

At PPPL
THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, DEC. 23

PPPL Holiday Luncheon
Noon ♦ LSB Lobby and Café

WED., DEC. 24 – FRI., JAN. 2

Lab Closed - Happy Holidays

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 7

PPPL Colloquium
4:15 p.m. ♦ MBG Auditorium

NIF An Unexpected Journey or Lessons Learned to Secure Projects of Scale

Edward Michael Campbell - Sandia National Laboratory

January 10

Ronald E. Hatcher Science on Saturday Lecture Series
9:30 a.m. ♦ MBG Auditorium

Consciousness and the Social Brain

Michael Graziano, Princeton Univ.

January 14

PPPL's Records/ Paper Shredding Event
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ♦ Receiving 3

January 14

PPPL Colloquium
4:15 p.m. ♦ MBG Auditorium

Starlight Detectives: How Astronomers, Inventors, and Eccentrics Discovered the Modern Universe

Alan Hirshfeld - University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth

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PPPL's science lecture series debuts Jan. 10 with new name honoring long-time organizer

By Jeanne Jackson DeVoe

The U.S. Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Laboratory's popular Science on Saturday lecture series will have a new name when it begins on Jan. 10. "The Ronald E. Hatcher Science on Saturday Lecture Series" honors the late PPPL engineer who spent some 20 years organizing the series and serving as the unofficial master of ceremonies.

The free nine-week lecture series will continue to offer a wide variety of science topics aimed at a high school level from top experts in their fields. This year's series features several lectures by PPPL scientists.

Hatcher died on March 24 just two weeks after last year's series ended. He was well known to countless students and Science on Saturday regulars for beginning each lecture with personal chats with the renowned scientists who gave the lectures.

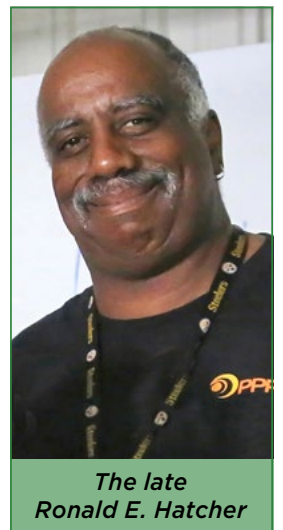
Andrew Zwicker, head of the Science Education Department, said those personal introductions offered the thousands of students who attended the series over the years a glimpse into the lives and careers of scientists. "He started every lecture by asking about favorite teachers, hobbies, the things that would let young people know about how these people got involved in science," Zwicker said. "We're going to continue that tradition before each lecture."

That personal touch was no doubt an inspiration to many of the students, Zwicker said. "We'll never know how many young people Ron helped set along a career in science," he said.

Hatcher also coordinated the wide-ranging Science on Saturday list of speakers and topics, which drew top experts on topics ranging from neurology to microbiology to physics. "He had this list of speakers that he got from I don't know where," said Deedee Ortiz, a program administrator in Science Education. "He just knew so many people and he picked amazing speakers. Every single time he hit it out of the park."

A principal engineer at PPPL, Hatcher made important contributions to systems that analyze the power systems of the \$94 million upgrade of the National Spheri-

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The late Ronald E. Hatcher

New Procurement head brings a "collaborative" style to PPPL

By Jeanne Jackson DeVoe

When Wray Myers, the new head of Procurement, took part in his department's annual holiday door decorating contest this year, he proudly showed off paper ornaments bearing the names of each of his staff members.

It was a telling gesture. Myers has been quietly working to instill a culture that not only encourages staff members to work as a team but also to help each staff member shine.

"I guess that's one reason I wanted all the names up there," Myers said. "I'm responsible for whatever

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Wray Myers

Myers

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happens in the division but I'm not going to make it alone so it's a team approach." At the same time, he also wants to encourage individual staff members to take the initiative in their jobs. "I want to empower people to make decisions and need to assure they have the tools and knowledge to succeed individually and as a team."

