November 2003

Newsletter

In the Month of November

• Tuesday, November 4 – Devotional: Lawrence M. Vincent
  professor of music and voice

• Tuesday, November 11 – Devotional: Elder Dieter F.
  Uchtdorf of the Presidency of the Seventy of the
  Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

• Tuesday, November 18 – Forum: Robert Alter, professor of
  Hebrew and comparative literature at the University of
  California at Berkeley

• Tuesday, November 25 – No Devotional

Friday Instruction

Thursday, November 26 – Holiday: Thanksgiving

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College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

Honored Alumni Lecture

Our 2003 Honored Alumnus was Dr. Berthold W. Weinstein, Acting Associate Director of the Biology and Biotechnology Research Program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Bert graduated from BYU with a double major in Physics and Mathematics in the early 1970s. During Homecoming Week he presented a stimulating lecture on the importance of interdisciplinary research in solving scientific problems of importance to the welfare of society. Bert is working on a version of his lecture that could be made available on the college web site in the near future.

Also during Homecoming Week, several departments held activities for the alumni. We appreciate very much the efforts of faculty and staff in maintaining close relationships and positive interactions with our alumni and friends.

Undergraduate Mentoring DVD Available

You may recall seeing a nearly-finished video on undergraduate mentoring during our University Conference college meeting. The video has now been completed and mass produced in DVD format. We will be sending DVDs to alumni and other potential donors, but they may be of use to faculty members who are involved in recruiting, high school presentations, or other activities at which highlighting undergraduate research opportunities would be productive. If you would like a copy for such use, or if there is someone in particular that you feel would benefit from seeing it, please contact the dean's office.
BYU Students Win Awards

Recently, five BYU students from the Department of Physics & Astronomy won outstanding paper awards at the American Physical Society Four Corners Section meeting held in Tempe, Arizona on October 24-25, 2003. These five students were selected out of 12 total awards given in this 4-state region. Each student received $100.00 and a book.

Carolee Blackham (undergraduate)
V802 Aq1, a W Ursae Majoris Eclipsing Binary

Thomas Butler (undergraduate)
Specific Heat-Phonon Spectrum Inversion by Odd Hermite Expansion

Sarah Stokes (high school student doing research in the BYU Department of Physics & Astronomy)
Chemo-Mechanical Surface Patterning of Germanium Surface Using an Atomic Force Microscope

Melinda Tonks (undergraduate)
Nanoscale Chemomechanical Surface Patterning Using an Atomic Force Microscope

Jed Whittaker (graduate student)
Measurement of the Mechanical Adhesion between a Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube and a Silicon Dioxide Substrate
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry


Department of Computer Science


Department of Geology


Department of Mathematics


Department of Physics and Astronomy


