

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)

By Heather Rock Woods

Charles Prescott (EA) is retiring on December 1, after 34 years at SLAC leading the Lab and the world in developing and using polarized sources of electrons in high energy physics experiments.

Prescott is probably most known for developing the first high-intensity polarized source and heading the groundbreaking E-122 experiment that solidified the then-disputable electroweak theory, the foundation of today's wildly successful Standard Model.



He also gains recognition each summer as one of the four directors of the SLAC Summer Institute. He will complete his tenth year as director next summer before handing the reins over to someone new.

[See whole story...](#)

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[See whole story...](#)

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By Richard Mount

According to Elsevier Science Direct, the GEANT4 Collaboration paper from 2003 is number five in the list of hottest articles in Physics and Astronomy—and the only article in the top 25 that has anything to do with high energy physics. Areas of interest range from economics to engineering and from biological to physical sciences.

[See whole story...](#)

## [SLAC Gala a Success](#)

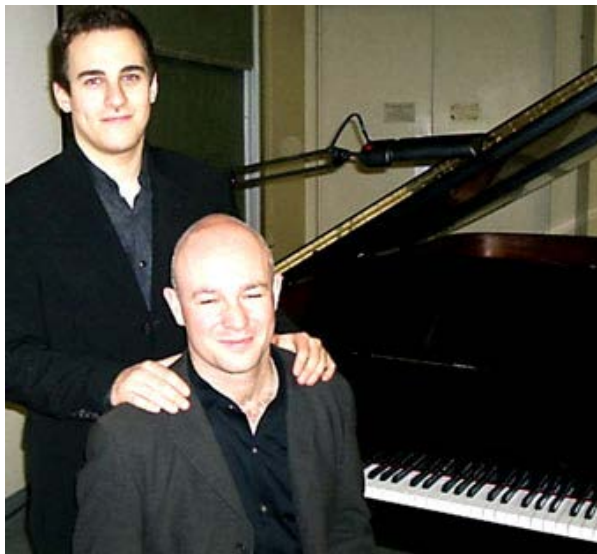
Our thanks to everyone who celebrated this momentous occasion with us!

## [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)

By Nina Adelman Stolar

Luda Fieguth (CEF) received the DOE Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Energy Champion award on October 26. The ceremony was held in the Forrester Auditorium at DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"The entire event was very pleasant," Fieguth said. "We all were



[See whole story...](#)

taken out to a luncheon in a nice restaurant on the bank of the Potomac river.”



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[See whole story...](#)

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

Last update Tuesday November 22, 2005 [TIP](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

**FRONT PAGE****FEATURES**

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES**

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

**EVENTS**

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

**ABOUT TIP**

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

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Prescott is probably most known for developing the first high-intensity polarized source and heading the groundbreaking E-122 experiment that solidified the then-disputable electroweak theory, the foundation of today's wildly successful Standard Model.

He also gains recognition each summer as one of the four directors of the SLAC Summer Institute. He will complete his tenth year as director next summer before handing the reins over to someone new.

"SSI is hard work and it's rewarding," Prescott said. "We get lots of positive feedback from lecturers and students."

In true SLAC fashion, the 'retired' Prescott will still work half time (on 'recall to active duty'). Relinquishing the administrative duties of Group A Leader (coinciding with the group's dissolution), he will continue to do R&D for the neutrino experiment EXO—a career anomaly because the project uses no polarized source and no accelerator.

### From Bubble Chambers to Polarized Beams

Prescott joined SLAC in 1971 as a research associate first working on the BC-42 bubble chamber experiment in Group A. He soon turned to polarization. In the 1970's, experimental physicists wanted to probe for quarks—not yet a solved mystery—using deep inelastic scattering. In deep inelastic scattering, electrons scatter off protons, interacting with the quarks inside, at energies strong enough to break up the proton.

"Weinberg and Salam had a theory that unified the weak and electromagnetic forces," Prescott said. "The theory predicted that in electromagnetic interactions, you should see a bit of the weak force." Prescott proposed an experiment to test the theory of electroweak interactions by finding parity nonconservation— violation of mirror symmetry—in inelastic electron scattering.

