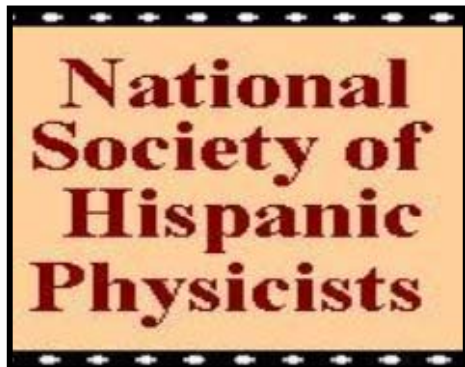


# The Hispanic Physicist

The Newsletter of the National Society of Hispanic Physicists

Volume 4

May 2003



## NSHP's New Board

The votes are in (finally) and NSHP has a new board! The new team spans the whole range of academic positions with several professors, associate professors, an assistant professor and a Ph.D. student. Research wise they also cover several areas including materials, nuclear, astrophysics, education and particle physics. Geographically, NSHP is now represented in the states of Washington, Maryland, Tennessee, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

The big surprise was a tie for the position of Education Officer! NSHP's president, Luz Martinez, salomonically solved the problem inviting both candidates to be Education Officers; they accepted.

The complete board now includes **Luz Martinez** as President, **Oscar Vilches** as President Elect, **Jorge Lopez** as Past President, **David Ernst** who is repeating as Administrative Executive Officer, **Jesus Pando** as Treasurer, **Aldo Migone** as Technical Executive Officer, **Juan Burciaga** repeating now as co-Education Officer, **Yesim Darici** as co-Education Officer, and **Raul Armendariz** as Student Member.

For the complete information see NSHP's web site: <http://physics.utep.edu/physics/nshp/Candidates.html>  
The new board members (sorry old timers!) are:



**President Elect: Oscar Vilches**, Professor, U. of Washington, Seattle, WA. Born in Argentina, received his doctoral degree from the U. Nacional de Cuyo. Postdoc'ed at Illinois and at UC San Diego, joined the University of Washington (UW) in 1968. Has been a visiting professor at U. Estadual de Campinas, Brasil, and at Luminy, Marseille, France. APS fellow and three times recipient of SPS' undergraduate teaching award. Studies thermal properties of quantum films and, in collaboration with European and American scientists, does neutron scattering experiments in France.



**Treasurer: Jesus Pando**, Assistant Professor, DePaul University. Received his PhD in theoretical Astrophysics at the U. of Arizona in 1997. Was awarded a Chateaubriand Post-Doctoral fellowship to work at the Observatoire de Strasbourg, France, stay that was extended when he received a NSF Post-Doctoral International fellowship. Has held tenure-track positions at Chicago State University and at DePaul U.



**Technical Officer: Aldo Migone** Professor, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. Born in Lima, Peru, received his Ph. D. at the Pennsylvania State U. on an experimental study of the specific heat of gases adsorbed on exfoliated graphite. Postdoc'ed at the U. of Washington, and started as an Assistant Professor at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 1986. Became Professor in 1993, and, since 1999, has have been Chair of the Department of Physics.



**Education Officer: Yesim Darici** Associate Professor, Florida International U. Ph.D from U. of Missouri in 1985. Research Associate at West Virginia U., Assistant Professor at FIU since 1987. Her research interests are condensed matter physics. Received the Florida International University Foundation 1997 " Excellence in Teaching " award and the Florida State University System Teaching Incentive Award in 1996. She has received several education grants from NAVY, DO Energy, DO Education, NSF and Florida State for pre-college programs, and was the site coordinator for Woodrow Wilson Science Foundation, TORCH program for three years.