Myers took charge of the Procurement Division in September after spending the last 27 years working in leadership roles in procurement in the pharmaceutical industry. Rod Templon, who retired in June after 33 years at PPPL, previously held the position.

Kristen Fischer, PPPL's chief financial officer and head of Business Operations, said Myers "is an experienced professional who brings a fresh perspective to the Laboratory."

She said she has been impressed with Myers' "very collaborative working style." Myers is clearly comfortable delegating additional roles and responsibilities to his employees, she said. "He's fostering an environment where employees feel rewarded because they make decisions on their own, using the right tools and their expertise," she said. "This allows them to flourish."

Fischer said Myers' leadership style parallels her own management philosophy. His efforts in Procurement are aligned with her push to encourage all staff members in the division to be cross-trained so they can perform a variety of tasks, she said. "We've created a unit in Procurement where you're not just a buyer and you can't do anything more, you're a procurement specialist who can address the full gamut of procurement needs. We're going to give them the training and the tools to do the job and in the end we're going to have happier, more positive employees."

"A breath of fresh air"

The new Procurement head is also bringing a positive, customer-oriented approach to serving other departments and individuals in the Lab, Fischer said. "He's a breath of fresh air. He's approachable, he's friendly and welcoming. He wants to get to know everybody, to understand his customers."

One of his first tasks, Myers said, is to bring the department up to its full staff. The nine-member department had been down three employees but one of those positions has been filled and Myers is working to fill the other two.

Myers said he wants his team to have more contact with other departments in the Lab so that they can anticipate what their "customers" will need before they send paperwork to Procurement for processing. This will include having team members reach out to other departments by attending departmental meetings. "I want to enhance our liaisons with our customers, to have a seat at their table," he said.

Myers said his goal is to have "robust, reproducible processes and tools." He would like to see processes in place

that would enable him to ask any team member to do something and get the same results every time, he said. That would also mean that suppliers and staff throughout the Lab could expect the same outcomes and understand their own role in those processes. "The end result is to enhance the value that we deliver to our customers, the user experience of our customers, and the level of compliance with applicable policies, procedures, and regulations," he said.

Myers spent 27 years in the pharmaceutical industry. For the past four years he served as associate director of Strategic Sourcing and Procurement at Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. in Princeton, where he created the strategic sourcing and procurement function. Prior to Otsuka, he was head of Strategic Sourcing and Supply Management at Imclone Systems Corp. in Branchburg, N.J. (a division of Eli Lilly), where he worked with Paulette Gangemi, PPPL's new head of Human Resources.

A steep learning curve

The basic function of a procurement division is the same whether it's at a company or a national laboratory, Myers said. The big difference is that a national laboratory like PPPL has numerous regulations from the U.S. Department of Energy. Familiarizing himself with those regulations is a challenge, Myers said. "I'm still deep in a steep learning curve," he said. PPPL's Procurement Division also has a two-inch thick, 250-page manual that Myers intends to rewrite. He is not unfamiliar with government regulations and oversight having worked with the Food and Drug Administration and numerous other federal agencies throughout his career.

"Born and bred" in New Jersey, Myers worked as an engineer early in his career. He has a bachelor of science in engineering from Rutgers University and an MBA from Rider University. He is a former Army reservist who was discharged with the rank of captain. He was also a volunteer firefighter for many years. He is a life member and former assistant fire chief of East Windsor Volunteer Fire Co. #1 and a past member of the Spotswood Fire Department.

Myers lives in Freehold, N.J., with his wife Marsha. They have two toy fox terriers named Cleo and Tiffany who are like "four-legged children" to them, Myers said. Myers and his wife are avid Steelers fans. Myers is also a devoted "muscle car" fan. Along with his dogs, he has photos of his car on his phone: A candy-apple red 2012 four-door Dodge Charger RT.

"We're doing this together"

The new Procurement head admits he didn't know much about PPPL until he came to the Laboratory but is quickly getting up to speed. "One of the things that attracted me besides the mission of the Lab is the culture," he said. "Here, my sense is it's a team, it's a family, and we're doing this together and that's part of what attracted me to come here." 📍



PPPL Holiday Party Luncheon
TUESDAY, DEC. 23
12 noon - LSB Lobby and Cafeteria
EVERYONE WORKING AT THE LAB IS INVITED!
WORLD FAMOUS PPPL SKIT
GIFT RAFFLE - donations made by PPPL Council
after the Skit - you must be present to win.

