

SPS zone meeting zone 14, Colorado and Wyoming

April 15th – 17th 2011 in Laramie, Wyoming

General information

The spring 2011 meeting of zone 14 is hosted by the Department of Physics & Astronomy at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming.

The event has been sponsored by the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Oliver Walter, by the Department of Physics & Astronomy, by SPS national, and by Graduate Admissions.

The program includes four research talks, a presentation of the UW graduate program with lab tours, an undergraduate research poster session, an undergraduate demo competition, a tour to the WIRO observatory, and a teaching chat (see program).

There is no admission fee for students or faculty.

The event is taking place at the main campus of the University of Wyoming (see travel and town maps). A guide to free parking at the university is included in the maps.

Location

Please consult the attached maps to find the classroom building 'CR' and, once inside the building, go to the upper level to find the conference rooms CR314 and CR 310. Restrooms are located in the lower level.

Go to the Physical Science building ('PS') to find the Department of Physics & Astronomy, the lecture room PS234 referred to in the program, the department office (Kim, Lynn, and Nicole) in PS 204, the student lounge in PS 201, and Rudi's office in PS 215.

The SW corner of PS is just off the CR building. You can also identify the PS building by the telescope dome on its top in the SW corner.

Undergraduate research poster session

Each undergraduate student may bring as many of his or her own research posters as desired. Only one poster of their choice will be allowed to enter the prize competition.

Accompanying graduate students are invited to bring their posters too, but are not eligible for the prize competition.

Undergraduate demo competition

Each chapter can bring more than one demonstration. However, the presentation of the demo and the explanation of the physics of the demo have to be done by different undergraduate students for each demo.

Teaching chat

Please bring information that you want to share. In particular, we plan to compare syllabi on academic expectations for the major.

Observatory tour

Our observatory is on the very top of Mount Jelm, some 25 miles SW of Laramie. It is at an elevation of 10,000 feet. At this time of year, it is winter in the mountains. We will have to travel via Snocat from the base camp to the top. If you want to participate in the tour, please bring winter clothing (warm jackets, full shoes, etc.). We cannot allow you on the Snocat, if you are not safely and appropriately clothed.

Parking

During the weekend and after 5pm on Friday, parking is free of fee in the university 'A zone' parking. Other restrictions, like handicapped parking, will still be enforced in those zones. See map for location details: 'A-P'.

Other free parking near the campus has been lined out by me with solid black lines drawn next to roads. There is no guarantee that my memory has served me accurately, so look out for small white city signs for resident parking only, if you don't want to chance getting a ticket.

Business Meeting

In order to make the broadest attendance possible, I will make any reasonable effort to get a **Skype session** going for the business meeting (see program schedule). Please send me your contact information by Thursday for Skype, if you want to be included in the broadcasting.