



Newsletter for Science and Engineering Chairs

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

FALL SEMESTER SPOTLIGHT



RICK PRUM



This semester we recognize Rick Prum, the chair of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, for his leadership in efforts to strengthen his department, and for his own research accomplishments. In only its 10th year of existence, the Department now has a strong core of seven senior faculty members, and a diverse and dynamic contingent of seven junior faculty—six of which were recruited in the past five years. In addition, as of January 1, 2010 the department will be further strengthened by the arrival of Howard Ochman and Nancy Moran, two very distinguished new senior recruits from the University of Arizona.

With Rick's leadership, the department is taking a prominent role in developing the full capabilities of the West Campus: former department chair Gunter Wagner will be a founding faculty member of the new Systems Biology Institute, and Drs. Ochman and Moran will locate their entire research groups at West Campus as they initiate the new Microbial Diversity Institute, of which Howard Ochman will be the first Director.

Finally, in addition to his leadership in the Department, Rick's diverse research interests have most recently been recognized by his selection as a 2009 MacArthur Foundation Fellow. We congratulate Rick for this well-deserved accomplishment!

CHANGES IN BUSINESS OPERATIONS LEADERSHIP TEAM (BOLT) RESPONSIBILITIES

As a result of Julie Grant's recent promotion to The Associate VP of Business Operations, BOLT is reexamining how it meets its core objective to support the research, teaching, and clinical missions at Yale. Several upcoming changes in BOLT responsibilities will apply to Science and Engineering, including the following:

- ◆ The Shared Science Service Branch will continue to report to David Gingerella, who will also now oversee the other two shared services centers (FAS/Provost and Officers). This is in keeping with the University's transition to a shared services model for administrative services.
- ◆ Responsibility for FAS academic units, which was formerly shared, will now be consolidated and assigned to Brian Rebesch. This includes each of the FAS science and engineering departments
- ◆ The remainder of the academic units formerly in David's area of responsibility (FES and the Peabody) will be reassigned to Jack Beecher's group.

In the coming weeks we will be working through the details of the formal transitions and will keep you and your business office updated about our progress. As always, we welcome and encourage your input. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your BOLT member.

THREE NEW FAS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHAIRS

During this academic year three new department chairs have assumed their duties in the FAS science and technology departments, and we wish to thank the following outgoing chairs for all of their hard work and leadership during their recent service in this challenging position:



Brudvig Prober Strobel

Gary Brudvig, Chemistry
Daniel Prober, Applied Physics
Scott Strobel, MB&B

We also wish to welcome their successors into their new leadership roles:



Miller Stone Sung

Scott Miller, Chemistry
Douglas Stone, Applied Physics
Patrick Sung, MB&B

NEW ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Most of you have likely already met Tim O'Connor, the new Associate Provost for Science and Technology, who started his position on June 1st. Tim most recently served as the Vice Chairman and Associate Research Professor in the Department of Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University, with research expertise in ecological and evolutionary physiology, genetics and genomics. Mr. O'Connor received his A.B. in Biology from the University of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Michigan. He replaces Bruce Carmichael as Associate Provost, and his portfolio in collaboration with Deputy Provost Steve Girvin includes oversight of the central campus science and engineering departments, the Peabody Museum, YIBS, and several supporting operations. He is also the provostial liaison for the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. He can be reached at timothy.oconnor@yale.edu.

As part of its Science Cores Initiative, the office of the Provost is working to plan and support an expanding high performance computing resource for the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. During the 2008-2009 academic year, we installed two large clusters: the 1024-processor “BulldogJ” cluster and the 1536-processor “BulldogK” cluster. Two additional, even more powerful clusters (“BulldogL” and “BulldogM”) will soon complement these, each containing 1,204 of the latest Intel processors and 100 Terabytes of high-performance data storage. BulldogL will be available for general FAS use, while BulldogM will be dedicated primarily to astrophysics computations. Looking to the future, the FAS HPC Subcommittee is already planning for additional cluster and data storage facilities to further enhance Yale’s HPC resource.

