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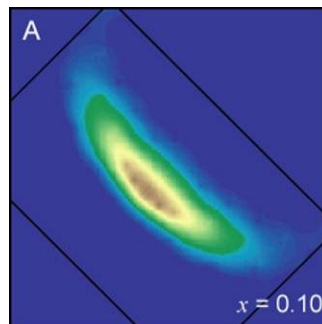
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Understanding the Mysteries of High-Temperature Superconductors

By Heather Rock-Woods

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[See whole story...](#)



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Understanding the Mysteries of High-Temperature Superconductors

By Heather Rock Woods

High-temperature superconductors (HTSCs) operate in mysterious ways, but scientists are starting to understand their peculiarities by using a state-of-the-art spectroscopy system at SSRL.

One of the biggest mysteries is how a material that starts as an insulator—which does not conduct electricity—can become a high-temperature superconductor after being doped with electric carriers.

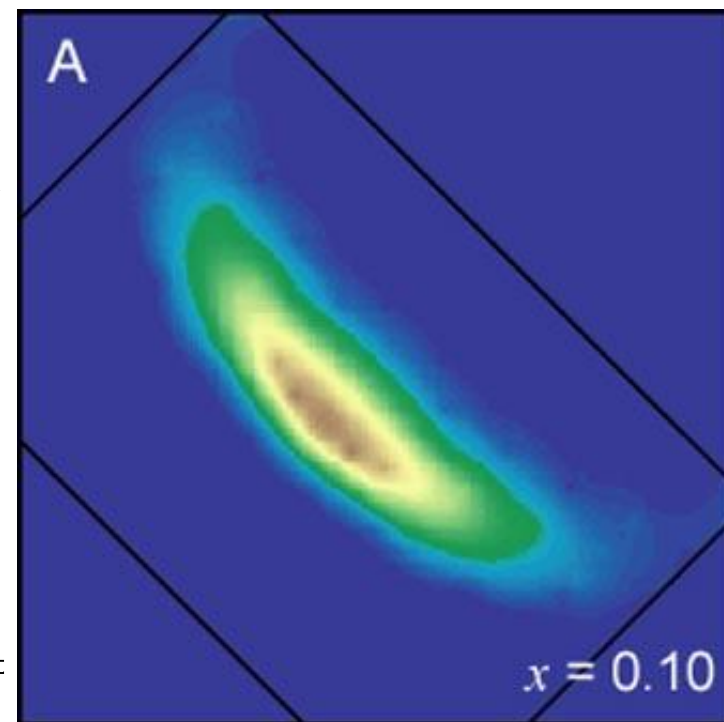
Researchers Kyle Shen and Donghui Lu (both ESRD), working in Zhi-xun Shen's group at SSRL and Stanford, looked at the evolution from insulator to superconductor by studying an HTSC material at different doping concentrations, including ones that are insulating. The team used angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES), a method of probing the electronic states in solids.

Their results, published in Science magazine on February 11, contribute to creating a fundamental understanding of the perplexing physics of HTSCs.

"The materials were discovered almost 20 years ago, but they are very complicated and not well understood," Lu said. "We'd like to have a microscopic theory that tells us why they can be superconducting at a temperature much higher than conventional superconductors, and thereby how to improve the materials."

HTSCs have huge potential for industry because they conduct electrical current without heat loss, yet need to be cooled only to liquid nitrogen temperatures (77 Kelvin) rather than the liquid helium temperatures (4 Kelvin) needed for conventional superconductors. While still chilly, that 'high' temperature is much less expensive to reach. HTSCs are used in niche applications, as the materials are currently too brittle for widespread use.

Below the superconducting transition temperature, electrons pair up and travel free of resistance. The pairs in



The electronic states in a high-temperature superconducting material are strongest along the diagonal momentum direction.

(Image by Donghui Lu)

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conventional superconductors join up through well-understood interactions. In HTSCs, however, it is unclear what mechanism causes the electrons to pair up.

