



**RSPS Local Committee:**

N. Bigelow, A. Bodek, S. Brignall, D. Cline,  
D. Douglass J.H. Eberly, J. Fogg,  
A. Quillen, D. Watson, F. Wolfs (Chair)

Department of Physics and Astronomy  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY 14627-0171  
Tel: 585-275-6679, Fax: 585-273-3237  
Email: [rsps@pas.rochester.edu](mailto:rsps@pas.rochester.edu)

December 29, 2011

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed is a poster publicizing the 31<sup>th</sup> Annual Rochester Symposium for Physics, Astronomy, and Optics Students (RSPS). We are pleased to announce that this year's Symposium is to be held on Saturday April 14, 2012 at Siena College. We are pleased to announce that RSPS will serve as the Regional 2 Meeting of the Society of Physics Students (SPS) for New York, Ontario, and Quebec. We would appreciate it if you could post this poster and inform others in your department of the event, particularly undergraduate students in the physical sciences who might be interested in submitting abstracts.

The Symposium is a one-day meeting at which undergraduate students give fifteen-minute papers on research projects in physics, astronomy, optics, and related fields. Usually there is sufficient interest to include a poster session. The subject matter is quite diverse, covering such areas as condensed matter, astronomy, nuclear physics, laser and optical physics, instrumentation and computers, acoustics, environmental physics, atomic physics, medical and biological physics, and particle physics. The format of the Symposium sessions is similar to that of APS meetings, except somewhat less formal.

To register for the symposium visit the RSPS 2012 homepage at <http://www.pas.rochester.edu/urpas/page/RSPS2012> and click on the "Registration" link. Registration is a required step for all faculty, presenters, and non-presenters. Undergraduate students planning to attend and present at the symposium should also need to take another step and click on the "Submit Abstract" link on the RSPS 2012 homepage to submit their abstract. The deadline for registration and abstract submission is **March 23, 2012**.

Abstracts for RSPS 2012 should be 200 words or less and are similar to those submitted to meetings of the American Physical Society. **The reports can be of finished work or work in progress.** When you submit your abstract, please indicate if you would like to give a talk or prefer to be part of the poster session.

For delegates who plan to arrive Friday evening before the Symposium, the following hotels have very reasonable rates in the area: Econo Lodge (518-785-1414), La Quinta Inn & Suites (518-640-2200), Cocca's (518-785-0776), Red Roof Inn (518-459-1971), Homewood Suites (518-438-4300), or Holiday Inn (518-458-7250).

At the time of arrival at the Symposium the following fees are due: \$15 per abstract, \$10 for each faculty, \$5 for each student who is not giving a paper or poster, and \$15.00 for lunch. Faculty and students are more than welcome to send in registration fees ahead of time to: Undergraduate Program Coordinator, RSPS, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, NY 14627-0171. Make checks payable to the University of Rochester.

We hope students and faculty at your institution will participate.

Sincerely,



Frank L. H. Wolfs, Chair RSPS