



Spring 2009 Issue 1

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE E-NEWSLETTER

Dr. James L. Horwitz

We lost an important and special member of the College last week. Jim Horwitz was a key member of my “team of chairs” for the past four-and-a-half years. He was a strong and effective advocate for his department, but he was also a team player who supported our overall effort of enhancing the status of the College of Science. Under his leadership the Department of Physics made significant strides in hiring great faculty, enhancing its research prowess and funding, increasing the scope and quality of both the undergraduate and graduate programs, and developing international relationships. Jim led the development of new research areas such as space physics and nano-bio physics, strongly supported the planetarium and its various programs, and elevated the department’s profile in the broader community by involvement in various science outreach events, a physics newsletter, and events for alumni. For the Star Telegram story on Jim Horwitz go to

<http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries/story/1188334.html>

He will be greatly missed by me, his family, his department and his many friends and colleagues

Paul

In this Issue:

James Horwitz

Spring Welcome

College of Science
Events

Science Highlights

Alumni Initiatives

Office of the Dean
College of Science
Box 19047
206 Life Science
Arlington, TX 76019-0047
Phone: 817-272-3491
Fax: 817-272-3511
www.uta.edu/cos



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

SPRING WELCOME

We have an outstanding lineup of speakers visiting campus who will be talking about issues of broad interest such as the physics of race cars. Neil DeGrasse Tyson, astrophysicist and Director of the Hayden Planetarium, will be on campus as part of the President's Mavericks Speaker Series. There will also be a variety of other astronomy events during the year in celebration of the International Year of Astronomy.

UT Arlington will host the third annual UT Metroplex Day on Friday, March 6. This event will bring some outstanding speakers and poster presentations to campus from our colleagues in science and engineering at UT Dallas, UT Southwestern, and UT Arlington. This is an excellent opportunity for faculty to showcase your research and to explore potential collaborations. For more information check out the website at <http://www.uta.edu/metroplexdays/>.

The College of Science will also host a luncheon for retired faculty and staff this semester. We have a large group of retirees living in this area who have provided long years of service to the college. These luncheons provide an opportunity for us to reconnect with them and for them to visit with one another. We've enjoyed seeing these retirees back on campus and look forward to their active participation in the future.

Best wishes for a great spring, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE EVENTS

- February 17th** Neil DeGrasse Tyson, Maverick Speaker Series
8:00 pm, Texas Hall
- February 25th** Frontiers in Science "Semiconductor Nanocrystal Emitters: from Dream to Reality"
Dr. Xiaogang Peng, University of Arkansas, Dept of Chemistry and Biochemistry
12:00 – 1:00 pm, Nedderman Hall, Room 100.
Brownbag lunch seminar, soft drinks and cookies provided
- March 4th** Frontiers in Science "NASCAR: The Science Behind the Speed"
Dr. Diandra Leslie-Pelecky, UT Dallas
12:00 – 1:00 pm, Lone Star Auditorium, Maverick Athletic Center.
Brownbag lunch seminar, soft drinks & cookies provided
- March 6th** UT Metroplex Day 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
University Center
- April 9th** COS Spring Awards Ceremony
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Lone Star Auditorium, Maverick Athletic Center
- April 23rd** COS Academic Excellence Reception
6:30 pm Palo Duro Lounge, University Center
- May 18th** COS Spring Commencement
3:00 pm, Texas Hall

SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science student Wen Chyan placed first in the Siemens national competition; winning a Grand Prize (in individual competition) of \$100,000. He was mentored by Dr. Richard Timmions. Read more at the link below. <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/texas-and-north-carolina-students,647644.shtml>

Second Prize in the HURCA presentations for Fall 2008 was awarded to Mathematics senior, Jennifer Anderson. In the view of the judges her paper was outstanding in the quality both of her research and her presentation.

The paper (which is the subject of her Honors thesis) was entitled *Generalizing the Riemann Integral*. She was mentored by Dr. Carole Krueger.



Dr. Jeff Demuth of the Biology Department received a NIH grant in the amount of \$1,582,991 (4yr direct cost). The grant is titled: *Epistasis: its role in complex traits, gene expression and speciation*

Dr. Robert F. McMahon, professor of Biology and former Dean of the Honors College retires. [Read More](#)



ALUMNI INITIATIVES

A major goal for the college and university this year will be to increase our outreach to alumni. Shelly Frank, the Director of Development for Leadership Gifts, and her assistant Pattie Weaver are working hard to help reconnect us with our alumni. We will be hosting several events in the Metroplex which will provide an opportunity for the dean, chairs, and faculty to visit with COS alumni and update them on the latest happenings. We will also be bringing some of our most successful alumni to campus. Math alumnus Ivan Koon, CEO of YouSendIt, will be on campus on April 10th to share his experiences and insights with faculty and students in math and computer science (see the website feature <http://www.uta.edu/uta/gateway-features/index?id=ivan-koon>). Donald Jernigan, the CEO of Adventist Health System will be the speaker for our May commencement. Interestingly, Jernigan was the first student to receive a diploma from The University of Texas at Arlington (see the website feature <http://www.uta.edu/uta/gateway-features/index.php?id=don-jernigan>)

Our development efforts should be greatly enhanced by the new **Maverick Match**, a matching program for endowment gifts over \$25,000. These gifts will be matched 1-to-1 with funds from the university's natural gas royalties. This exciting new program should allow us to significantly increase the endowments in our college. The COS Advisory Council made a commitment last year to double the number of the endowments in the college by the end of this year. We are already halfway there and plan to exceed our goal. The success of our development program will be critical for the college to maintain its progress to increased excellence. We look forward to your support in this process.

Starting September 1, 2009 endowment levels will be increasing. If you would like to talk to Shelly about starting an endowment of your own, or in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact her at 817.272.1497 or shellyfrank@uta.edu.

Endowed Faculty Positions

Category	Current	Maverick Match	New Level As of 9/1/09
Distinguished University Chair	2M	1:1 Match = 4M Matched Fund yields approx. 200K annually	3M
Distinguished Chair	1M	1:1 Match = 2M Matched Fund yields approx. 100K annually	2M
Chair	500K	1:1 Match = 1M Matched Fund yields approx. 50K annually	1M
Distinguished Professorship	250K	1:1 Match = 500K Matched Fund yields approx. 25K annually	500K
Professorship	100K	1:1 Match = 200K Matched Fund yields approx. 10K annually	250K

Other Endowed Funds

Category	Current	Maverick Match	New Level As of 9/1/09
Graduate Fellowship Program	N/A	N/A	200K
Graduate Fellowship	10K	1:1 Match = 20K Matched Fund, yields approx. 1K annually	50K
Undergraduate Scholarship Program	N/A	N/A	100K
Undergraduate Scholarship	10K	1:1 Match = 20K Matched Fund, yields approx. 1K annually	25K
Faculty Fellowship Program	50K	1:1 Match = 100K Matched Fund, yields approx. 5K annually	100K
Academic Program	10K	1:1 Match = 20K Matched Fund, yields approx. 1K annually	50K
Book Fund	N/A	N/A	10K