

SACS-AAPT

2000 Spring Meeting

Agenda

Friday, March 10, 2000

6:00 - 8:30 PM Registration - Hagan Chapel - Fellowship Hall - Hagan Chapel

6:15 - 6:45 PM Tour of Funk Heritage Museum

7:00 - 8:30 PM INVITED "Flying, Falling, Floating and other Fysics Fun"

Dr. Ray Turner, Clemson University, Dept. of Physics, traymon@clemson.edu

Attend an audience participation presentation with Dr. Ray Turner as he demonstrates some of his flying, falling and floating toys, and other things. But this is school, so bring a pencil and perhaps a calculator as well as your thinking cap. Be prepared to demonstrate teamwork as you interact with teachers, students, and family members to answer some trivial and some not so trivial questions.

Teachers come and try to impress the students and family members with your physics expertise. Students and family members, come and watch the teachers try to impress you (but probably embarrass themselves). Come early to get a good seat, but be prepared to change seats as you are rearranged into teams. As always, be prepared to learn something while you also have a good time.

8:45 - 9:15 PM Tour of Funk Heritage Museum

Note: SESSIONS BEGIN TOMORROW MORNING AT 8:30 AM

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Saturday, March 11, 2000

7:45 - 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM - NOON Registration - Hagan Chapel - Fellowship Hall

8:30 - 8:45 AM Welcome

Dr. William A. Nevious

President, Reinhardt College

15 MINUTE PAPERS

8:45 - 9:00 AM "Magic is Really Physics"

Ntungwa Maasha, Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick GA 31525

(912) 262-0458 maasha@bc9000.bc.peachnet.edu

J. Fred Watts, college of Charleston, Charleston SC 29424

(843) 953-8075, watts@cofc.edu

Magic can be used not only to get the attention of your students but also to teach some basic physics principles. The two presenters will show some of the magic they learned at the AAPT Winter Meeting in Orlando. Some "freebies" will be distributed so that you too can be a magician in your classroom.

9:00 - 9:15 "Workbook for Introductory Mechanics Problem solving"

Daniel M. Smith, Jr., P.O. Box 7709, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC 29117,

(803) 536-7162, dsmith@scsu.edu

A workbook has been developed to show students how to begin their problem solutions conceptually. Results will be presented on student acceptance of the workbook and its effectiveness.

9:15 - 9:30 AM "Interactive Personalized Homework on the WWW using WebAssign"

J. B. Sharma, Gainesville College, jsharma@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu

WebAssign is a web based personalized homework and testing system which has all the problems from most introductory university physics texts on it. Students get immediate feedback by getting their homework or test graded by WebAssign leading to better student learning and study habits.

9:30 - 9:45 AM "Introductory Physics for Marine Science Majors"

Louis Keiner Coastal Carolina University, P.O. Box 261954, Conway, SC 29528 (843) 349-2226
lkeiner@coastal.edu

This presentation details the task of structuring an introductory physics course to meet the needs of Marine Science majors.

9:45 - 10:00 AM ""Hands-on Physical Science"

Teresa Burns Coastal Carolina University, P.O. Box 261 954, Conway, SC 29579

(843) 349-2225 tburns@coastal.edu

Attempts to teach standards-based physical science to elementary education majors using hands-on inquiry-based techniques will be presented.

10:00 - 10:15 AM Coffee Break

WORKSHOPS

10:15 - 11:15 AM Dobbs 205

" Reading: A Gateway to Scientific and Critical Thinking"

Subhash Bhatia and Derrick Hylton, Morehouse and Spelman Colleges, 440 Westview Drive, Atlanta, GA 30310, (404) 215 - 7724, dhylton@spelman.edu

Many studies have indicated that the incoming freshmen are weak critical thinkers. This weakness spills over into the science courses, so that the students perform below our expectations. In our opinion, this is not due to lack of ability, but is the result of many factors. A module "Scientific and Critical Thinking" was developed as a cocurricular activity to address this problem. The objectives, implementation, and results of initial offering will be presented. A demonstration of the module will be held followed by discussion and analysis. It is hoped that this will influence the future curriculum development in Physics and Astronomy.

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Dobbs 201

"DataStudio, The Next Generation in Science Software"

Alen Brown, PASCO Scientific, 1799 McLain Road, Acworth GA 30101, (770) 424-5448,
brown@pasco.com

DataStudio is truly superior software. It allows data collection and excellent analysis as well as custom configurations, complete lab write-ups via the workbook and mathematical modeling. A bundle will be given away to one of the participants. It will include an interface and sensors as well.

12:30 - 1:30 PM Gordy Dining Hall

Lunch and Business Meeting