a Vernier Lab Quest II to an Apple iPad.

Presenters: Barry Feierman, Kathleen McElroy, and Bob Schwartz

Sponsors: Saint Joseph's University, LaSalle University, SEPS AAPT, and the Philadelphia Regional Noyce Partnership.

Saturday, October 4, 2014
Saint Joseph's University
Science Center, Room 317
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Light breakfast served at 9:00 am

Free parking provided

Registration is free, but limited to 24 people. Register here by September 18th: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/physics-workshop-series-for-science-teachers-force-and-motion-tickets-12877909173>

This is the first in a series of workshops, including a February 2015 workshop on the theme of

Energy and Thermodynamics, and an April 2015 workshop on Waves, Light, and Sound.

If you have further questions about this workshop or the workshop series, please read the attached flyer, or contact Barry Feierman (bhfeier@aol.com) or Greer Richardson (richards@lasalle.edu).

2. REGISTER NOW FOR INAUGURAL MID-ATLANTIC APS MEETING AT PENN STATE

<http://sites.psu.edu/midatlanticaps>

The inaugural meeting of the Mid-Atlantic section of the APS will be held at Penn State University, October 3-5, 2014. The [Mid-Atlantic Section \(MAS\)](#) is a new APS unit that serves District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Its goal is to strengthen the physics community in the region and to aid APS in its mission to advance and diffuse the knowledge of physics at the regional level. Flyer here: <http://sites.psu.edu/midatlanticaps/wp-content/uploads/sites/7744/2014/07/poster.pdf>

The deadline for early registration and late abstract submission was September 12th, but late registration and onsite registration are still available.

A workshop/discussion about teaching undergraduate physics will precede the meeting; there is a \$20 additional registration fee for the workshop:

<http://sites.psu.edu/midatlanticaps/workshops/>

3. REGISTER NOW FOR SEPS AAPT FALL DEMO DAY!

Demo Days are a fun opportunity for physics teachers to gather and share their favorite classroom demonstrations. Past Demo Days have presented a range of demonstrations, from those using everyday items, like popcorn and broken glass, to technology that can show students how to measure the speed of light. Attendees need bring nothing more than a love for Physics, but all are welcome to bring and share their unique ways of demonstrating physics concepts.

This year's Fall Demo Day will be held at East High School in West Chester, PA, starting at 9:00 with a light breakfast and conversation with area Physics teachers, followed by presentations of 5- to 10-minute demonstrations that can liven up your classes.

You are asked to register for this event by emailing our host, Art Zadrozny: ArtZadrozny@gmail.com. If you have a demo you'd like to present, please let him know, and include any specific technical needs.

There is no cost to attend, although we strongly encourage you to pay the nominal (\$10) annual dues to support our work and officially join SEPS AAPT.

East High School is located at: 450 Ellis Lane, West Chester, PA 19380

Use the Gym entrance, from 9:00—11:30am

4. SAVE THE DATE FOR SEPS AAPT SPRING MEETING AT SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

Our Spring conference will be held March 6-7, 2015, at Swarthmore College. This conference gives high school and college faculty the chance to hear from noted speakers on some of the most current topics in both Physics research and Physics education strategies.

Unlike the others, this will have an associated registration fee — details will follow later in the year as they are hammered out. If you have any questions or suggestions, our SEPS AAPT President, Jeremy Carlo, jeremy.carlo@villanova.edu, is probably the best person to ask.

5. SWARTHMORE COLLEGE HOSTS TELESCOPE OPEN HOUSE SECOND TUESDAYS

The Swarthmore Department of Physics and Astronomy (located in Swarthmore, PA) hosts a

telescope open house each month. It is on the second Tuesday of the month and is held from 8 to 9 PM from October through March and from 9 to 10 PM from April through September.

The open houses are held at the new [Peter van de Kamp Observatory](#) on the roof of the Science Center. Here is a [map and directions](#): http://astro.swarthmore.edu/observatory_directions/index.html

Note: They cancel the open house if it is too cloudy. A notice will be posted on the [department page](#) (<http://www.swarthmore.edu/physics-astronomy>), but sometimes not until the last few hours before the open house is due to start, as [the weather \(and weather forecast\)](#) can change quickly.