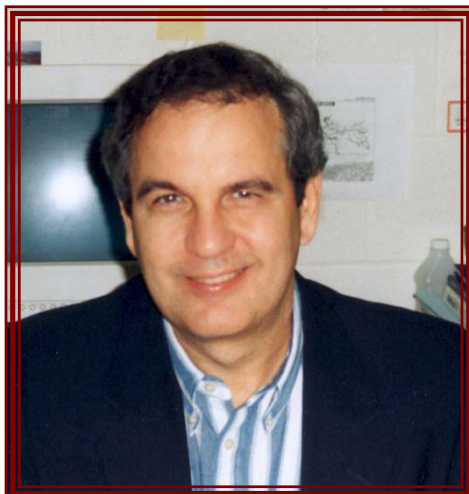
**Student Member: Raul Armendariz** Ph.D. student, New Mexico State U. Received a physics BS from Loyola University in 1994, completed a physics MS at the University of Texas at El Paso, from 97-99 worked in industry as an electrical engineer at FPM Analytics, in Chicago, IL., and later as an electrical engineer in radio frequency interference monitoring at the Very Large Array, National Radio Astronomy Observatory. In 2001 entered the PhD program in experimental particle and nuclear physics at the New Mexico State University and is searching for the quark-gluon plasma in the PHENIX collaboration at Brookhaven Nat. Lab.

## Research Profile: Efrain Ferrer

Efrain J. Ferrer was honored by State University of New York Chancellor Robert L. King as one of the 38 SUNY most important and innovative scientists.

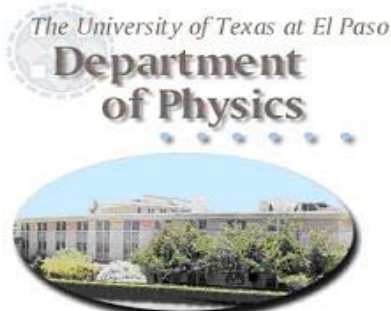
Dr. Ferrer's research has covered a broad range in theoretical physics. Including the standard model, its cosmological implications, background fields in string theories, lower dimensional models with fractional statistics, transport properties in high temperature superconductors and other planar systems, etc.

Dr. Ferrer, a native of Cuba, received his Ph.D. at the Lebedev Physical Institute in Moscow, under the supervision of the late Prof. E. S. Fradkin. His activities have been carried out at institutes and universities of U.S., Cuba, Russia, Spain, Finland, Italy and Switzerland. At present he is a full professor in the physics department of SUNY-Fredonia. Before being at Fredonia, he taught at Florida International University in Miami, FL.



### News you can use

## Physics Education Tenure-Track Positions at UTEP



**THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS at the University of Texas at El Paso**, a Carnegie Research Intensive, urban university on the U.S.-Mexico border, invites applications for two tenure-track positions in Physics Education. One position is Assistant Professor. The other position is open-rank, at the Assistant, Associate, or full Professor level. Candidates will be expected to hold a Ph.D. degree or equivalent. The successful applicants will teach physical science courses in a field-based teacher preparation program in collaboration with the pedagogy faculty of the College of Education, and will conduct a funded research program in science student learning. Both positions will participate in the development and implementation of a new Master of Arts in Teaching physical science, to be housed in the College of Science. The successful candidate in the open-rank position will lead in developing and implementing the new MAT degree.

Please submit CV, description of research interests, and 3 letters of reference to Search Committee Chair, Department of Physics, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas, 79968-0515. Application review begins May 1st and will continue until the position is filled. UTEP does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability in employment or the provision of services. See [www.utep.edu/physics](http://www.utep.edu/physics) for more information.

### Hispanics in the News



**Jorge Pullin, Louisiana State U., was elected vice-chair of APS's Topical Group in Gravitation**

**Gerardo Ortiz, Los Alamos National Lab, was selected for the Postdoctoral Publication Prize in Theoretical Physics.**



**Ramon Lopez, University of Texas at El Paso, received the 2002 APS' Nicholson Medal for Humanitarian Service for "improving the quality of science education for all Americans"**

**Arthur P. Ramirez, Los Alamos, nominated for APS' General Councilor. Please support him!**

[www.aps.org/exec/election2003/Ramirez.html](http://www.aps.org/exec/election2003/Ramirez.html)



**The Hispanic Physicist.** Published whenever there is news and the editor has enough time. Send news, letters, congratulations, etc. to Jorge A. López, Physics Department, Univ. Texas at El Paso, 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968, (915) 747-7538, [jorgelopez@utep.edu](mailto:jorgelopez@utep.edu), <http://physics.utep.edu/nshp/nshp.html>.