

**SUMMER NEWSLETTER
OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN SECTION
OF THE
AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY
July 1, 2007**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the APS will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on Thursday-Saturday, November 8-10th. As always, this meeting provides a wonderful survey of the frontiers of physics and gives a glimpse of research being done in our region. Arrangements for the meeting are described in more detail below. This is an excellent opportunity to publicize your work and get to know others in the region. Plan to submit an abstract, and also encourage your students and colleagues to do so. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

If you have colleagues in your department who are members of the APS but are not members of SESAPS, please urge them to join SESAPS now! Their joining is free and can be done at <http://www.aps.org/membership/units/join-unit.cfm>. Once at the unit membership site, they will have two options: (1) adding SESAPS to their membership online using the APS secure server (this option requires their APS web username and password), or (2) printing out a unit's membership form and faxing the completed form to the APS headquarters in College Park, MD. On January 1st this year, we had 2544 SESAPS members out of a total of approximately 5000 APS members living in the Southeast. Our membership roll has increased rapidly in recent years, and now includes 5.5% of all APS members nationally. Increased membership has direct benefits because the \$4 SESAPS share of APS annual dues helps pay for undergraduate travel and meeting costs. It also promotes more active involvement in issues that affect all of us in our region.

Do you have a colleague, teacher, or mentor who is worthy of recognition with one of the SESAPS awards? We have a long tradition of recognizing those in the Southeast who make outstanding contributions to physics research, service, and teaching. Please reflect on your outstanding colleagues, and take time to submit their nomination(s) before the August 15th deadline. Nomination details are included below. An important component of the funding for these awards comes from contributions made by SESAPS members. Your gift to any of the awards will help keep their financial base sound and will be greatly appreciated. *Contributions to the SESAPS awards funds are tax deductible.* Please visit our web site for details on making contributions to SESAPS award funds: <http://www.phy.davidson.edu/sesaps/contributions.htm>, or use the form found later in this newsletter.

Tom Clegg, V. Lee Bounds Professor of Physics, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Dear SESAPS Members:

In my capacity as membership coordinator of the Southeastern Section, I am asking all SESAPS members to encourage fellow members of the APS, who are not yet members of the SESAPS (there are ~2500 of them!), to consider seriously joining us. Please discuss the issue of SESAPS membership with your undergraduate and graduate students, and in one of your departmental faculty meetings, to publicize SESAPS and its activities more widely.

Undergraduate students who join the Society of Physics Students (SPS) at <http://www.spsnational.org/about/benefits.htm> are entitled, for as long as they are undergraduates, to free membership in one member society of the American Institute of Physics. Please encourage your students to join the SPS, and then to pick the APS as their AIP member society. Graduate students who join the APS obtain free membership for their first year and membership at reduced cost for later years as long as they are a student.

Then undergraduate, graduate student, or faculty members, who presently live in the Southeast, are members of the APS, or becomes a member of the APS, can immediately join the SESAPS *at no additional cost*. This is easy to do; simply follow the link to the APS webpage in Tom Clegg's message above. There are several advantages to becoming a member of SESAPS, and no disadvantages. SESAPS members have a reduced registration fee at our annual meeting. Membership is a also way to become more actively involved in issues which affect everyone in our region.

There were 2544 SESAPS members on January 1, 2007, up by 5.5% in the past year. Ours continues to be the largest APS section, and it is also growing fastest. Please encourage your colleagues to join us. If you have any questions about membership in SESAPS, please feel free to contact me.

Brad Cox
University of Virginia
Membership Coordinator, SESAPS
cox@uvahep.phys.virginia.edu

MEETING INFORMATION

The 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society (SESAPS) will be held November 8-10, 2007 (Thursday-Saturday), in Nashville, Tennessee. Our hosts for this meeting are Fisk University and Vanderbilt University.

The local arrangements committee is chaired by

Dr. Steven Morgan
Department of Physics
Fisk University
1000 17th Ave. N.
Nashville, TN 37208-3051
Phone: (615) 329-8621
Email: smorgan@fisk.edu

Dr. David J. Ernst
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Vanderbilt University
1807 Station B
Nashville, TN 37235
Email: david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu
Phone: (615) 343-0483
Fax: (615) 343-7263

The Program Committee chair is

Dr. David G. Haase
Department of Physics
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-8202
919-515-7976 (phone)
david_haase@ncsu.edu

The meeting hotel and all meeting sessions will be held at the Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville. (<http://www.scarrittbennett.org>) The Scarritt-Bennett Center is located at 1008 19th Ave. S., Nashville and is located on ten tree-filled, park-like acres in the heart of Nashville. The hotel is within walking distance to Music Row, Vanderbilt, area shops & restaurants and 15 minutes to Nashville Airport. Free parking is provided. Reservations may be made through 615-340-7500 or reservations@scarrittbennett.org.