To make the measurements, physicists needed a source of polarized electrons. In a polarized particle beam, the majority of the particles are aligned to spin in the same direction, like a clockwise spiral on a football as it speeds toward a receiver. Physicists expected that electrons polarized to be forward-spinning would interact with quarks at a slightly different rate than reverse-spinning electrons (a parity violating effect).

Because there was no way to polarize electrons into an intense enough beam, Prescott, then a permanent staff physicist, started work in 1974 with Roger Miller (ARDA), Ed Garwin and Charlie Sinclair (both PEL) to develop the first high-intensity polarized source.



(Photo by Diana Rogers)



(Courtesy of SLAC Archives)

Prescott now (shown left) and from the 1975 SLAC Phonebook.

They put their source to brilliant use in SLAC experiment E-122 in 1978. It was the first high-intensity polarized source on an accelerator and also the first use of gallium arsenide (a semiconductor material) for an accelerator. When struck by intense laser light, gallium arsenide emits a large number of polarized electrons. Most electron accelerator labs now use the material in their polarized sources.

The weak force has a different effect depending on whether you look for it with a forward-spinning electron (that you scatter off a proton) or a reverse-spinning electron. The experiment famously found this small asymmetry ( $10^{-4}$ ), thus proving that the weak force is involved in electron-quark interactions.

E-122's success provided the cornerstone for acceptance of the electroweak theory, which at the time had competitors. A year later, in 1979, Steven Weinberg, Abdus Salam and Sheldon Glashow won the Nobel Prize for this theory. Prescott won the 1988 Panofsky Prize for his experimental work.

### Fixed Target and Colliding Beam Experiments

After E-122, Prescott became an associate professor and contributed to proposals and R&D for the PEP accelerator and a PEP detector. He was a charter member, along with Marty Breidenbach, Dave Hitlin, Harvey Lynch and David Leith, for SLD, the detector for SLC, the world's first linear collider. Prescott proposed that the machine use polarized beams.



*Sinclair working on the first high-intensity polarized source in the mid-1970's.*

*(Photo by Joe Faust)*

"The electromagnetic force is the largest force when you scatter off a proton, as in E-122, and the weak force is weak," he said. "But at the Z pole (where Z particles are produced) in SLC, the weak force is by far the dominant force. The roles changed. Parity violation is a very large effect. Its full nature stands out."

The polarized source for SLD took full advantage of advances in gallium arsenide made by Takashi Maruyama, Garwin and others, which together with a state-of-the-art laser enabled around 80 percent polarization of the electron beam.

The SLD collaboration published its complete and final results this summer together with the final results from similar experiments done at CERN in Switzerland. The polarized beam enabled SLD to make key measurements more precisely than any other experiment, even though SLD produced far fewer Z particles than the CERN experiments.

"At the Z pole, we had the best tools, we had the polarized electrons, we did the best measurement of the mixing parameter called the weak mixing angle," Prescott said. The weak mixing angle is a 'free' parameter in the Standard Model whose value is not specified; it gives important information about the strength of the electroweak force and is a powerful tool for predicting the mass of the still sought after Higgs particle.


In parallel to SLD, Prescott returned to End Station A, collaborating with Ray Arnold and his group on learning the spin structure of protons and deuterons (a hydrogen with one proton plus one neutron) using polarized electron beams and polarized solid targets. They measured the spin of the quarks in the proton and the deuteron.

In 1986 Prescott became a full professor, and was associate director of the Research Division from 1986 to 1991.

"He's very good, and he's somebody I always trusted as a physicist and as an administrator," said director emeritus Burton Richter (DO).

### Current Research Continues

For the past three years, Prescott has been working on EXO to learn more about neutrino mass. Although EXO does not use an accelerator, the experiment still fits well



with Prescott's forte for probing the nuclei of atoms. EXO involves detecting certain rare decays from the nuclei of xenon atoms.