Science on Saturday

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cal Torus Experiment. He worked on the power supply of numerous other experiments during his 30-year career at PPPL, including the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor. He also worked on many other experiments nationally and internationally, most recently the Wendelstein 7-X stellarator in Greifswald, Germany.

To the visitors who attended Science on Saturday lectures, Hatcher was known for his involvement with the lectures. "Not having him here is a huge loss, it's a huge impact on the program," Ortiz said. "We have regulars who come every single week and they're all going to miss him."

For Hatcher's colleagues, the start of the series will inevitably bring back memories of Hatcher. "The first lecture will be very sad," Zwicker said. "It's very, very sad and bitter-sweet."

This year's lecture topics range from psychology to energy and the environment. The first talk on Jan. 10 by Michael Graziano, of Princeton University's Department of Psychology, will focus on "Consciousness and the Social Brain." Princeton University's Emily Carter, director of the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment, will discuss "The Road to a Sustainable Energy Future?" on Jan. 31.


There will be lectures by PPPL physicists. On Jan. 17, PPPL physicist Samuel Lazerson will discuss devices called stellarators that use complex, twisted coils to confine plasma

in fusion experiments. On Feb. 14, physicist Clayton Myers will discuss "Honey, I Shrunk the Plasma: Studying Astrophysical Processes in Laboratory Experiments."

The final lecture of the series on March 14 will focus on PPPL's central experiment, the National Spherical Torus Experiment, (NSTX-U), which is currently undergoing a \$94 million upgrade. Jonathan Menard, a principal research physicist and program director for NSTX, will discuss "Scientific Opportunities and Challenges in the Upgraded National Spherical Torus Experiment."

The lectures begin at 9:30 a.m. at PPPL, which is located at 100 Stellarator Road, Princeton, off Scudders Mill Road. Visitors should plan to come early because seats fill up quickly. PPPL's doors open at 8:15 a.m. and there will be refreshments for early birds. (There is no lecture on Feb. 21 due to the Department of Energy's New Jersey High School Science Bowl®).

No registration is required. However, visitors must show photo identification at the security gate. Directions and visitor information can be found [here](#). If a Science on Saturday lecture must be canceled due to inclement weather, a notice will be left on the Science on Saturday Hotline, 609-243-2121. A downloadable schedule is available [here](#).

You can also watch the lecture series live from your home or office [here](#). 



January 10	CONSCIOUSNESS AND THE SOCIAL BRAIN by Professor Michael Graziano, Department of Psychology, Princeton University
January 17	STELLARATORS: SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON AN OLD IDEA by Dr. Samuel Lazerson, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory
January 24	USING PHYSICS TO UNDERSTAND THE GENOME by Professor Mary Jo Ondrechen, Dept. of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Northeastern University
January 31	THE ROAD TO A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE by Professor Emily Carter, Department of Engineering; Director of the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment, Princeton University
February 7	IS SUSY THE GUARDIAN OF OUR REALITY FROM OBLIVION? by Professor S. James Gates, Department of Physics; Director of the Center for String & Particle Physics, University of Maryland
February 14	HONEY, I SHRUNK THE PLASMA: STUDYING ASTROPHYSICAL PROCESSES IN LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS by Dr. Clayton Myers, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory
February 21	NO LECTURE — U.S.D.O.E. N.J. HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BOWL®
February 28	ZERO-KNOWLEDGE ARMS CONTROL: PROVING A WARHEAD IS REAL WHILE LEARNING NOTHING ABOUT IT by Professor Rob Goldston, Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University
March 7	ONCE UPON A TIME IN KAMCHATKA: THE EXTRAORDINARY SEARCH FOR NATURAL QUASICRYSTALS by Professor Paul Steinhardt, Department of Physics; Director, Princeton Center for Theoretical Science, Princeton University
March 14	SCIENTIFIC OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE UPGRADED NATIONAL SPHERICAL TORUS EXPERIMENT by Dr. Jonathan Menard, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

