



## President's Statement

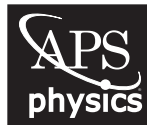
In my three years with the California-Nevada Section of the APS, I've been tremendously impressed with the caliber of our annual meetings. The organization and content of the meetings have been outstanding, and the level of scholarship and presentation of the contributed talks – many of them by students talking about their research for the first time – has been on par with that of large national meetings. We need to remember that the sectional meetings are primarily for the younger members of our community, who are just beginning their career in the field, and who may not have the resources to attend topical or national meetings frequently.

We do our best to make a top-quality conference accessible to our students and postdocs, keeping the registration fees as low as possible (waiving them if possible), providing travel and lodging support and awarding significant cash prizes for 'best-paper' in multiple categories. Meetings of course take money, and each year we spend our operating budget almost down to zero so as not to compromise on delivering the highest-value conference experience we can.

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# California-Nevada Section

OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY



## ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE ANNUAL 2010 MEETING

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (CALTECH)  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA • OCTOBER 29–30, 2010

### PREVIEW OF THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

Details about the Fall 2010 Meeting at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) can be found on our website <http://www.aps.org/units/cal/> or <http://www.ligo.caltech.edu/aps-ca/>.

The LIGO Laboratory and the Division of Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy at Caltech (Pasadena, California) are pleased to host this year's meeting.

### THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE INVITED TALKS BY:

**Steve Block (Stanford University)**

The Biophysics of Gene Regulation, Studied One Molecule at a Time

**Sean Carroll (Caltech)**

The Origin of the Universe and the Arrow of Time

**Tom Murphy (UCSD)**

Testing General Relativity using Lasers and the Moon

**Josh Willis (NASA/JPL/Caltech)**

Hot Water: The Oceans and Global Warming

### THE AFTER-DINNER SPEAKER WILL BE:

**Kip Thorne (Caltech)**

The Dark Side of the Universe

In addition to the above invited speakers, there will be a panel discussion on Careers in Medical Physics, which should be of special interest to students and postdocs. Panelists will include:

**Dolores Bozovic (UCLA)**

**George Coutrakon (Northern Illinois Univ.)**

**Roland Henry (UCSF)**

**Greg Sprehn (Rivendell Heights Inc.)**

**Gerard Wong (UCLA)**

We invite you and your students to attend this stimulating meeting and submit an abstract for the parallel sessions. Registration is scheduled to open August 25 and will close on October 1st. Early registration ends September 20. After that time, the registration fee increases.

There is a simple, no-cost way you can help our Section. The national APS provides annual budget support to us in proportion to our total membership, which numbers more than 2500. For an APS member, to join the California-Nevada Section costs nothing! All one needs to do is to go to the APS units web page <http://www.aps.org/membership/units/> and click on "Join a Unit" or send a message to the APS at membership@aps.org and ask to be a member of the California Section.

We encourage each member of the CA-NV unit to talk with your colleagues who belong to APS but are not yet members of our Section – if everyone brought one new member into the fold (remember, it's absolutely free!), we would have gone a long way to relieving our financial stress.

One final thing I would ask, namely how our students could reciprocate for what the Section does for them. Each spring the Nominating Committee must produce a slate of candidates for service on the Executive Board, one position of which is Student Member. Getting a minimum number of students who want to run for this office has been a challenge, so when the call for nominations comes out we would like for you to volunteer. Service on an APS unit would be a great experience for you at the outset of your career.

—Karl Van Bibber, 2010 Chair,  
California-Nevada Section of APS

## SUMMARY OF THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

### PLENARY TALKS

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- Dr. Bruce Macintosh** | *Extrasolar Planets- from Doppler Shifts to Images*  
**Prof. John Lewellen** | *Revolutionary Advances in Free Electron Lasers*  
**Dr. Darin Kinion** | *Superconducting Qubits and the Quest for Scalable Quantum Computation*  
**Prof. Douglas Osheroff** | *How Advances in Science are Made*

### BANQUET

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- Prof. C.W. Francis Everitt** | *Gyroscopes, NASA & Einstein- a Long Series of Surprises*

### FRIDAY'S PARALLEL SESSIONS

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- F1** Astrophysics  
*Session Chair: Thomas Gredig, California State University, Long Beach*  
**F2** High Energy/Nuclear/Accelerators/Plasma Physics  
*Session Chair: Jennifer Klay, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo*  
**F3** Materials/Nanomaterials Science  
*Session Chair: Michelle Poliskie, Solyndra*  
**F4** Condensed Matter I  
*Session Chair: Andreas Bill, California State University, Long Beach*

### SATURDAY'S PARALLEL SESSIONS

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- S1** Applied Physics (Session Chair: Lin Yang, LLNL)  
**S2** Nuclear/Atomic/Molecular Physics (Session Chair: Howard Matis, LBNL)  
**S3** Condensed Matter II (Session Chair: Frances Houle, Manager, Materials Division, InVisage)  
**S4** Gravitation (Session Chair: John Price, CSU Dominguez Hills)

### AWARD WINNERS FOR CONTRIBUTED SPEAKERS AT 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

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#### *Undergraduate Awards*

- Steven Chu Award (Best Research)  
1st Prize: Kristopher Eric Martin (UCSB)  
2nd Prize: Christopher Brown (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)

#### *Graduate Student Awards*

- Kennedy Reed Award (Best Theoretical Research)  
1st Prize: Marcus Afshar (UCD)  
2nd Prize: Alison Hatt (UCSB)  
Margaret Burbidge Award (Best Experimental Research)  
1st Prize: Nelson Coates (UCSB)  
2nd Prize: Adam Dioguardi (UCD)

#### *Post Doctoral Awards*

- Charles Kittel Award (Best Theoretical Research)  
1st Prize: Yonatan Dubi (UCSD)  
2nd Prize: Maciej Haranczyk (LBNL)  
Luis Alvarez Award (Best Experimental Research)  
1st Prize: Jeffery Smith (SLAC)  
2nd Prize: Georg Moses (UCSB)

## APRIL 2010 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held a meeting at Sonoma State University on Saturday, April 10, 2010 during the period 10:00-15:30.

