

Department of Physics & Astronomy

Dr. Paul Padley

Rice University

Friday, October 7, 2011

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

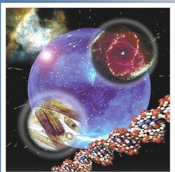
BB 3.04.18

Cosmology at the Microscopic Scale

With the advent of the LHC, it becomes possible to put to the test a variety of theories related to cosmology that have been postulated. For example, experiments at the LHC are able to look for dark matter and extra dimensions. A simple presentation of these ideas will be given (suitable for undergraduates), along with examples of how to look for these things at the LHC. There will also be an update on the most recent results from the LHC relating to cosmology.

Biography:

Paul Padley completed his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto in 1987 working on the ARGUS experiment. From there he went to TRIUMF in Vancouver and worked on a rare kaon decay experiment at Brookhaven (such is the commuting life of a particle physicist). Subsequently he became a scientist at the Superconducting Super Collider in Dallas TX. Since the termination of the SSC it has been possible to find him wandering around Rice University contemplating the composition of the universe. He was a member of the DZero experiment (which discovered the top quark) and has spent more than a decade helping build and commission one of the large LHC detectors, CMS. He tries to teach physics to students at Rice and has given several continuing studies courses to the public. He has also contributed to an episode of "The Magic Schoolbus" and various programs on the Discovery Channel.



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