

Society of Physics Students – Zone 9 Fall Meeting

Held in Conjunction with the Wisconsin Association of Physics Teachers Fall Meeting

October 26-27th, 2007, Marquette University

The Marquette University Chapter of the Society of Physics Students (MU SPS) hosted the Fall 2007 Zone 9 Meeting. The Meeting was held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Association of Physics Teachers (WAPT) Fall Meeting, which was also held on the Marquette University campus. The MU SPS was contacted two weeks prior to the meeting and asked to host the meeting.

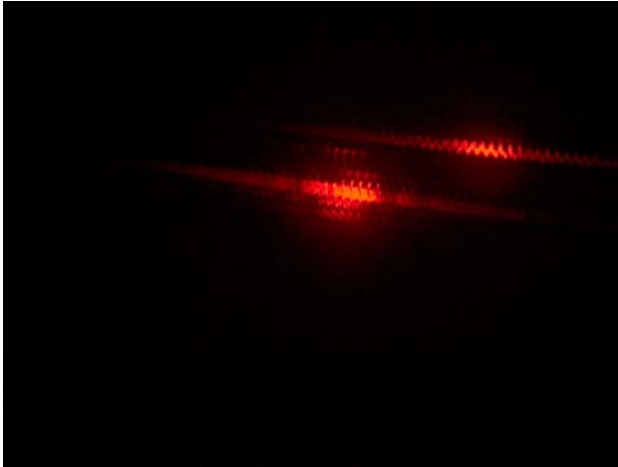
On Friday, October 26th, the meeting got underway at noon in the William Wehr Physics building on the Marquette University campus. Registration continued until 1PM, while the students visited in the MU SPS room. Students from Marquette University, the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, University of Wisconsin Platteville and Michigan Technical College were in attendance. In total, there were 15 student representatives from the four colleges. Most of these students had also registered for the WAPT Meeting and for most of the afternoon the SPS Zone 9 meeting participants went to hear lectures from WAPT members regarding everything from research to new educational methods. At 3:30 PM, student representatives from Marquette, UW-EC and UW-P gave poster presentations to the WAPT attendees.

At 5:30 PM, Dr. Diandra Leslie-Pelecky gave the feature talk on “The Physics of NASCAR” at the Weasler Auditorium. The lecture was open to the public, and about 250 people were in attendance to hear Dr. Leslie-Pelecky speak. She was an excellent speaker and held the audience rapt for an hour. She handled questions gracefully and intelligently and was given a large round of applause. After the lecture, the attendees of the SPS meeting returned for a chili potluck dinner and socialized. During the dinner, it was determined that UW-EC would host the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned for the night following the dinner.

The next morning the Zone 9 meeting reconvened at 9AM in the William Wehr Physics building and enjoyed bagels and coffee with the WAPT conference members. Afterwards, the Zone 9 participants attended more lectures and demonstrations hosted by the WAPT conference. A particularly popular one was “Medieval Astronomical Instruments” given by Mark Gipson, an engineer in industry. After the lecture, the MU SPS sponsored a Physics Scavenger Hunt, where the Zone 9 meeting participants split up into three groups and took pictures of physics concepts occurring naturally around the Marquette Campus. After the Scavenger Hunt, the results were displayed for all of the Zone 9 attendees and prizes were awarded for the best photos. MU Physics t-shirts were presented to all of the students from UW-EC, UW-P and Michigan Tech. After this, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Brianne Boland, MU SPS President

Photos:



Laser Diffraction



Amy Raplinger of UW-EC presents her poster



More from the Poster Presentation



Eric Breitbach of Marquette University presents his poster



Sinusoidal Motion and Nodes



Reflection