

Physics Department Meeting
November 19, 2009

Present: Norm Kadomoto, Eyal Goldmann, Susana Prieto, Dan Wright, Jean Shankweiler,

Equipment/Labs

D. Santoianni has started organizing the lab demos for Physics 1A that are stored in the Phys 111 stockroom. He has removed everything from the cabinets and removed old labels. L. Leonardo will look at all the demos over the Thanksgiving break to do an initial organization, and then the rest of the faculty will have a look at the equipment. The labeling system will likely be changed. J. Shankweiler will ask D. Santoianni to clean out the cabinets before everything gets put back inside.

Planning

The faculty members present spent some time going over the goals for the Plan Builder planning document. Some goals to shoot for include re-evaluating physics 1A prerequisite, evaluating the physics 13 course and the load for Physics 1D. J. Shankweiler will make sure N. Kadomoto has access to the program to do updates.

Earth Science Stockroom Assistance

The Earth Science Department has requested that D. Wright be lent to the Earth Science Stockroom in the spring semester, to help replace Sim Yoe, who is retiring in December. Dan said he could spare some time on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, since there are not many physics labs. J. Shankweiler will also see about having D. Santoianni help in the evenings.

Fall 2010 Schedule

J. Shankweiler reported the scheduling for fall 2010 will need to change a little bit. Currently, some of the physics lectures are currently scheduled for 61/61/50 minutes, 3 times a week. The state has said we cannot schedule 61 minute hours. The new guideline will be to schedule 3 lectures for 50/50/65 minutes. This results in fewer minutes of instruction for the week. It would be possible to restructure the lectures to 2 days per week for 85 minutes. The consensus was to stick with the 3 times per week lecture format for the classes that currently do so.