One clue came from another group that used scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) to look at where the electrons were distributed across the two-dimensional sheets that make up the HTSC material. They discovered an interesting checkerboard pattern, indicating an unusual charge ordering (the repeating pattern or arrangement of electrons).

The ARPES data added to the unexpected picture. It revealed electronic states that were much stronger along the nodal momentum direction (diagonal to the checkerboard squares) than along the anti-nodal (straight) direction. The anti-nodal direction is the one in which superconductivity is the strongest and where charge ordering manifests.

"The fact that there are fewer electronic states along the anti-nodal direction is surprising," Lu said. "We thought they would be stronger to give rise to the checkerboard pattern observed by STM." These results show that the difference in momentum direction is important to electronic structure, and therefore put strong constraints on proposed models trying to explain how HTSCs work.

For more information, see: <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/vol307/issue5711/index.shtml>

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Holland Manages DOE Stanford Site Office

By Linda DuShane White

In early March, Michael Holland took over as Acting Manager of the DOE Stanford Site Office (SSO) at SLAC. Bob Wunderlich returned to Argonne after serving in that capacity for the past two months.

Holland's assignment is for a flexible period of 6 to 8 weeks. "I'll be continuing some of the things that Bob already got started here," he said.

He said that among his highest priorities while here are working to restart the research machines, the Type A corrective actions and working with the staff in the SSO to help them be as effective as possible.

Equally important for Holland will be to help Nancy Sanchez, the incoming SSO manager, have a smooth transition. Sanchez will be at SLAC on and off from mid-March to sometime in April, when she will be here permanently. Meanwhile, she will be attending training sessions and meetings at other sites.

Holland's excellent management skills and years of experience as Manager at the Brookhaven Site Office enabled him to pick up the reins here at SLAC. Like Wunderlich, he has experience overseeing transitions at a variety of DOE labs.

Holland has encouraging words for SLAC in this time of transition. "It's the same with any challenge. If you can work your way through it you're better off for having the experience. And I think the Laboratory's in a good place right now. You're on the upswing. It will be exciting to get the machines started." We can all agree with that!

On a personal level, Holland appreciates the mild Bay Area weather—a vivid contrast to the snow he left at home—and recently was lucky enough to see the Pacific Ocean for the first time on a bright blue day.



*Mike Holland
(photo by Diana Rogers)*

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ES&H Safety Tip: Group Lifting

What is team lifting? It is two or more people moving a load together.

When do you use it? When a load is too heavy, too bulky or too long to be moved by one person.

How do you do it?

1. One person gives orders to lift, turn and set down. Everyone must lift and move together. Each worker should understand what he/she is to do before you begin.
2. Lift and lower in the same manner: Squat down close to the load, get a firm grip, keep back straight and lift slowly with leg power. For setting down, reverse the procedure. Take care to keep fingers and hands from being caught underneath.
3. Carry the load without sudden starts or stops. Move slowly and watch where you step.
4. Avoid stairs whenever possible. Use an elevator or hoist to move loads to different floor levels.
5. Keep the load level and the weight evenly distributed. Be especially careful when you are going up and down inclines.
6. Long loads should be carried on the same shoulder of each team member. If the object is rigid, all should walk in step—but walking out of step will keep flexible objects from bouncing.
7. Avoid walking backwards. If necessary, be sure the path is clear, and have someone guide you.

Do not:

- Twist your body when lifting or carrying.
- Lift from one knee.
- Change your grip while holding a load.
- Step over objects when you are moving.

There may be only a few occasions when team lifting is necessary. But when teamwork is used, you will find the lifting and moving much easier—and safer.



*William Hansen (right) and colleagues with a section of his first linear electron accelerator, which operated at Stanford University in 1947.
(Photo courtesy of Stanford University)*

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For more information on environment, safety and health at SLAC, see: <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/>

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New Light Source Web site Launched

By Matthew Early Wright

The international light source community launched the first Web site dedicated exclusively to advanced light sources last month. Lightsources.org, a hub of news releases and educational materials, will serve the media, the general public and the scientific community.