For more information, check out <http://astro.swarthmore.edu/>

6. ANNUAL KACZMARCZIK LECTURE AT DREXEL: THE 3D UNIVERSE

The Drexel University Department of Physics cordially invites you:

19th Annual Kaczmarczik Lecture

"Click: The 3D Universe"

Margaret J. Geller, PhD
Senior Scientist, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Wednesday, October 22, 2:00 PM
Main Auditorium, Main Building
3141 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia PA, 19104

We live in the first time when it is possible to map the universe. We now know that galaxies like our own Milky Way trace the largest patterns in nature. These patterns, first seen in a slice of the universe in 1986, extend for hundreds of millions of light years. Now with large telescopes, we can trace the evolution of these patterns and compare them with some of the world's largest computer simulations. A new survey, HectoMAP shows us the patterns in the universe nearly 7 billion years ago. A HectoMAP movie takes us through the data. Comparison of HectoMAP observations with simulations provides new direct tests of our understanding of the evolution of structure in the universe.

Margaret Geller, PhD Princeton, is a Senior Scientist at Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Acclaimed astrophysicist and recipient of numerous awards, Geller is best known for her pioneering maps of the distribution of galaxies in the nearby universe. These maps, together with COBE observations of fluctuations in the microwave background, profoundly changed the view of large-scale structure in the universe. Geller has also made substantial contributions to the study of galaxies and their environment. She has developed and applied techniques for measuring the matter distribution in clusters of galaxies. She is currently making a deeper map of the galaxy distribution called HectoMAP.

Open House - 12:00 Noon

Preceding the Lecture, the Department of Physics will hold an Open House consisting of exciting science demonstrations and exhibits with brief presentations on biophysics, astrophysics, computational physics, condensed matter physics, among others. You and your students will have the opportunity to tour some labs and refreshments will be served. All events are free and open to the public.

We hope that you will join us for this year's event. To participate, simply register online.

For more information please visit: <http://www.drexel.edu/physics/kacz>, and/or read the attached flyer.

7. REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR CHESAPEAKE SECTION AAPT FALL MEETING

The fall meeting of southern neighbors, CSAAPT, is coming up on October 24,25 2014 at Loyola University in Baltimore. The Chesapeake Section includes physics teachers throughout Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Delaware. They hope that you will be able to attend, and perhaps submit a paper or physics demo. Father Frank Haig is their gracious host, and the Loyola Meetings in the past have always been terrific.

The details of the meeting are included in the attachment, along with a map of the campus. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please contact David Wright, CSAAPT President, dwright@tcc.edu.

8. EDCAMPNJ HOSTS FREE EDUCATION UNCONFERENCE IN NORTH BRUNSWICK

Check out edcampnj.org. Tickets to this FREE unconference are going fast.

When: Saturday November 22, 2014

Where: Linwood Middle School, North Brunswick New Jersey

Cost: FREE!

Who should attend?: Teachers, Administrators, Superintendents... All Educators

What is Edcamp? Edcamp is a form of unconference designed specifically for teachers and their needs.

What makes Edcamp an unconference?

Unlike traditional conferences which have schedules set months in advance by the people running the conference, Edcamp has an agenda that's created by the participants at the start of the event. Instead of one person standing in front of the room talking for an hour, people are encouraged to have discussions and hands-on sessions. Sponsors don't have their own special sessions or tables, all of the space and time are reserved for the things the people there want to talk about. People could pay hundreds of dollars to attend another conference, or they could go to Edcamp for free.

Built on principles of connected and participatory learning, Edcamp strives to bring teachers together to talk about the things that matter most to them: their interests, passions, and questions. Teachers who attend Edcamp can choose to lead sessions on those things that matter, with an expectation that the people in the room will work together to build understanding by sharing their own knowledge and questions.

Edcamps are:

free

non-commercial and conducted with a vendor-free presence

hosted by any organization interested in furthering the edcamp mission

made up of sessions that are determined on the day of the event

events where anyone who attends can be a presenter

reliant on the "[law of two feet](#)" that encourages participants to find a session that meets their needs

Over 250 Edcamp events have been held to date around the world.

