

Colloquium Schedule for Spring 2001

Monday, February 19, 2001

- 4:10 P.M. in Room 5, Physics Hall
 - **Strengthening the link between research and instruction in physics education**
 - Professor David Meltzer (Iowa State University)
 - **Abstract:**

Recently there have been increasing efforts within physics departments at U.S. universities to carry out systematic research on the teaching and learning of physics. By identifying and addressing students' learning difficulties, progress has been made toward more effective instruction. I will first discuss some of the issues that arise in detecting and measuring improved instruction. Then I will outline some of the work of the ISU physics education research group, including (1) a "model" problem on students' learning of gravitation concepts, (2) curriculum development for large lecture classes, and (3) investigation of student learning of thermodynamics.
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