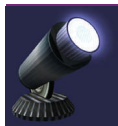


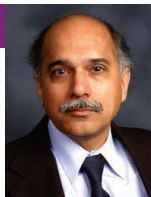


Newsletter for Science Chairs

tips and news of interest to FAS Science Chairs, from the Office of the Provost



SPRING SEMESTER SPOTLIGHT

RAMAMURTI SHANKAR

Shankar stepped down as Physics Chair on July 1, having served in that position since 2001. During this period, he oversaw many positive changes to the department. The undergraduate curriculum was revamped, reducing unnecessary requirements for the major, adding new electives in exciting fields, and creating a second track for those interested in careers outside of Physics after graduation. The labs were revamped and updated, and as many students as possible were given opportunities for research apprenticeships. Undergraduate enrollments notably increased, from 1,284 in 2001-02 to 1,644 in 2005-06. He was also instrumental in improving the culture of the department, creating many opportunities for discussions and social interactions between faculty and undergraduates. Finally, he ensured a comfortable workplace for women and minorities in a variety of ways, including individual counseling, hiring four new role models, celebrating the Year of the Woman with endowed lectures by distinguished women, and providing funds for focus groups to meet and travel to conferences. It is not surprising that Shankar has also been very effective in attracting women and minorities into Physics. His diversity efforts in the recruitment of new faculty have recently resulted in the appointment of one woman and one minority to senior positions. Our thanks to Shankar for a job well done!

NEW COORDINATION OF SCIENCE HILL SHARED RESOURCES

As many of you know, there are numerous shared instruments and facilities in FAS available to faculty. Some of these instruments and facilities are well established and heavily utilized; others are less well known and may represent opportunities for increased use and new collaborations. There are also frequent requests for additional shared facilities. The Provost's office is now in the process of more closely



coordinating these FAS resources and evaluating unmet needs. Elizabeth Prescott, who recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship in David Zenisek's lab at the Medical School, has been hired as a new staff member with responsibilities for coordinating these resources. One of Elizabeth's top

priorities will be to gain a clear understanding of the availability and capabilities of the shared resources, and then to assist the staff and managers of the resources with publicizing their availability and maximizing utilization. Some examples of the many existing core facilities include: The Center for Genomics and Proteomics, the Gibbs Machine Shop, and the Becton Clean Room. This initiative will broaden research and collaborative opportunities across the Hill. More information to follow soon!

FIRST ISSUE INTRODUCTION

The FAS Newsletter for Science Chairs is a new informational resource that will be distributed periodically by the Provost's office, and will contain items of use and interest to Science Chairs at Yale. All suggestions for future topics, announcements, graphics, or ideas for improving the newsletter are welcome and encouraged. Send all submissions, suggestions and feedback to: robert.burger@yale.edu.

BEST PRACTICES TIPS

- ◆ David Gingerella, **Shared Science Services Branch**, strongly recommends that Department Chairs invite their business managers to the first part of each faculty meeting to provide an opportunity for faculty to ask questions and voice concerns, which will facilitate increased communication between the faculty and department business personnel.
- ◆ #13 From the "23 Best Practices for Chairs" list: Facilitate and create regular opportunities for junior faculty mentoring with senior faculty. Many departments are formulating mentoring programs based on junior faculty recommendations. These might include meeting with an advisory committee of senior faculty, occasional meetings with the chair, or facilitating peer mentoring opportunities. We strongly encourage these efforts in your department if similar initiatives are not currently underway.

NEW CENTERS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH COMING SOON!

As part of the Science Cores Initiative, the office of the Provost is actively involved in the planning, implementation and funding of numerous new shared science core facilities that will broadly enhance the capabilities and resources available to FAS scientists. Several of these initiatives are in the final planning stages and will be implemented soon: the **Science Research Software Core** will provide specialized research software and associated support and training for researchers on the Hill, the **FAS High Performance Computing Core** will allow access to new HPC nodes for those in the physical sciences, and the **Electronics Shop** will be a valuable new resource to faculty and students alike. Other Cores in active development include the **Imaging Center**, the **Laser Center**, and the **Chemical Synthesis Center**.

NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS



Following the appointment of John Alvaro as the campus-wide Director of Postdoctoral Affairs, we are happy to announce the hiring of Monica Vella-Angelastro, Ph.D. as the Associate Director. Monica was a graduate student in the lab of Frank Slack (MCDB), received her doctorate from Yale in 2004, and has recently finished postdoctoral work in the lab of Rory McCrimmon (Internal Medicine). She will focus primarily on postdoctoral issues relevant to the Central Campus and is located on the first floor of Gibbs. She began her new position on June 1 and looks forward to interacting with the members of your department.

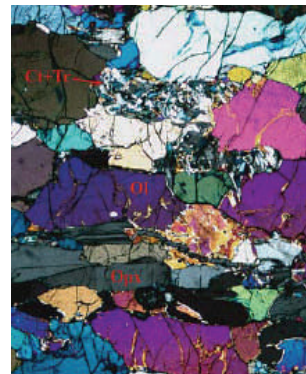
New Director of OEOP

We are pleased to announce that Valarie Stanley has returned to the Office for Equal Opportunity Programs as Director and will head EEO/Affirmative Action efforts. As you may know, Valarie was the Assistant Director for EEO for over 25 years. Valarie's years of experience will provide continuity of leadership and facilitate Yale's commitment to faculty and staff diversity through affirmative action compliance activities, implementation of equal opportunity and affirmative action policies, initiatives and programs, and the education and training of diversity representatives from faculty search committees. We will continue to utilize the current process for filling faculty positions appropriate for each school or department.

NEW RESOURCE FOR DUAL RECRUITMENTS

In order to facilitate dual recruitments and provide a wider variety of career opportunities for spouses of potential faculty, Yale has joined the Metro New York and Southern Connecticut Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC), which consolidates job opportunities at 42 different institutions in the region. Jobs can be searched by institution or location, and include academic, staff and executive positions. Yale joined on February 22nd, and positions can now be searched for all institutions on the HERC website: <http://www.mnyscherc.org>. We encourage all chairs to use this new resource for your dual recruits and for assisting your current faculty with career opportunities for their spouses and partners.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



Mineral microstructures in peridotite. From a 2006 *Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology* paper by Yale G&G graduate student Skemer, postdoc Katayama, and professor Karato.

Questions or comments? Email robert.burger@yale.edu or call 203-432-4448

*Division of Science and Technology,
Office of the Deputy Provost for
Science, Technology and Faculty
Development*