The site was developed by the Light Source Communicators Group, whose members represent synchrotron and free electron laser (FEL) facilities in Europe, North America, Australia and Asia.

Lightsources.org was conceived as a public information portal to raise the visibility of light source research worldwide, much as Interactions.org has served the same purpose for the high energy physics community.

One goal of the site is to give light source labs credit for breakthrough research. News about important research often focuses on the scientific user's home institution. The connection to the light source lab itself can get diluted or completely lost in the process. The site will also provide access to advances in light source research and development.

Herman Winick (SSRL) believes the site will serve an important role in supporting light sources in the far-flung corners of the world. Nascent projects such as SESAME in Jordan, CANDLE in Armenia and an as-yet unnamed project in South Africa in particular will benefit greatly from access to the information Lightsources.org has to offer, he says.

"We're very interested in how the existing synchrotron community can work with projects in areas with little experience in particle acceleration and synchrotron radiation," Winick added. "These places need a resource like Lightsources.org."

Synchrotron and FEL facilities around the world regularly make significant contributions to science, technology and medicine. They provide a source of x-ray, UV and vacuum UV radiation millions of times brighter than other sources available. Synchrotron radiation is also an important source of high-quality infrared light.

Such bright light makes it possible to determine detailed atomic arrangements; for example, detailed three dimensional structures of proteins and viruses can be determined using x-ray diffraction. This can lead to a better understanding of how a protein functions, or how a drug can be designed to block virus replication.



The Lightsources.org home page

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Light sources can also collect detailed information about the electronic and magnetic properties of synthetic materials, such as semiconductors and polymers. In this way, light sources play a vital role in fields as disparate as biomedicine, physics, engineering, pharmaceutical design and environmental chemistry.

"Advanced light sources have caused a revolution," Winick said. "Researchers can take data in minutes that they previously needed months or years to get."

The launch of the site was announced in February at the AAAS meeting, which is typically well attended by journalists. Since Lightsources.org heavily targets the media, Winick commended Neil Calder (COM) and others for scheduling the launch during this event.

"I've already received positive feedback from many people," Winick said. "The site is a major asset to the synchrotron and FEL community."

For more information, see: <http://www.lightsources.org>

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Linear Café Offers Good Food and Relaxing Atmosphere

By Matthew Early Wright

Looking for an idyllic setting for your next catered event, somewhere with big shady trees, lush grass, and a fantastic view of the Santa Clara Valley? The perfect place is closer than you think.

The Linear Café at SLAC is more than just a convenient place to have lunch. The Epicurean Group that manages the Café also offers indoor and outdoor catering for all types of events, with a myriad of menu options. "What we offer for lunch is a small sampling of what we can offer for a catered event," says Café manager George Lee. "Why carpool to downtown Palo Alto or Menlo Park when we're right here?"

Lee places a big priority on making the Café an integral part of the SLAC community. He and his staff have made a number of improvements to make the environment more inviting, such as installing new carpeting and décor and opening up a new espresso bar. In addition, new chairs will soon be installed in the café seating area. This is all part of an effort to shed the utilitarian stereotype of a typical 'cafeteria' in favor of a more comfortable, 'community café' feel, Lee says.

While Lee wants the SLAC Community to feel welcome, he also wants to everyone to know that because Epicurean is liable for the café seating area, it is only available for events that are catered by Epicurean. It's also a bit like living in a neighborhood, Lee explains. "You take time to keep your place clean, and then the neighbors have a party on your front lawn." As much as you might like your neighbors, this can be frustrating.

A wide variety of event and catering options are available, and Lee stresses that Epicurean can be very flexible in setting up just the right event for any group's needs.

If you are interested to schedule a catered event, stop by the Café and chat with Lee, or contact him at george@epicurean-group.com, Ext. 2615.

