

**The Science Education Search Committee  
(College of Natural Science and College of Education)  
is pleased to announce the candidate visit of**

**David Meltzer, University of Washington**

**for a faculty position spanning the Division of Science and Mathematics  
Education and the Lyman Briggs School**

**March 22-24, 2006**

Dr. Meltzer will give a talk, which you are cordially invited to attend:

**Thursday, March 23, 2006      212 N Kedzie    1:30-3:00**

David E. Meltzer  
Department of Physics - University of Washington

***Physics Education Research and the Improvement of  
Instruction***

In recent years systematic investigations into student learning of physics have been carried out at an increasing pace, particularly at the undergraduate level. This work, broadly known as "physics education research," involves exploring the process by which students come to understand physics concepts, and uncovering the difficulties and obstacles encountered by students as they learn. The ultimate outcome of this work is the development of new and more effective instructional materials and pedagogical strategies. I will outline the principal goals and methods of this research and show how it can lead to improved learning in the classroom. I will illustrate the process by discussing some of the investigations carried out by my research group. In particular, I will describe in some detail our ongoing investigation into student learning of thermal physics.

Limited opportunities to meet Dr. Meltzer may still be arranged. Please contact Becky Murthum, DSME if you have questions about this information, 355-1715, murthum@msu.edu