Holiday doors make the season bright

It's beginning to look a lot like the holidays in Procurement and Accounting offices on the first floor of LSB where PPPL'ers have decked their doors with everything from wrapping paper and bows to a snowman to a holiday elf. Staff members took part in a decorating contest with guest judge Marianne Tyrrell giving first place to the gingerbread house door by Jeanine Grau (below left) and the Christmas tree door by Theresa Gillars (below right).



Other PPPL'ers showing off their doors below:

Left top: Chandra Sanders; left bottom: Susan Beringer.

Middle top: Janice Cheslock; middle center: Wendy Worringer, left, and Irene Newman; middle bottom: Wray Myers.

Right top: Roshni Ravi; right bottom: Penny Neuman.



Happy Holidays

from the
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory



CLICK HERE
for the PPPL Holiday Video Card.

COLLOQUIUM



NIF An Unexpected Journey or Lessons Learned to Secure Projects of Scale

Edward Michael Campbell
Sandia National Laboratory

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

4:15 p.m. (Coffee/Tea at 4 p.m.)
M.B.G Auditorium, Lyman Spitzer Building

SPD • TIP • OF • THE • WEEK



*Happy Holidays
from the Site Protection Division!*

Writers wanted for Princeton Writes Essay Contest

Princeton Writes is inviting PPPL and other University staff members to enter its first-ever Princeton Writes Prize Staff Essay Contest. The essay, which is due Jan. 15, should be 750 to 1,250 words that describe an aspect of the Princeton University campus (including PPPL). The first-prize winner will receive a \$1,000 prize and a certificate and there will be three honorable mentions. More information is available on the Princeton Writes Prize [website](#).



RONALD E. HATCHER Science on Saturday Lecture Series



Consciousness and the Social Brain

Michael Graziano
Princeton University

Saturday, January 10, 2015

MBG AUDITORIUM • Doors open at 8:15 a.m.
Lectures begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.

BROCK Café Menu

BREAKFAST 7 a.m. • 10 a.m.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 10 a.m. • 11:30 a.m.
LUNCH 11:30 a.m. • 1:30 p.m.
SNACK SERVICE until 2:30 p.m.

— MARK GAZO, *Chef Manager*

COMMAND PERFORMANCE
CHEF'S FEATURE

**MON. 22
DEC.**



Pot Luck Breakfast

Pot Luck Soup

Pot Luck Grille

Pot Luck Deli

Pot Luck Panini

**TUE. 23
DEC.**



**PPPL Holiday
Party Luncheon**

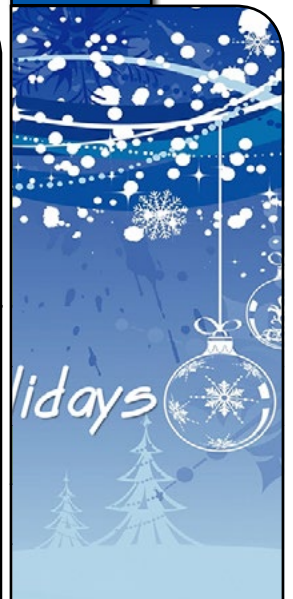
**WED. 24
DEC.**



**THU. 25
DEC.**



**FRI. 26
DEC.**



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WEEKLY

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The PPPL WEEKLY is published by the [PPPL Office of Communications](#) on Mondays throughout the year except for holidays.

DEADLINE for calendar item submissions is noon on **WEDNESDAY**. Other stories should be submitted no later than noon on **TUESDAY**.

Comments: commteam@pppl.gov ♦ PPPL WEEKLY is archived on the web at: <http://w3.pppl.gov/communications/weekly/>.

The PPPL Weekly will not be published on Dec. 29 and Jan. 5 due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The next issue will appear on January 12, 2015.