Two new HPC specialists have recently come on board to assist users in taking advantage of high performance computing. **Dr. Andrew Sherman** joined the research faculty in the Department of Computer Science in mid-February. Andy is trained as a computer scientist and numerical analyst, earning his PhD in Computer Science from Yale in 1975. Since then, his activities have included basic research, software development, and HPC application enablement, benchmarking, and optimization in both academic and commercial environments. He is experienced in development and application of parallel and distributed algorithms and software for Linux, Windows, and UNIX environments, including research and commercial HPC applications for physical and life sciences, several engineering disciplines, and financial services. His primary focus at Yale will be to work with researchers on computational algorithms, parallel implementations, and performance.

Brian Dobbins also joined the team in February, splitting his time between FAS HPC responsibilities and his on-going work in Dr. Mitch Smooke's lab in Mechanical Engineering. Brian has a background spanning both the systems and the science of HPC, including a Master's degree in the field from the University of Edinburgh, and he has already worked with a wide range of researchers at Yale. His focus will be on improving the ease-of-use of Yale's HPC resource, training users to take full advantage of HPC capabilities, and performance tuning of applications. Brian also serves as Yale’s TeraGrid outreach contact, so he will also help researchers use TeraGrid facilities more effectively. We encourage Department Chairs to invite Andy and Brian to meet with their faculty to describe Yale’s HPC resource and the types of assistance that are available to researchers. Andy and Brian’s location and contact information is as follows:

Andrew Sherman AKW 015 6-9171 Andrew.sherman@yale.edu
 Brian Dobbins AKW 016 2-4245 Brian.dobbins@yale.edu

NEW FUNDING

Congratulations to the following FAS faculty members and their co-PIs, for their recent success in securing significant sponsored research awards:

Name	Department	Agency	Award
Scott Strobel	(MB&B)	DOD	\$4,175,000/5 yrs
Rob Schoelkopf	(Ap. Physics)	IARPA	\$11,479,000/5 yrs
Rob Schoelkopf	(Ap. Physics)	Army	\$6,000,000/4 yrs
Gary Brudvig	(Chemistry)	DOE	\$2,300,000/5 yrs
Victor Batista	(Chemistry)	DOE	\$1,800,000/5 yrs

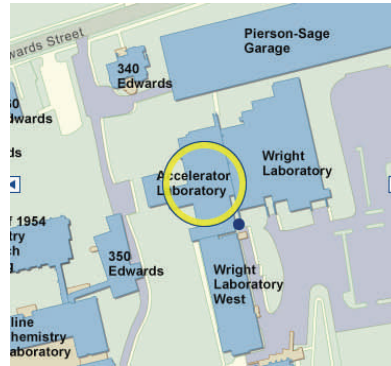
Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2009
 Time: 10:30am ~ 2:00pm

Come see what the new electronics shop is all about. Learn about the services and capabilities that this facility can provide to enhance and improve research and development projects for your faculty, postdocs and students. The lab setup, equipment and other resources that we have available will all be open for exploration, and examples of design projects performed by the Lab will be displayed.

In addition, leading instrumentation vendors will demonstrate their latest product offerings:

- ◆ Tektronix Oscilloscopes and Function Generators
- ◆ Agilent Spectrum Analyzers

Pizza and refreshments will be provided, courtesy of our vendors



The Electronics Lab is located in the EAL building (Accelerator Lab), adjacent to the Pierson-Sage Parking Garage. Call Lin Sapack at 203-432-5637 for further information or for directions to the lab.



NEW OFFICE OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

An Office of Faculty Development is being organized at Warner House that will provide management of all processes, procedures, records, and systems relating to faculty recruitment, appointments, promotions, and leaves. This office is responsible for developing programs and services to ensure that academic departments have the ability to attract, develop, and retain an outstanding faculty. The Office of Faculty Development will be directed by Diane Rodrigues, formerly the Senior Deputy Registrar for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Ms. Rodrigues arrived at Yale in 2002 and provided guidance on a number of innovative technical projects that have greatly improved efficiency throughout the course management and registration process. Diane welcomes your input as to how any of these processes may be improved to better serve your department.