Nearby hotels include:

(<http://hotel-guides.us/tennessee/nashville-tn-hotels.html#nashville-west-end-music-row-hotels>)

* Best Western Music Row Downtown - \$\$
1407 Division Street, Nashville, TN 37203

- * Courtyard Vanderbilt West End - \$\$
1901 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Days Inn Vanderbilt - \$\$
1800 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Embassy Suites Hotel Westend - \$\$\$
1811 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Extended Stay America - \$\$
3311 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
Budget all suite extended stay hotel
Info - Photos | Map | Rates - Reservations
- * Hampton Inn & Suites at the University - \$\$
2330 Elliston Place, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Hampton Inn Vanderbilt - \$\$
1919 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Holiday Inn Select Downtown Vanderbilt - \$\$\$
2613 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel - \$\$\$
2100 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203
- * Marriott Nashville Vanderbilt University - \$\$\$\$\$
2555 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203

Travel to Nashville

Driving maps and directions to the Scarritt-Bennett Center are at:

<http://www.scarrittbennett.org/about/maps.aspx>

Airlines

The Nashville International Airport (BNA) (<http://www.nashintl.com/>) is served by 15 airlines, including American, Delta, Northwest, Southwest and US Air. There is non-stop or direct service to most large airports in the Southeast. The airport is located on the southeast side of Nashville near I-40.

Shuttle Service from and to the airport to the Scarritt Bennett Center is available through In-Shuttle Transportation, Inc. Reservations can be made by calling 615.255.3519 or online at www.inshuttle.com.

The airport is served by taxi, bus and shuttles. Many of the local hotels have shuttle service to and from the airport. Services are described at http://www.nashintl.com/ground_trans/taxi.aspx

Taxis - From the airport, the meter starts at \$4.50 and the rate is \$2.00 per mile. There is a flat rate of \$22.00 to the downtown area and the Opryland Hotel area. Handicapped services are offered by most taxi companies during airport hours. However, to ensure that an accessible taxi will be available for your use, please call the service of your choice for schedules, reservations, fees or other information.

MEETING FACILITIES

The scientific sessions will take place at the Scarritt-Bennett Center. All meeting rooms will be equipped with LCD projectors and speakers are strongly encouraged to use electronic projection. You may use your laptop for driving the projector. However, in order to save setup time, it is strongly preferred that speakers use the conference computer for presentation. We recommend that you bring the electronic file for your presentation either on a CD or a memory stick. All speakers using electronic projection in contributed talk sessions should plan to arrive at the meeting room at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the session to check that the technology will work with minimum delay between speakers. Overhead projectors will also be available for those who prefer using transparencies. Questions about the facilities or program should be directed to Professors Morgan/Ernst or Haase, respectively.

MEETING PROGRAM

Welcome Reception: The program begins with a Welcome Reception Wednesday, November 7, evening (6:00PM – 8:00PM) at the Scarritt-Bennett Center. Everyone is cordially invited.

Scientific Program: The scientific program begins Thursday morning, November 8 and concludes by Saturday at noon. We are planning invited talk sessions on topics including advances in computational physics, neutron physics at the SNS, high energy physics, biophysics and materials physics. We are planning a Thursday evening public session on physics teaching demonstrations. The SESAPS business meeting will be held on Friday afternoon. The banquet will be at ~7:00 PM on Friday evening. An entertainment program by the Fisk University Jubilee Singers is planned.

Call for Abstracts of Contributed Papers:

The SESAPS meeting will use electronically submitted abstracts for publication in the BULLETIN of the AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY. **All abstracts of contributed papers must be prepared in the standard APS format as specified in recent issues of the APS News.** If the abstract is submitted to the APS only on paper, just the title and authors will appear in BULLETIN. For details on abstract submission go to <http://www.aps.org/meet/abstracts/online.cfm>. **The deadline for abstract submission is 5:00 PM EDT on Friday, August 17, 2006.** The scheduled time for your presentation will be available electronically on the web prior to the meeting.

Request for Suggestions for Invited Paper Sessions

We are eager to showcase a broad range of topics of current interest in physics, especially those in which there is activity in the Southeast. Please send suggestions for session topics and sets of possible invited speakers to David Haase at david_haase@ncsu.edu. Each invited paper session includes up to four 30 minute talks.

MEETING REGISTRATION and REGISTRATION FEES

The local organizing committee is preparing a means of online pre-registration via the meeting website. Details will follow.

To compensate for the rising costs of professional meetings, the Executive Committee decided last year to increase the registration fees of the SESAPS meetings. The new fee structure represents a weighted compromise between raising sufficient revenue to significantly ease the burden on the hosting institution while keeping the meeting affordable for the community it serves. The registration fees for the SESAPS07 meeting are:

SESAPS and APS members:	\$60
Nonmembers:	\$80
Retired APS members:	\$30
Graduate students:	\$30
Undergraduate students:	free
Banquet fees:	\$35

Awardees will not pay the registration or banquet fee.