"The physics is interesting and worth doing and I like technically challenging R&D projects," he said, neatly summarizing his four decades in physics. Prescott now (shown above) and in 1975.

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Last update Tuesday November 22, 2005 by [TIP](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Fieguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

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By Nina Adelman Stolar

Luda Fieguth (CEF) received the DOE Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Energy Champion award on October 26 (see announcement of this [award](#) in TIP, June 17, 2005). The ceremony was held in the Forrestal Auditorium at DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C. "The entire event was very pleasant," Fieguth said. "We all were taken out to a luncheon in a nice restaurant on the bank of the Potomac river."

Two individual energy champions, two organizations and three small groups were recognized by DOE this year for 'outstanding contributions towards energy and associated dollar savings at DOE facilities.'

The ceremony began with the National Anthem sang by Lynda Edwards followed by a welcome greeting from FEMP manager Rick Klan and remarks by Douglas Faulkner, Acting Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. The award presentation was made by Victor Petrolati, DOE FEMP Team Leader.

As reported in the earlier TIP article, the award recognizes that through Fieguth's initiative, SLAC is currently saving 32 billion British Thermal Units—Hours (BTUH) of energy annually, which is equivalent to usage of about 1,800 households. This saves the Lab over \$400,000 annually (in the FY05 energy market) and is reflecting our decreased use by approximately 6,000 Megawatt-hours (MWH) of electrical energy and about 11.5 billion BTUH of energy from natural gas.



*Fieguth received the award, a very nice globe—4" in diameter on a wooden pedestal—accompanied by an award certificate signed by Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman.*

*(Photo courtesy of Luda Fieguth)*

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge

By Les Cottrell

This year's Bandwidth Challenge was held at the SuperComputing Conference (SC|05) that took place November 14-17 in Seattle. Scientists and their supercomputers demonstrated vast rivers of data traveling across the continents via our high performance networks.

The purpose of the challenge was to showcase high-impact data transfer among real applications. During SC|05 SLAC and Fermilab (in partnership with Caltech and others in Brazil, Japan, Korea, the United Kingdom and the U.S.) utilized more than twenty 10- gigabit-per-second light paths to transmit and display particle physics and astronomy data between the Labs and SC|05. The experiments include BABAR, CMS, CDF, D0 and SDSS.

In addition, the United Kingdom's first dedicated optical network for research was put to the test by researchers from Manchester, London and Oxford with projects in astronomy, particle physics and molecular biology. The infrastructure, dubbed UKLight, is a high bandwidth optical network linked to similar networks around the world.

At last year's Bandwidth Challenge SLAC partnered with Caltech, FermiLab, CERN, the University of Florida and groups from the United Kingdom, Brazil and Korea to defend its record. The team set a new world record for sustained bandwidth of 101 gigabit per-second—four times faster than our 23 Gbps record in 2003.

For more information, see: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2145728/uk-boffins-aim-beatlan-speed>

<http://www-iepm.slac.stanford.edu/monitoring/bulk/sc2005/hiperf.html>

For information on SC|05, see: <http://www.sc05.org/>

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

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GEANT4 is a toolkit that simulates the passage of particles through matter. It is used in diverse applications, including simulation of high energy and nuclear physics experiments, radiation shielding, space radiation transport and effects, and medical physics. SLAC has been actively involved in its development and user support since the launch of the project.

For more information, see: [http://top25.sciencedirect.com/index.php?subject\\_area\\_id=21](http://top25.sciencedirect.com/index.php?subject_area_id=21)

For a GEANT4 update, see: <http://symmetrismagazine.org/cms/?pid=1000221>



# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

## [FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SiD, SRB and XMC Have in Common?

By Jean Deken

All of them are acronyms used at SLAC, and have been added to the SLACSpeak glossary in the past 12 months—along with their definitions or explanations. SLACSpeak is both a continuously updated website and an occasionally re-issued publication produced by the SLAC Archives and History Office.