For more information, see: <http://www2.slac.stanford.edu/cafe/>

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Help Needed: Record Books for the Blind and Dyslexic

By Albe Larsen

SLAC has an enormously diverse and talented population. Wouldn't you like to use your skill in educating other individuals?

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic is a largely volunteer organization that provides recorded versions of everything from texts for first graders to those for medical, law, business and other graduate and professional students. This organization needs volunteers to record books and help with production.

The Northern California unit of Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D®) is housed in a charming old adobe building in Palo Alto. There are five recording studios at this site, and the need for volunteers is huge. The studios are used at only 60 percent capacity and an enormous number of books wait to be recorded.

Many other volunteer jobs exist, including the fascinating job of preparing textbooks for recording. For a technical text this includes making decisions about where to include descriptions of figures, or how to describe an equation or a complex molecular formula.

A special player, or custom computer software, allows books to be highlighted electronically, and pages and chapters to be found by search technology that makes studying easier. For dyslexics and the visually impaired, this technology speeds up the slow process of trying to read.

Volunteers work two-hour shifts each week. To record well, one must know the vocabulary and the subject matter; hence, the need for people with real subject matter expertise. This is a great opportunity for SLAC staff to use their wide variety of knowledge to help others.

Titles are as diverse as 'Explaining the Universe' to 'Textbook of Family Practice,' to 'The Norsemen in the Viking Age' and 'Engineering Mechanics' were recorded in 2004.

The Northern California unit serves nine counties including San Mateo, Santa Clara and Contra Costa, where many SLAC employees live and where over 40,000 eligible students could benefit. As it is, fewer than 4,500 are served.

The Northern California unit of RFB&D is open evenings and Saturdays to accommodate working volunteers.

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For more information, contact Carol Crites, the volunteer coordinator at 650-493-3717, Ext. 13.
Also see: www.rfbd.org/Northern_California_Unit.htm

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Remember—SLAC Makes History Every Day

By Jean Deken

Whether you have been at SLAC 30 years or 30 days, whether you are an employee, a contractor or a scientific user and whether you are gearing up a brand new project or winding down a successful, long-running experiment there is a small percentage of the every day 'stuff' of your work that may be history some day—that is, if you take appropriate steps to preserve it today.

If you have worked or are currently working on a project or experiment at SLAC that fits any of the following items, some of your work products are of definite historical interest, and meet the criteria for long-term or permanent retention agreed upon by DOE and the National Archives:

- Receives national or international awards of distinction.
- Involves the active participation of nationally or internationally prominent investigators.
- Conducts research which results in a significant improvement in public health, safety or other vital national interests.
- Is a scientific endeavor which is or has been the subject of widespread national or international media attention and/or extensive congressional, DOE or other government agency investigation.
- Shows the development of new and nationally or internationally significant techniques which are critical for future scientific endeavors.
- Makes a significant impact on the development of national or international scientific political, economic or social priorities.
- Leads to the development of a 'first of its kind' process or product.
- Improves an existing process, product or application, or has implications for future research.

If any of your past or present work fits one of the above descriptions, resist the urge to simply chuck out or delete files and records that you are no longer using. Staff are available and eager to assist you with

In addition to this list of potentially archival records, there are routine records created in the course of SLAC's day-to-day operations that must be retained by the SLAC Records Manager for financial, legal, epidemiological or medical reasons.

Materials we collect include:

- Correspondence and memoranda generated in the course of conducting research and business.
- Correspondence relating to facets of a career in physics (for example, correspondence with colleagues, professional societies, publishers).
- Research files, research notebooks, logbooks.
- Reports (formal and technical reports).
- Group and Department communications, including substantive emails, Committee minutes and supporting documents.
- Teaching materials, lecture notes, Institute, colloquium materials.
- Biographical materials.
- Ephemeral descriptive materials (e.g., brochures, maps, directories).

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questions or concerns about SLAC records before you pitch, recycle or delete your files.