Contributed/Invited Papers:

Invited papers at this meeting, as in all APS meetings, are given by experts in areas selected by the Program Committee, and these talks are usually of 25 to 30 minutes duration. Contributed papers, however, are on topics of the author's choice and are ten minutes in length. On the day following the abstract deadline, all papers are organized into sessions and the sessions into the program of the meeting. Some of the contributed abstracts are of such interest that the committee will INVITE THE AUTHOR(S) to give a SPECIAL PAPER of twenty minutes duration on the topic of their abstract at the beginning of the contributed paper session to which their talk is assigned. **There will only be a few such papers selected.** The invitations will be listed in the printed program of the meeting and will be verified promptly by mail to the authors. If the author(s) would like to be considered for such an invitation, they are asked to type the following statement in the special instructions box: **If invited to do so, the author is willing to expand the talk for the above abstract to twenty minutes.**

SPS/UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

A session for the Society of Physics Students undergraduate presentations will be organized by the host institutions. Information about the schedule and arrangements will be posted on the meeting website.

TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

Students will be pleased to learn that modest travel grants will again be available for those presenting research papers at the SESAPS sessions. Undergraduate students giving papers only in the SPS sessions are not eligible for travel support. An application is included below.

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Your help is sought in advertising the upcoming deadline for annual nominations for the three SESAPS awards. The deadline for nominations for SESAPS awards is **August 15**. These awards will be presented at our Annual Meeting in November.

The **Jesse W. Beams Award** recognizes especially significant or meritorious research in physics, the major portion of which was carried out in the ten-state SESAPS region in the Southeast. The **George B. Pegram Award** honors someone with a career of "Excellence in the Teaching of Physics in the Southeast." The **Francis G. Slack Award** honors persons who have during their career exhibited "Excellence in Service to Physics in the Southeast."

Four copies of each nomination, consisting of a nominating letter and up to three supporting letters (a maximum of two pages each), should be sent. No other supporting documents are needed. The nominator is also asked to notify the Chair (clegg@physics.unc.edu) and Vice Chair (david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu) of the Section by email informing them of the submission. Nominations will be considered active for three years; updating materials for nominees not chosen in the prior year is encouraged.

Nominations for the **Jesse Beams Award** should be sent to:

Professor Keith MacAdam, Department of Physics & Astronomy,
177 Chem.-Phys. Building, University of Kentucky,
600 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40506-0055
email: macadam@uky.edu, Office Phone: (859) 257-3344

Nominations for the **George B. Pegram Award** should be sent to:

Professor Paul Cottle, Department of Physics,
315 Keen Building
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4350
email: cottle@phy.fsu.edu, Office Phone: (850) 644-5777

Nominations for the **Francis G. Slack Award** should be sent to:

Professor Thomas F. Gallagher, Department of Physics,
University of Virginia
382 McCormick Rd., PO Box 400714, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4714
email: tfg@virginia.edu, Office Phone: (434) 924-6817

SESAPS OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Your help is needed in identifying talented members of our regional physics community who would be interested, willing, and effective in serving in a leadership role within SESAPS. Elections will be held electronically by SESAPS in October to select: 1) a Vice-Chair (who would in subsequent years serve as Chair-Elect and then as Chair); 2) a Treasurer whose term will be five years. Our present Treasurer, Larry Cain of Davidson College, has decided not to seek reelection for a fourth term when his present term expires at the end of this year. 3) An at-large member of the Executive Committee, for a term of three years. Results of these elections will be announced at the November meeting in Nashville, TN.

Please send your suggestions of persons whom you believe would be appropriate candidates for this position on the Executive Committee to David Ernst (david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu), chair of the 2007 SESAPS nominating committee. For each person suggested, we would appreciate your including comments about why you support them. To be most helpful, your suggested names and supporting information should arrive by August 15th.

Beams, Pegram and Slack Award Donations

The three awards presented by the Southeastern Section rely on member contributions to sustain them. Many members of the section have made previous donations for the Jesse Beams Award, the George Pegram Award, and the Francis Slack Award. If you would like to contribute to the Beams-Pegram Fund and/or the Slack Fund, please feel free to print this section and use it to make your contribution by sending it and your check made out to SESAPS to Dr. Laurence Cain, SESAPS Treasurer, Department of Physics, Box 6919, Davidson College, Davidson, NC 28035-6919. Dr. Cain will also accept contributions at the SESAPS meeting. Thank you for your continuing support of these awards.

Name _____

Beams-Pegram Award Fund Amount _____

Slack Award Fund Amount _____

Total Contribution _____

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APPLICATION FOR STUDENT TRAVEL SUPPORT TO THE SESAPS MEETING
The student must be a presenter at a SESAPS session

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____ EMAIL: _____

SCHOOL: _____

UNDERGRADUATE/CLASS: _____

GRADUATE/CLASS: _____

ABSTRACT TITLE:

ABSTRACT AUTHORS:

AMOUNT REQUESTED (\$250 MAX): _____

PURPOSE OF REQUESTED FUNDS: _____

CERTIFICATION OF RESEARCH ADVISOR (Please have your research advisor sign this line certifying that you are presenting this paper and send an email to Dr. Avery.)

RETURN BY OCTOBER 15th TO:

Dr. Paul Avery
Department of Physics
P.O. Box 118440
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-8440
avery@phys.ufl.edu