There are several easy and convenient ways to locate SLACSpeak on the Web when you need to look up an unfamiliar acronym or term:

- Type slacspeak in the grey and white global navigation (search) box on any of SLAC's pages.
- Go to any top-level page on the SLAC site with left-hand navigation links, and click on the 'SLACSpeak Glossary' flyout link under 'About SLAC.'
- Go to the Detailed Index and look under 'S': <http://home.slac.stanford.edu/detailed.asp>
- Bookmark SLACSpeak on your Web browser: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/spires/>

The SLACSpeak glossary may be searched by acronym or by definition, or readers may browse an on-line alphabetical list of the terms and acronyms it contains. There is also a 'Suggest Term' link on the site that allows users to submit terms and acronyms that they have searched for and not found, and that they would like to have added to the glossary.

If you would prefer to have a hard copy of SLACSpeak, stop by the SLAC Library or Archives to pick up the June 2000 paperback edition.

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)
[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

## FRONT PAGE

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## Library's New Website

By Lesley Wolf

The look of the new SLAC Library website is roomy. The feel is airy and light. Maneuverability is nimble as you roll your mouse across the page. And while it does not smell like a new car, it handles like one. The site has been reworked, reshaped, remodeled and reformed to better serve you, the SLAC information customer. The URL has not changed: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/library> (and yes, we do still have a physical library on the second floor of the Central Lab, Bldg. 40).

The site now offers side-by-side book and journal search boxes, new books and SLAC publication lists, as well as a one-size-fits-all request form for ordering interlibrary (outside of SLAC) books, copies of articles, purchases, journal routing to your mailbox and book purchase suggestions. Check out the ASME Standards database, e-mail the reference librarian or browse the online computer books.

### Little Known Fact

We are affiliated with Stanford University Libraries, and have access to their vast collections and electronic resources. Click on the Stanford Libraries link on the SLAC Library home page, then open SOCRATES for the Stanford Libraries main catalog.

Reference Librarian and webmaster Kim Sutton, Library Staff Ann Redfield, Travis Brooks, Mike Sullivan, Lesley Wolf and Nicole Thomas (all LIB) worked out the details for the new library web site while Technical Publications Staff Beck Reitmeyer, Ruth McDunn, and Chip Dalby (all TIS) offered much technical and creative expertise.



# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources](#)  
[Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department



CEF was formed by merging the former Experimental Facilities Department and Site Engineering and Maintenance group late last year. This department is responsible for the maintenance and upgrade of almost all facilities at SLAC. This group picture was taken at a CEF All-Hands department meeting several months ago. Note that not everyone is in the photo, but it does give a good representation of the group. In addition, some of the staff have changed offices recently. John Weisend, head of CEF, and other staff who had been in Bldgs. 280A and 211 have moved to the Collider Experimental Hall (CEH). You can find them on the Mezzanine (2nd floor, Bldg. 751 inside of Bldg. 750). Follow posted signs and use the side entrance, either up the staircase to the elevator. (Photo by Diana Rogers)

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Last update Friday November 18, 2005 by [TIP](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

## [FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## Prevent a Traffic Hazard – Get Your Vehicle Decal Today

*By Simon Ovrachim*

The delay in producing SLAC ID's is causing a traffic hazard at the Main Gate. Staff members who wait until the last moment to dig out their badges at the Main Gate are causing traffic delays and potential 'rear ender' accidents.

### Vehicle Decals Strongly Recommended

We strongly encourage all eligible staff to [obtain a decal](#) for their vehicle to allow smooth entry into SLAC for everyone. Those without a vehicle decal must show a valid SLAC ID to the guard.

Unfortunately, we are encountering several situations each day where individuals are slowing down to a stop (or near-stop) while searching for his/her ID badge.

Please note that if you do not have your badge ready as you drive into SLAC, you must use the left lane marked 'Stop' and not endanger your colleagues.

Better still, solve this problem by obtaining a vehicle decal. Get your decal today by contacting the Safeguards and Security Office (Ext. 5345, Bldg. 207).

