

The Hispanic Physicist

The Newsletter of the National Society of Hispanic Physicists

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NSHP MEETS WITH APS-TEXAS

Last October 28-29 the National Society of Hispanic Physicists held its annual meeting at Rice University. With an attendance of over 400 people, NSHP held a joint meeting with The Texas Sections of The American Physical Society, The American Association of Physics Teachers, and Section 13 of The Society of Physics Students.

Among the main activities of NSHP were the board meeting, the NSHP-sponsored reception, as well as several contributed and plenary talks of NSHP members. Equally important was the joint meeting the NSHP board had with the Committee on Minorities of the American Physical Society and the board of the National Society of Black Physicists.



At the NSHP board meeting, contacts were made with influential members of the Houston Hispanic scene. Roland Rodriguez explained the benefits of using new web and TV technology for educations and communication. Dorothy Caram, a professional fund raiser, explained the basics of how to get connected with private foundations and offered hints on how to turn NSHP into a non-profit organization. NSHP in turn offered Caram the support of several of its Houston members to the upcoming Career Day organized by the Houston Hispanic Forum (<http://www.hispanicforum.org/>).

As a result of this successful joint meeting, NSHP has been invited to be a participant of the Spring meeting of the Texas Section of The American Association of Physics Teachers which will take place this coming March at Sam Houston University, request which is being considered by the NSHP board.

NSHP SESSION @ SACNAS 2000

NSHP organized the session "Frontiers in Physics" at the annual SACNAS meeting in Atlanta this past September. Ramon Lopez, UTEP, spoke about "Sun-Earth Connection", Carlos Handy, Georgia Tech, who about "Wavelet Analysis and Quantum Mechanics", and Emir Macari, Louisiana State U. on "Granular Materials". [Luz Martinez was originally scheduled to talk, but she was ill and could not attend: ¡Saludos Luz!]

The session was attended by about 30 people. Students found the presentations very interesting. The number of students in physical science attending the SACNAS meetings has been slowly increasing.

The 2001 SACNAS meeting will be in Phoenix in September. NSHP is looking for volunteers to organize another session. Interested? Please contact Ramón López, relopez@utep.edu.]

NSHP - NASA/OSS DIALOG

NSHP President met with the NASA Space Science Education Council to explore ways to increase diversity within NASA Space Science programs and the space science activities within NSHP and other minority organizations, such as the National Society Black Physicists (NSBP).

The meeting took place on 12/5/2000, in Galveston, TX, as part of the meeting of the OSS Education Council. The Council is comprised of the Education Forums and Broker/Facilitators that make up the OSS Education and Public Outreach Support Network (see: <http://spacescience.nasa.gov/education/ecosystem.htm>) and forge relationships between NASA Space Science missions and researchers and educators committing 1-2% of all OSS funds, with over \$30M/yr put into education.

The question addressed by NSHP-NASA/OSS was how to increase the diversity of participants in those programs. No final answer was found, but a strong sense developed that building carefully planned relationships between NSHP, NSBP, and other organizations with NASA-OSS is a fundamental key. For more information contact NSHP or Philip Sakimoto, Education and Outreach Program, NASA/OSS, phil.sakimoto@hq.nasa.gov

Research Profile: Peter Cabauy

Peter Cabauy is the NSHP Student Representative, and as such he made an important contribution at the NSHP meeting with the APS Committee on Minorities. This is a summary of his ideas.

Since I accepted the NSHP board position, I have been searching for a way to make a contribution. This was the case, until this past meeting in Houston where I talked about my graduate school experiences. In some ways I have found my experiences to be unlike most of my peers' at the Univ. of Michigan, in that I came in with a six-year fellowship. However, the coursework in graduate school and the qualifiers proved to be daunting and somewhat unattainable making my future uncertain. But graduate school is a difficult time where goals need to be re-evaluated. In my case, I can say confidently that if it weren't for the fruitful research experience as an undergraduate and the six-year fellowship that acknowledged this, I may not have persevered through the first critical years.

For this reason, I believe that any efforts that can be made to direct undergraduate Hispanic students to fellowships is a worthwhile goal for our community. It not only serves as a confidence builder when going through the first, hard years of graduate school, but it also serves through the research years. I have had the privilege to take my portable fellowship off-campus to Argonne National Laboratory and work for Paul Benioff, a pioneer in the field of Quantum Computing. It has been a personal dream of mine to work in this field, and whenever I get the chance to speak about my research at Argonne National Laboratory or my graduate fellowship offered by the National Physical Science Consortium, I do so very happily. It is my hope that in doing so there may be other students who can greatly benefit from similar opportunities. I believe that the NSHP is poised to offer national awareness of current research and scholarship opportunities simply by sharing our experiences as Hispanic physicists.



News you can use

DEAN, College of Science, Math. and Technology at The University of Texas at Brownsville

UTB/TSC is seeking an individual with enthusiasm, vision and energy committed to teaching, research and community service in a diverse environment to further the development of existing and emerging programs in research, academic and technical education, and outreach with school districts and industry, as well as to envision and create new programs.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in an academic discipline of the College and credentials that would merit tenure at the rank of professor. Additionally, outstanding interpersonal and communication skills to articulate and advocate the needs of the College. Must have a collaborative leadership style with demonstrated ability to build consensus and maintain collegiality in an environment of participative faculty. Must also have a proven record in the acquisition of external funding. Administrative experience should include academic planning, program review, strategic planning, program development, budgeting and fiscal/personnel management.

About the College. The College is comprised of six degree-offering departments; (Biology, Comp. Science, Eng. Tech., Industrial Techn., Math., and Physical Sciences) Programs offered range from one-year certificate programs at the technical level to graduate programs at the masters level. In addition, there are several externally funded research programs within the College. The College is housed in state-of-the-art buildings built over the past three years.

About the University. Located on the border, walking distance from Matamoros, Mexico, the campus is only twenty miles from the resort town of South Padre Island on the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The University, founded in 1992 in partnership with Texas Southmost College, is the newest component of The University of Texas system. The school, a Hispanic serving institution with almost ten thousand students, is also one of the fastest growing institutions of higher education in the State of Texas.

Contact Information

The position will be available on August 15, 2001. Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. The Dean's Search Committee will begin reviewing nominations and applications immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Applicants should send a cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

**Department of Human Resources
The University of Texas
at Brownsville
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, TX 78520**

The candidate should also request at least five letters of support to be sent to the same address. Further inquiries and email correspondence can be address to:

**Dr. Mario C. Diaz, Chair of the Search
Committee, mdiaz@utb1.utb.edu**

UTB/TSC does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color religion, national origin, disability, age or veteran status. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. UTB/TSC is a smoke free institution.

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**Published whenever there are news
and the editor has enough time.**

**Send news, letters, congratulations,
announcements, or communications to**

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