For a consultation, please contact the SLAC Archives and History Office (Ext. 3091) or SLAC Records Management (Ext. 4342) or for further information, see: Archives: www.slac.stanford.edu/history
Also see Records Management: <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/rm/>

- Architectural and engineering drawings and plans.
- Audio-visual materials, including photographs (prints, negatives), slides, videos, films, recordings.
- Scrapbooks, news clippings.
- Oral history tapes and transcripts.
- Posters and other promotional items about SLAC activities.
- Microforms (microfilm, microfiche).
- Artifacts.

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Quinn Receives Honorary Degree at University of Melbourne



Helen Quinn (THP) delivered the graduation address at the University of Melbourne in early March, where she was awarded a Doctor of Sciences (honoris causa). The honorary degree is her second; she was awarded a similar degree by Notre Dame in 2002. Quinn began her studies at Melbourne in 1960, transferring to Stanford in 1962 to finish her bachelor's and pursue a PhD. She began her address commenting that "45 years to get a degree from Melbourne University must be some kind of record."

While in Australia, Quinn toured the country as the Women in Physics Lecturer. The lectureship, sponsored by the Australian Institute of Physics, is intended to encourage young girls to study science. During the

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*month-long tour, she made more than 25 appearances including public lectures, colloquia, radio interviews and talks to high school students.
(Photo courtesy of Helen Quinn)*

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Ashley Honored for Exhibit at the Clinton Presidential Center

SLAC hosted the collection last February. See:

http://www.slac.stanford.edu/~george/announce/aashley_page_1.htm

The following is reprinted courtesy of the Clinton Foundation

On February 15, 2005, over 150 guests attended a lecture and reception honoring Al Ashley, whose collection—"African American Coins and Stamps"—will be a featured exhibit at the Clinton Center through the end of February in celebration of Black History Month. Ashley addressed the crowd in the Center's Great Hall, telling stories of his encounters with famous black Americans like Langston Hughes when Ashley was a child growing up in Tuskegee, Alabama. After Ashley's lecture, guests were invited to tour the Clinton Library.

Jointly sponsored by the William J. Clinton Foundation, the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, and the Clinton Presidential Library, Ashley's collection is the first temporary exhibit to be featured at the Clinton Center since its opening on November 18, 2004. Ashley began his collection in 1978. It pays tribute to African-Americans who have made major achievements throughout United States history including Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman, Booker T. Washington, Dr. George Washington Carver, Duke Ellington, W.E.B. Du Bois, General Benjamin Davis, Jr., Jesse Owens, Joe Louis, Scott Joplin and Mary McLeod Bethune, among many others.

"I am very excited that the Al Ashley collection will be on display at my library," said former President William J. Clinton. "I hope people will come see it and honor the accomplishments of the remarkable men and women featured in this exhibit."

"People who have seen this collection have great things to say about it," said Dr. David Alsobrook, director of the Clinton Library. "We are certainly pleased to share it with our many in-state and out-of-state visitors."

"This is also an important educational exhibit," said David Pryor, Dean of the Clinton School. "It is a walk through American history."

In addition to stamps and coins, the Ashley collection features two rare antislavery tokens, one produced in



Al Ashley (Photo courtesy of the Clinton Foundation)

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Britain in 1795 and the other produced in the United States in 1838.

Ashley was born and raised in Tuskegee, Alabama, home of the Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University. As Ashley was growing up there, the Tuskegee Institute drew prominent African-Americans to the small town, many of whom Ashley met personally.

Ashley earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Texas Southern University at Houston and a masters degree in public administration from California State University at Hayward. He retired after over 30 years of service from Stanford University where he served as a personnel officer. In addition to collecting, he continues providing opportunities for minority students as a consultant to the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center.

See: <http://www.clintonfoundation.org/feature-afam-collection-0217051.htm>

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Thursday March 17, 2005 by [Emily Ball](#)

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ClickHome Offers SLAC and Stanford Staff Low-Cost Real Estate and Mortgage Services

SLAC and Stanford staff can take advantage of low-cost real estate and mortgage services from ClickHome, a Santa Clara based company. Since last May, the University has partnered with ClickHome in order to make home buying more affordable for employees and their families.