For more information, see: <https://www-internal.slac.stanford.edu/ssec/>

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule

The dates of observance for the calendar year will be as follows:

### New Year's Day (2005)

Monday, January 2, 2006

### Martin Luther King's Day

Monday, January 16, 2006

### Presidents' Day

Monday, February 20, 2006

### Memorial Day

Monday, May 29, 2006

### July 4th (Independence Day)

Tuesday, July 4, 2006

### Labor Day

Monday, September 4, 2006

### Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 23, 2006

### Day After Thanksgiving

Friday, November 24, 2006

### Christmas Eve

Monday, December 25, 2006

### Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26, 2006

### New Year's Day (2006)

Monday, January 1, 2007

### Floating Holiday

The Floating Holiday may be taken on any work day after January 1 and before December 31, 2006, subject to the agreement of the employee's supervisor. Frequently employees ask to have time off to observe days of religious or other special significance, other than those days designated by the University as holidays. Because of the flexible scheduling allowed for the Floating Holiday, I remind you that, with the concurrence of your supervisor, you may schedule the Floating Holiday to provide paid time off on a day which has special significance to you.

If you have any questions concerning the administration of holidays or holiday pay, please contact Carmella Huser (Ext. 2358, [chuser@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:chuser@slac.stanford.edu)).

Contact: Lee Lyon, Ext. 2283, [lyon@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:lyon@slac.stanford.edu)

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

## [FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## Welcome New Employees!



*The new employee orientation held on October 27 included (left to right) Eric Charles (GLAST), Olga Ligeti (RP), Fabio Iocco (KIPAC) and Lanfa Wang (ILC).*

*(Photo by Diana Rogers)*

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## The SLAC Emergency Hotline Number:

**1-877-447-SLAC (7522)**

Please make a note of the SLAC Emergency Hotline number. In the event of an emergency, the most current information about SLAC will be a single phone call away.

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## MILESTONES

### Appointments & Awards

Raubenhemer, Tor (ILC) elected Member-at-Large, Executive Committee of the APS Division of Physics of Beams

Ruth, Ron (ARDA), elected Divisional Councilor of the APS Division of Physics of Beams

### Service Awards

#### 5 Years

Cadapan, Lorenzo (ESRD), 11/16  
Espiritu, Bernadette (ACC), 11/20  
Etem, Kamil, (SCS), 11/20  
Knotts, Cathy (SSRL), 11/16  
Taylor, Mark (ESD), 11/27

#### 10 Years

Anderson, David E. (ESD), 11/27

#### 30 Years

Spencer, Nancy (ESD), 11/25

### Retired

Meyer, Steven (SCS), 10/19

### Deceased

McRae, John (formerly KLY), age 76, on October 1, 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/>



# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

## [FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## EVENTS

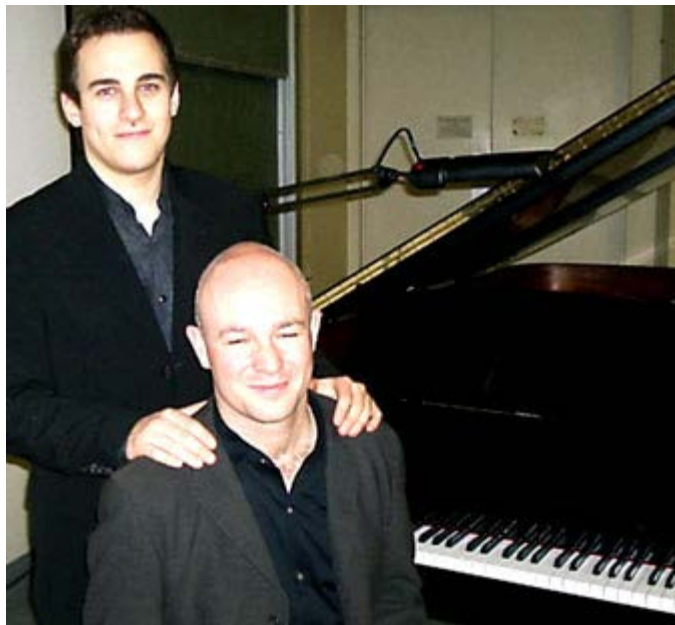
- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## SLAC Gala a Success

Our thanks to everyone who celebrated this momentous occasion with us!



