

**SUMMER NEWSLETTER
OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN SECTION
OF THE
AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY
July 1, 2008**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The 75th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the APS will be held in Raleigh, NC, October 29 - November 1, 2008. The Physics Department at North Carolina State University will host. There will be joint sessions with the North Carolina Section of the AAPT and the Society of Physics Students. The conference hotel, the Holiday Inn Brownstone is within an easy stroll of the NC State campus and the new home of the Physics Department, Riddick Laboratories. The meeting is described at <http://www.physics.ncsu.edu/sesaps2008/>

We at NC State look forward to your visit to our area and the celebration of the 75th Annual Meeting. SESAPS has a grand history as the oldest and often the most active of the APS sections. Past SESAPS meetings in the Research Triangle area have been well attended and we expect the 2008 edition to be just as lively. Please consider attending and submitting an abstract (August 15 deadline) and bringing your colleagues and students. Gas costs and CO₂ production decrease if there are more folks in the car.

If you have ideas for invited paper sessions for the 2008 meeting, and especially if you would like to organize such a session, please contact the 2008 Program Chair, Dave Ernst at Vanderbilt. david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu

Please urge colleagues in your department who are members of the APS but are not members of SESAPS, to join SESAPS now! They can join for free at <http://www.aps.org/membership/units/join-unit.cfm>. Once at the unit membership site, they may add their SESAPS membership online or get instructions to FAX in the change in membership.

I also encourage you and your colleagues to send nominations for the Beams, Pegram and Slack Awards of the Southeastern Section. The southeastern area is full of high performing university, government and industrial laboratories and centers. We have excellent, award-winning teachers at campuses across the region. Many of our colleagues have served the larger physics community in substantive ways. These people should be nominated, recognized and applauded for their efforts.

****The deadline for receipt of nominations for 2008 awards is July 15****

Best wishes for a restful and productive summer. We look forward to seeing you in Raleigh in the Fall.

Best wishes,
David Haase
Professor of Physics
NC State University
Chair, SESAPS

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 David Haase'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 also a way to become more actively involved in issues which affect everyone in our region.

There were 2728 SESAPS members on January 1, 2008, up by 5.9% in the past year. Ours continues to be the largest APS section, and it is also growing fastest. In 2007 we contacted by personal letter over 2500 APS members in the Southeast who are not yet members of SESAPS asking for their participation in SESAPS. We also sent personal letters to the 165 chairs of Departments in the Southeast. We ask your help as members of SESAPS to follow up this effort in your departments to encourage your colleagues to join us in this vibrant and growing organization. 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 75th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina, Wednesday, Oct. 29 - Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008. The meeting will be hosted by the Department of Physics at North Carolina State University. The conference hotel will be the Holiday Inn Brownstone, which is within a short walk of the NC State Physics Department in Riddick Hall.

There will be concurrent meetings of Zone 6 of the Society of Physics Students and the North Carolina Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

Important Deadlines

SESAPS abstract deadline: Aug 15

Student (SPS) abstract deadline: TBA

Hotel reservations: as available

Student Support Applications: Sep 30

Nominations for Beams, Pegram and Slack Awards: July 15

The Local Arrangements Committee is chaired by:

Dr. John Risley

Department of Physics

North Carolina State University

Email: john_risley@ncsu.edu

The Program Committee Chair is:

Dr. David J. Ernst

Department of Physics and Astronomy

Vanderbilt University

Email: david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu

MEETING FACILITIES

The scientific sessions will take place at the Holiday Inn Brownstone. 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 Risley or Ernst, respectively.

MEETING PROGRAM

Welcome Reception: The program begins with a Welcome Reception Wednesday, October 29, evening (6:00PM – 8:00PM) at the Holiday Inn Brownstone. Everyone is cordially invited.

Scientific Program: The scientific program begins Thursday morning, October 30, and concludes by Saturday at noon. 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 ~6:00 PM on Friday evening.

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://abs.aps.org/>. The deadline for abstract submission is 5:00 PM EDT on Friday, August 15, 2008. 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 Ernst at david.j.ernst@vanderbilt.edu. Each invited paper session includes up to four 30 minute talks.

MEETING REGISTRATION and REGISTRATION FEES

To compensate for the rising costs of professional meetings, the Executive Committee decided in 2006 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 SESAPS08 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.

Society of Physics Students (SPS)

The Society of Physics Students chapter at NC State will host a Zone 6 meeting that will include separately organized poster and contributed talk sessions on Saturday morning. More details will be forthcoming at <http://www.physics.ncsu.edu/sesaps2008/>

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 **July 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 (david_haase@ncsu.edu) and Vice Chair (cottle@phy.fsu.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 Alan Dorsey, Professor and Department Chair
Department of Physics, University of Florida
P.O. Box 118440, Gainesville, FL 32611-8440
Tel: (352) 392-4031, dorsey@phys.ufl.edu

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

Professor Chaden Djalali, Carolina Distinguished Professor and Chair
Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of South Carolina
712 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29208
Tel: (803)777-4318, Fax: (803)777-3065 djalali@sc.edu

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

Professor Kirby W. Kemper, Professor of Physics, Vice-President for Research
Department of Physics, Florida State University
204 Keen Building, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4350
Tel: (850)644-2867, Fax: (850)644-8630, kirby@phy.fsu.edu

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) an Executive Committee Member whose term is three years. Results of these elections will be announced at the November meeting in Raleigh, NC.

Please send your suggestions of persons whom you believe would be appropriate candidates for these positions to Paul Cottle (cottle@phy.fsu.edu), chair of the 2008 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. John Shriner, SESAPS Treasurer, Department of Physics Box 5051, Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN 38505. Dr. Shriner 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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Student travel support for 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. Clegg.)

RETURN BY *September 30th* TO:

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University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3255
clegg@physics.unc.edu