9. PENN OUTREACH LECTURES AT THE LAB FOR RESEARCH ON THE STRUCTURE OF MATTER (LRSM)

Since 1994, the LRSM has presented a monthly series of materials-based lectures during the school year to science teachers. These are given by faculty and staff associated with the LRSM. The lectures are free, generally take place on Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm and are followed by food and refreshments during which teachers can engage the speaker in conversation about the talk or other aspects of education. Teachers can also receive Act 48 credit. All talks take place at:

LRSM, 3231 Walnut Street, Philadelphia

The next teachers lecture of the year will be held on Friday, October 17th at 6:00 pm in the LRSM Reading Room, 3231 Walnut St. The talk will be preceded by a tour of the new Singh Center for Nanotechnology at 5:30 PM. The speaker will be Amush Patel, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, and the topic:

“Building a Bridge from Protein Structure to Protein Interaction.”

Remember that pizza and refreshment will follow and that parking is available on-street via Pay and Display kiosks. Come and bring a colleague or good student! More information about the LRSM's outreach lectures is available at the link below. If you are interested in attending, please contact Andrew R. McGhie at 215-898-6461 or at mcghie@lrsm.upenn.edu.

Future lectures include:

November 14: Arjun Yodh, Physics & Astronomy
“Imaging the Body with Light”

December 12: Jan Van der Spiegel, Electrical and Systems Engineering
“From Microelectronics to Nanoelectronics; the driver of the information revolution”

For more information: <http://www.lrsm.upenn.edu/outreach/teachers.html>

10. LRSM SCIENCE CAFES AT ST DECLAN'S WELL AND STONEY'S BRITISH PUB

LRSM also offers a series of science cafes, open to the public. The Science Cafés, which are science talks for laymen about materials-related topic of current interest, will take place at 7:30 pm at Stoney's British Pub, 3007 Concord Pike, Wilmington DE and Saint Declan's Well, 3131 Walnut St. Philadelphia, PA, at 6:00 pm.

Upcoming Science Cafes include:

October 6, 2014 at Stoney's British Pub in Wilmington: Dillon Brout, Physics & Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, “Advances in Race Car Vehicle Dynamics and Race Strategy”

October 15, 2014 at St Declan's Well in Philadelphia: Igor Bargatin, Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics, University of Pennsylvania, “Advances in Race Car Vehicle Dynamics and Race Strategy”

November 5, 2014 at St Declan's Well in Philadelphia: David Salas-de la Cruz, Ph.D., EIT, Rutgers University, Camden, “3D Printer: Materials and Custom-made Manufacturing Revolution”

November 10, 2014 at Stoney's British Pub in Wilmington: Karl Adamsons, Axalta, “Art Preservation Over the Last ~5000 Years”

Full schedule here: <http://www.lrsm.upenn.edu/events/sciencecafes/>

11. NEW MASSIVELY OPEN ONLINE COURSE ABOUT UNDERGRADUATE STEM TEACHING

“An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching” is a MOOC on undergraduate STEM teaching that starts in early October, aimed at new faculty, grad students, and post-docs. This seven-week course explores effective teaching strategies for college or university STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) classrooms.

The course will draw on the expertise of experienced STEM faculty, educational researchers, and staff from university teaching centers, many of them affiliated with the [Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning \(CIRTL\)](#), a network of 22 research universities collaborating in the preparation of STEM graduate students and post-docs as future faculty members. The seven-week course will be highly interactive, with many opportunities for peer-to-peer learning. Learning communities are at the heart of CIRTL's activities, and this open, online course is intended to foster a large, healthy learning community of those interested in undergraduate STEM teaching--including

current STEM faculty.

"An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching" has been developed by faculty, staff, and students at [Vanderbilt University](#), [Michigan State University](#), [Boston University](#), the [University of Wisconsin-Madison](#), and the [University of Colorado-Boulder](#).

For more information or to enroll (for free): <https://www.coursera.org/course/stemteaching>

12. UPDATES TO AP PHYSICS EXAMS AND FORMULA SHEETS

As you may have heard, the College Board has been talking about revamping the AP Physics B exam for several years now. This spring will be the first time that the new exams — AP Physics 1 and AP Physics 2, both three-hour exams, but each on approximately half of the previous AP Physics B material — will be offered. Note that the exam will be offered on May 6 — the Wednesday of the first week of AP Exams, the week before the Physics C exam.