*On the evening of November 8, SLAC celebrated the World Year of Physics with a gala evening of music, entitled From Einstein to Superstrings. After kicking off the evening with a reception, attendees streamed into Panofsky Auditorium for Oxford Professor Brian Foster's lecture on Einstein's passion for music and scientific legacy. Musical interludes were provided by the outstanding British violinist Jack Liebeck. The lecture concluded with a violin duet by Foster and Liebeck. After a brief intermission, Liebeck was joined by pianist Charles Owen whose finesse on the Steinway kept the audience rapt as the duo performed pieces by Beethoven, Debussy, Martinu and Strauss. Met with a standing ovation at the conclusion of their program, the musicians' encore choice, Rachmaninov, marked the melodic end to a fantastic evening. (Photo courtesy of Melinda Lee)*

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

*WIS Presents*

Tuesday, November 22  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Redwood Rooms C/D  
ROB (Bldg. 48)

Bring a lunch and bring a friend.



*(Image courtesy of IUPAP)*

## Women in Physics: An International Status Report

*By Linda DuShane White*

Cherrill Spencer's (ILC) months of planning paid off handsomely. On Tuesday, November 22, the Womens Interchange at SLAC (WIS) will host a seminar on 'Women in Physics: An International Status Report.' Distinguished speakers are geophysicist Beverly Hartline, of Heritage University and Juana I. Rudati, a post doctoral research associate at Argonne currently working on ultra-fast-processes at the Sub-Picosecond Pulsed Source (SPPS) at SLAC. Both women were delegates to the 2nd International Conference on Women in Physics in Brazil held in May 2005. Hartline and Rudati will share results from the Conference, including some inspiring ways women scientists are encouraging other women to become physicists.

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources Pioneer Prescott Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot, Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [What do ACKS, CALICE, CEP, SID, SRB and XMC Have in Common?](#)
- [Library's New Website](#)
- [Conventional and Experimental Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic Hazard - Get Your Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University 2006 Holiday Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An International Status Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS SLAC Holiday Party 2005

Tuesday, December 20  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Cafeteria, Picnic Area & Breezeway

Food, Raffles, Sharing Drives, Music & More!

Our theme this year will be  
'Home for the Holidays.'

As part of this year's festivities,  
we will hold our first ever  
Gingerbread Structure competition.

Annual sharing drives begin in late November  
including:

- \* Second Harvest Food Drive
- \* Family Giving Tree (Wishes/Toys) Drive
- \* Used & New Jackets/Blankets Drive

Check out the Holiday Party website:  
<http://www-project.slac.stanford.edu/holidayparty/>

# INTERACTION POINT

November 18, 2005

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Polarized Sources  
Pioneer Prescott  
Retires](#)
- [Feiguth Honored by  
DOE](#)
- [SC|05 Bandwidth  
Challenge](#)
- [GEANT4 Paper is Hot,  
Hot, Hot](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS &  
UPDATES

- [What do ACKS,  
CALICE, CEP, SID,  
SRB and XMC Have in  
Common?](#)
- [Library's New  
Website](#)
- [Conventional and  
Experimental  
Facilities Department](#)
- [Prevent a Traffic  
Hazard - Get Your  
Vehicle Decal Today](#)
- [Stanford University  
2006 Holiday  
Schedule](#)
- [Welcome New  
Employees](#)
- [SLAC Emergency  
Hotline Number](#)
- [Milestones](#)

EVENTS

- [SLAC Gala a Success](#)
- [Women in Physics: An  
International Status  
Report](#)
- [SLAC Holiday Party](#)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission  
Guidelines](#)

## About Us:

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