The company offers a significant brokerage fee discount to buyers and sellers. Buyers using ClickHome to represent them receive a rebate of typically 1.5 percent of the purchase price of the property they buy. Sellers using the firm to sell their home will save 1.5 to 2.5 percent, lowering their total brokerage fee to 3.5 to 4.5 percent! ClickHome is a full service real estate firm, with you every step of the way when you are buying, and offering a complete marketing plan when you sell.

ClickHome Mortgage offers loans from over 80 lenders, giving you tremendous market selection on loans of every kind, including Interest only, Zero Down, MCC and Neighborhood Advantage for first time buyers. Pre-approvals are always complimentary to Stanford employees and their families. ClickHome loan officers will analyze your situation and help you determine which loan best fits your needs. Securing a loan through ClickHome can save you anywhere from about 25 to 50 percent off the average loan points.

On a \$500,000 purchase, your typical savings with ClickHome can exceed \$9,500 when you use a ClickHome realtor and loan officer.

ClickHome can offer these savings by enrolling larger employers and Institutions in their unique program, avoiding the high cost of conventional marketing. By providing their Realtors with buyers and sellers from their corporate program, ClickHome reduces the transaction costs and passes the savings on to Stanford employees and their families. ClickHome realtors, who average more transactions than commission only realtors, are salaried employees, not independent contractors. ClickHome realtors also earn bonuses which are paid based on the results of a Customer Satisfaction Survey that clients fill out at the end of their transaction. Realtors must achieve a score of 90 percent or better to earn their bonus.

Staff can access services and information at www.clickhome.us/stanford (click on "Why ClickHome" and take the tour) or call (408) 615-1000 and simply say they work for Stanford. ClickHome offers everything from an online mortgage calculator and accurate MLS home searches for available properties to refinancing and home-selling services.

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MILESTONES

Service Awards

5 Years

Gonzalez, Ana (ESRD), 3/28
Hoang, Tuan (MD), 3/16
Williams, Larissa (KM), 3/16

10 Years

Wackerman, Yolande (BAS), 3/27

15 Years

Jacob Jr., Ralph (ESD), 3/26
Radau, Raymond (CEF), 3/28
Regalado, Jose (CEF), 3/20

20 Years

Cha, David (ESD), 3/26
Palrang, Michael (MD), 3/16

Deceased

Waugh, Brian (formerly with SCS), on March 5, 2005

To submit a Milestone, see: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/pubs/tip/milestoneindex.html>

See Awards and Honors at: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/slac/award/>

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Safety Shoe Vendors Will be On Site

By Richard Jones

Tuesday, March 22
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Parking lot west of Building 280

For information regarding safety footwear refer to ES&H Manual Chapter 19: Personnel Protective Equipment, Section 10: Foot Protection (<http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/eshmanual/ESHch19.pdf>).

Supervisor Approval Required

Each employee fills out the SLAC Protective Footwear Approval Form and has it approved by his/her supervisor PRIOR to purchasing the shoes.

The employee pays the sales tax up front and fills out and submits to the Petty Cash Office the petty cash slip, the Approval Form, sales receipt and proof the shoes comply with the ANSI Z41 Standard.

A reimbursement check will be sent to the employee within a week. Employees will be reimbursed for the total cost, including sales tax, up to the maximum allowed by SLAC policy.

For details, see: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/esh/forms/footwear.html>

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Watercolor Exhibition Opens March 18 in the ROB

You're Invited!
Objects and Close-Ups
Selected Works from a Forty-Year Career

March 18 - April 15
ROB, Bldg. 48

Artist's Reception: Friday,
March 18 4 - 8 p.m., ROB



Garden Fence, a watercolor painting by Menlo Park artist Earl Junghans. (Image courtesy of Earl Junghans)

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The Interaction Point

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