More information here: <http://advancesinap.collegeboard.org/math-and-science/physics>

If you are a Physics C teacher, does this affect you? Maybe, maybe not. The College Board thought the Physics C exam worked quite well and did not need to be revised. The only change that definitely affects all AP teachers is that the equations sheets have been revised to bring them in alignment with each other and best practices. Here's the new Physics C sheet, with some small but crucial revisions — <https://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/file/view/APC%20Equation%20sheet%202015.pdf/520996784/APC%20Equation%20sheet%202015.pdf>

And here are the new algebra-based equation sheets:

Physics 1: <https://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/file/view/APC%20Equation%20sheet%202015.pdf/520996784/APC%20Equation%20sheet%202015.pdf>

Physics 2: <https://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/file/view/P2%20Equation%20sheets%202015.pdf/519722914/P2%20Equation%20sheets%202015.pdf>

Both combined: <https://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/file/view/P1%262%20Equation%20sheets%202015.pdf/519722990/P1%262%20Equation%20sheets%202015.pdf>

Also, if you're an AP Physics teacher who's been teaching the course for 3 years or more, OR if you're a college professor with the patience and interest, the College Board is looking to hire "AP Exam Raters" to spend a week grading exams in early summer 2015. Now is the right time to apply if you're interested — later in the year, everything will be full already! Getting into the rater pool is not a guarantee that you will be called to grade exam (e.g. they haven't actually called me yet) but you do stay in the pool for 5 years once you're in.

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/homepage/4137.html?excmpid=MTG2-ED-10-hnet>

13. SEPTEMBER PHYSICS INSIGHT SLIDESHOW NOW AVAILABLE

We are proud to announce that the September 2014 edition of the Physics InSight slideshow is now available at:

<http://www.aps.org/careers/insight/download.cfm>

As in previous editions, the September 2014 slideshow includes lots of colorful slides on diverse physics careers and topics. New material in this month's edition includes:

- Profiles of Kathy McCormick, radiation detection subject expert for US Customs and Border Patrol; Anthony Day, physics bachelor and Detector Development Scientist at Pacific Northwest National Lab; and SPS 2013 Intern Kelby Peterson who spent a summer working on developing new tools for biomolecular sensing.

- Data highlighting Physics Bachelors' performance on the 2012 MCAT, and starting salaries for physics PhDs by sector.
- Information about the Future of Physics Days 2015 (special events for undergraduates at the APS March and April Meetings), the APS Job Center, and the upcoming APS Conferences for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CUWiP).
- Information on Geiger counters, the mechanics of how a dog shakes itself dry, and flames in outer space!

We're pleased that you're using Physics InSight in your departments, and welcome any suggestions you may have for improving our slide show. Please send any questions, comments, or suggestions for physicists to feature in the slideshow to me, Crystal Bailey (bailey@aps.org). Also, if at any time you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please let me know.

14. COOL LINKS:

Here's a neat article in Wired about the topology of pizza and potato chips (and Gaussian curvature): <http://www.wired.com/2014/09/curvature-and-strength-empzeal/>

Randall Munroe's fantastic "What if?" column (tagline: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions) remains fantastic — his most recent column was on what would happen if you had all the money in the world, and what would the physical behavior of such a giant pile of cash be like — and he's just put out a new book: <https://what-if.xkcd.com/>

Pendulum motion with sound: an epic demonstration of the effect of pendulum length on period, with sound. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhMiuzyU1ag>

Elegant ten-second inertia demo by a stage magician: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o94Pm-Cty3M>

MOOCulus is a massively open online Calculus course hosted by Coursera, created by OSU, with a free downloadable PDF textbook and online automatically graded practice problems: <https://mooculus.osu.edu/>

15. SEPS AAPT ONLINE

For news, upcoming events, and photos of past events, check out the SEPS AAPT web presence online and on Facebook!

Website: <http://www.physics.upenn.edu/~aapt/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=166735829132>