Physics Department Awards 2001-2002 Scholarships and Fellowships

The following scholarships have been endowed through the generous gifts of the friends of the UMR Physics Department. Scholarships are announced annually at the Harold Q Fuller Undergraduate Research Seminar, held this past year on April 19, 2001. Congratulations to all our Departmental Scholars!

Recipients of the Harold Q Fuller Scholarship-Loan were John Weirich of Washington, Missouri, Charlie Glaus of St. Louis, Missouri, and Christopher Lloyd of St. Louis, Missouri. The $1,300 scholarship-loan was endowed by the late Dr. Fuller, Chair of the Physics Department from 1948 to 1970 and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to recognize outstanding achievements among juniors and seniors in physics. One quarter of the scholarship is an interest-free loan that students begin to repay when they start their first jobs.

Recipients of the Burke H. Miller Memorial Scholarship were Ryan Mallory of Ballwin, Missouri and Joao Sosa of Shawnee Mission, Kansas. This $1,000 scholarship was established by the Miller family to commemorate the academic achievements of their son, Burke, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in physics in 1969 and later died during the Vietnam War. The award is for promising and dedicated students in physics.

Travis Yates of Searcy, Arkansas, and John Zirbel of Watertown, South Dakota received the L. E. Woodman Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was established by the Woodman family in honor of Dr. L. E. Woodman, Chair of the Physics Department from 1919 to 1948. It is offered to students in physics who are of good moral character, maintain a satisfactory grade point average, and are in financial need.

The Charles M. Rice Scholarships are presented to outstanding juniors or seniors in physics at UMR. They were established by Mr. Charles M. Rice (MS ’50) to recognize and encourage outstanding effort and achievement in undergraduate physics. Chuck got his MS in physics at MSM in 1950 and was awarded a Professional Degree from UMR in 1996. During his career, he did award-winning work for the US government and later started several successful business enterprises. The 2001-2002 scholarship was awarded to John Quebbeman of Springfield, Missouri. The Charles M. Rice Fellowship is presented to outstanding students in the graduate physics program at UMR. This year, the $2000 fellowship was awarded to Mr. Stephen Black.

In addition to endowed scholarships, which are usually awarded to juniors and seniors, the department awards special Physics Department Scholarships, funded from the annual phonathon, to students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. This past year, department scholarships were awarded to the following students, who range in academic standing from freshman to junior: Timothy Ivancic of St. Louis, Missouri, Cameron Johnson, of Manchester, Missouri, Joseph Eimer of Hillsboro, Missouri, Jason Burns of Fenton, Missouri, Rebecca Merrill of Hallsville, Missouri, Deepak Vaid of New Delhi, India, and Kevin Zimmerschied of Sedalia, Missouri.

Endowments: Gifts that Keep on Giving

Through the generosity of friends and alumni, the Department of Physics has been very successful in raising annual support for scholarships, student travel funds, and program enrichment. As you make your annual commitment to the department, however, you might want to consider starting an endowment in your name or in the name of a loved one, so that your gift will still be making a difference when your great-grandchildren enroll at UMR. An endowment to the university will bear the name that you designate in perpetuity.

Consider, e.g., the impact of leaving an endowed scholarship or lecture series in your name. With an initial gift of $10,000 (which may be started with $2,000 and a pledge of $2,000 annually over the next five years) you can start a fund from which generations of students will benefit. The fund will generate approximately $500 per year initially, and will continue to grow as the principal increases each year. The UMR physics department has several donors that have been adding to their endowment for several years, including endowments established last year by Ed and Mary Sue Sickafus, and by the estate of Richard Hannum.

Endowments may be established with cash or readily marketable securities. Regardless of the amount of the endowment you wish to establish or the methods used to establish it, your investment will have a significant and long-term impact on the Physics Department and on the University of Missouri-Rolla. Please call Dr. Sandra Ogrosky or Mr. Kevin Lindsey at 1-800-392-4112 if you have any questions or wish to discuss options available to you for giving to the department.