

What's v ?

A monthly newsletter for physics teachers in LA and Orange Counties

Upcoming Events

September 8 PhysTEC Demo-Day

Location: CSULB- HSCI Rm 277
Time: 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Topics: Force and Motion
Contact/RSVP: Maria Ramirez at
mramire4@csulb.edu
RSVP by 9/6 for free parking

October 8 PhysTEC Open House

Location: CSULB
Time: 8:30 - 12:30 am
Topics: Research from Dr. Jiyeong Gu
and Dr. Thomas Gredig, a panel
discussion on careers with a physics
degree and fun activities for all!!!!
Registration:
www.physicsatthebeach.com

October 13 PhysTEC Demo-Day

Location: CSULB- HSCI Rm 277
Time: 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Topics: Circular Motion
Contact/RSVP: Maria Ramirez at
mramire4@csulb.edu

October 21-23 CSTA Conference

Location: Pasadena Convention Center

There are over 30 workshops in
physics/physical science!!!!
Information/Registration can be found
at: [http://www.cascience.org/csta/
conf_home11.asp](http://www.cascience.org/csta/conf_home11.asp)

Check out more upcoming events at www.physicsatthebeach.com

Welcome Back-to-School

It is hard to believe that the summer is almost gone! Soon we will all be swapping beach books for stacks of papers to grade and have to remember to set alarm clocks. Along with some trades that we might not like, there are some great opportunities out there for physics teachers to help make the transition back into the classroom easier.

Physics 490 at CSULB

Last year was the first year that California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) offered a class with the sole focus of helping people become better physics teachers. Yes, there are methods classes and yes there are physics classes but this class brought the two worlds together. The first class focused on light, sound and optics and wow was it illuminating!!

This fall, CSULB will be offering the second 490 class with a focus on force and motion. These two topics are traditionally taught at the beginning of the school year so why not start the students off on the right foot. The class will address issues such as misconceptions that people have, how to make a lab work for your students with the equipment you have (or don't have), what a good assessment and

rubric looks like and ways to sequence instruction so that it make sense to kids. The class is offered on Thursday nights from 5 to 8 in HSCI room 277. The first class meeting is September 1. Teachers can register thru Open University <http://www.ccpe.csulb.edu/ContinuingEd/>

Demo Days

If you cannot commit to taking Physics 490 but you still want a chance to collaborate with other physics teachers and share fun demonstrations then mark your calendar for "Demo Days." The second Thursday of each month, CSULB's PhysTEC project will be holding a demonstration sharing event. This is a great opportunity to bring out your best stuff for

all to see or to try out a new demonstration and get feedback.

The Demo Days will be held both during the fall and spring semesters. Each month there will be a different topic that we will try to focus on so that all areas of physics are represented. The first two months will focus on force and motion and circular motion respectively

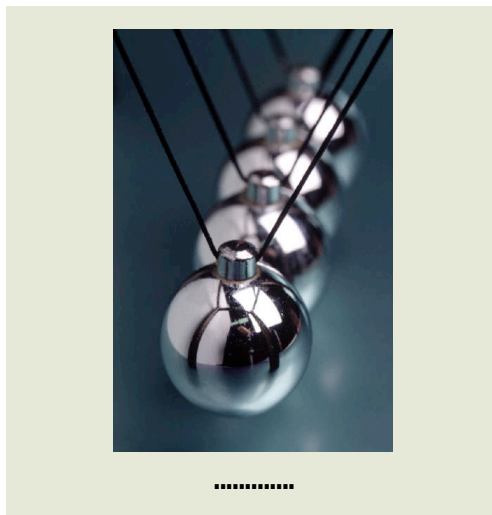
Newsletter

Most of us teaching physics do so as the sole physics teacher at our schools. It is with this in mind that this newsletter is being crafted and distributed. There are many opportunities out there for physics teachers and we want to share them with you. Additionally, we each have lots of knowledge and expertise to share with each other..

As the Teacher-in-Residence (TIR) for the CSULB Physics department, I want to help remind us all that we are not alone in teaching physics (even though it sometimes feels like we are alone when the classroom door shuts.) I plan to send out a monthly newsletter to inform you of events and opportunities outside of the classroom.

Hope the start of the new school year is a smooth one. I look forward to seeing you at the Demo Days or in Physics 490!

-Katie Beck
PhysTEC TIR



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If you have any questions or would like to contribute to this newsletter, please contact me at kbeck@ggusd.us or visit the website www.physicsatthebeach.com