

Student Notes

Alex Silvius, Andy Prideaux, and **Rastko Sknepnek**, pictured below, received \$50 awards for posters they presented on their research at the Tenth Annual Scheerer Prize Competition.



Barbara Hale and **Gerry Wilemski** supervised the Masters thesis of a chemical engineering student, **Srivatsan Raman**, who graduated in December, 2003. His thesis was on "*Monte Carlo Simulations of Methanol Clusters.*"

Abdalla Obeidat gave a talk entitled "Nucleation Rates of Water Droplets Using an Equation of State" at the Nucleation Symposium of the 77th ACS Colloid and Surface Science Symposium, held at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, June 15-18, 2003. Also at the same conference, **Srivatsan Raman** gave a talk called, "*A Monte Carlo Discrete Sum (MCDS) Approach to Energies of Formation of Small Methanol Clusters*" based on work supervised by Barbara Hale and Gerry Wilemski.

Come Back for Homecoming

The UMR Physics Department warmly invites you to return to Rolla for **UMR Homecoming 2004** on the **October 15-16, 2004**. On Friday afternoon, October 15, the department will hold an open house and special programs for its alumni and friends. Tours of laboratories and educational facilities will be offered and there will be opportunities for interaction with current UMR physics students. Come see what we have done since you received your degree.

In keeping with a long-standing tradition, UMR alum **Jeff Schroder** (BS '95) will deliver the Homecoming 2004 Physics Colloquium at 4 PM. on Friday, October 15. Later that evening, professors **Ed** and **Barbara Hale** will host a homecoming reception in their lovely home. Contact us at physics@umr.edu for specific information about physics department activities, or alumni@umr.edu for general homecoming information. Come home to your college roots, and help us celebrate UMR's past, even as we work to shape its future!

Faculty Notes

Max Bertino and **Michael Schulz**, pictured below, both received a *Faculty Excellence Awards* in 2003. Max and Michael were two of only 19 UMR faculty chosen to receive this award.



In October, **Carsten Ullrich** was notified that the Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society will fund his proposal to organize a summer school on "*Time-Dependent Density-Functional Theory and the Dynamics of Complex Systems.*" The school will take place in June 2004 in Santa Fe, NM, and the total funding is \$93,686.

Barbara Hale has been invited to give a talk at the 16th International Conference on Nucleation and Atmospheric Aerosols in Kyoto, Japan in July 2004. This is the conference which was last hosted by UMR in 2001.



Jeff Schroder

To Contact UMR Physics

If you would like to contact us for any reason, you can reach us by phone at (573) 341-4781 and by e-mail at physics@umr.edu. You might also be interested in checking out our web page, <http://www.umr.edu/~physics>.