### PRESENT

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Karl van Bibber (Chair)  
Albert Lazzarini (Chair-Elect)  
Lynn Cominsky (Vice Chair)  
Howard Matis (Past Chair)  
Shirley Chiang (Secretary/Treasurer)  
Uwe Bergmann (Member)  
Andreas Bill (Member)  
Paul Davis (Student Member)  
Roland Henry (Member)  
Jennifer Klay (Member)  
Michelle Poliskie (Member)  
Warren Rogers (Member)  
Charlie Harper (Newsletter Editor)

### AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING

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*Welcome & Introduction of New Members* | **Karl van Bibber**  
*Treasurer's Report* | **Shirley Chiang**  
*Lessons Learned from NPS Meeting* | **Karl van Bibber**  
*Status of Planning for Caltech Meeting* | **Albert Lazzarini**  
*Appointment of Committees for the Caltech Meeting* | **Karl van Bibber**  
*Appointment of a Nominating Committee for 2010* | **Karl van Bibber**  
*Newsletter Plans* | **Charlie Harper**  
*Presentation of Proposals for the 2011 Meeting*  
- *Stanford Linear Accelerator Center* | **Uwe Bergmann**  
- *Sonoma State University* | **Lynn Cominsky**  
- *Others*  
*Proposal for California APS Prize* | **Albert Lazzarini & Karl van Bibber**  
*Other Business*  
*Summary*

### NOTES

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In connection with October 29-30, 2010 Annual Meeting at Caltech, it was agreed that a poster would be mailed along with the newsletter in August 2010. It is very likely that the Annual Meeting posters have a significant impact on meeting attendance. In addition, a survey of attendees should be given to ascertain information like the following: Why they chose to attend; did they feel it was a good value for the registration fee and how did they learn about the meeting.

## 2009 Election News

The Nominating Committee for the 2009 CA Section election consisted of Chuhee Kwon, Albert Lazzarini (Chair), Howard Matis (ex officio), Michelle Poliskie, and Abraham Seiden. Winners were:

### *Vice Chair*

Lynn Cominsky (Sonoma State University)

### *Members at Large*

Andreas Bill (California State University, Long Beach), Warren Rogers (Westmont College, Santa Barbara)

### *Student Representative*

Paul Davis (UCB)

## Executive Committee of the CA Section

Current members of the Executive Committee and their respective terms of office are listed at the following link:

<http://www.aps.org/units/cal/governance/officers/index.cfm>

## Annual Meeting Review Committee

These Executive Committee members will review the awards process integrity and monetary value: Roland Henry, Albert Lazzarini, and Karl van Bibber.

### *Nominating Committee*

Lynn Cominsky (Chair), Uwe Bergmann, Paul Davis (Student member), Michelle Poliskie, Warren Rogers, Karl van Bibber (ex officio), plus Rene Ong (selected by the APS).

### *Plenary Speakers Committee*

Andreas Bill (Chair), and Albert Lazzarini, Jennifer Klay, Lynn Cominsky, Roland Henry.

### *Abstract Sorting Committee*

Howard Matis (Chair), Andreas Bill, Jennifer Klay.

### *Newsletter*

Charlie Harper, Roland Henry

## Website of the APS California-Nevada Section

Visit our website (<http://www.aps.org/units/cal/index.cfm>) that now includes resources for students such as regularly updated funding, career and summer research opportunities in California and Nevada. The site also contains the list of companies and universities in our region and other useful information about Physics and our Section. Visit the site and give us your feedback!

### Dates to Remember

The Fall 2010 Meeting will be held at California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California on October 29-30. See our website for more information: <http://www.aps.org/units/cal/>.

The 2011 Fall Meeting will be held at Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) on November 11-12, 2011.

## MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTINUED

### SUMMARY POINTS FROM THE ANNUAL APS UNIT CONVOCATION

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The Annual APS Unit Convocation in Washington, D.C. was held during the week of April 26, 2010.

Executive Committee Members Shirley Chiang, Howard Matis, and Albert Lazzarini attended this Convocation. Summary points of the Convocation are listed below:

APS has a license for "Survey Monkey" to create polls and gather information from members.

There is also a LinkedIn account.

APS will help design and print posters. APS will redesign the format, print and mail newsletters. (It was noted that many Sections have stopped printing newsletters.)

APS might be able to provide grants for child care at our meetings (to cover up to 50% of the cost); and travel grants to women and minority speakers are available.

### EXPANSION POSSIBILITY

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Our Section has realized that one of our neighboring states, Hawaii, is not represented in any Section. We have begun to make enquiries of some of our colleagues there whether they would like to be affiliated with the California-Nevada Section. At the convocation we learned that incorporating Hawaii is a simple matter of placing a proposition on the next ballot (member election ballot) to change our bylaws to include Hawaii. There is a template for adding a proposed bylaws change to a ballot at [aps.org](http://aps.org). The Southeast section did this last year when they incorporated Puerto Rico.