

UWSP PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM

FRIDAY, OCT. 5, 2012 at 2:00 P.M. in A-106 SCI

Refreshments will be served beginning at 1:45 p.m.

This past summer, UWSP student Kyle Leaf participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Two other UWSP students, Jeff Kokke and Matt Rucinski, did internships at London South Bank University and at Donaldson Company, Inc, respectively. Please join us as Kyle, Jeff and Matt discuss their REU and internship experiences.

Kyle Leaf: “Laboratory Characterization of Planetary Geological Analogs”



The NASA Academy program presents a unique opportunity to several hundred undergraduate and graduate students every summer. I was selected to participate in the Lunar and Planetary Science Academy (LPSA) at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt Maryland. I worked with Dr. Ramsey Smith on the project titled “Laboratory Characterization of Planetary Geological Analogs”. This project has the goal of taking infrared measurements of small rock samples that are known to exist on the surface of planets in our Solar System, to create a database with which one can compare remote sensing data against. In addition, LPSA took a weeklong field trip to Arizona to visit the Grand Canyon, the Painted Desert, the petrified forest, and several notable craters, including Sunset, Colton, SP, and Meteor Crater.

Jeff Kokke & Matt Rucinski: “Applied-Emphasis Internships: A Panel Discussion” Moderator: Prof. Chris Verzani, Applied Emphasis Coordinator, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, UWSP



UWSP offers four versions of the physics major, two of which – namely, the *Physics Major with Applied Mechanics Emphasis* and the *Physics Major with Applied Electronics Emphasis* – have an internship component. In this panel discussion, we will share our experiences as interns, applying skills we have acquired in the major and picking up new skills on the job. One of us (Matt) did his internship this past summer at Donaldson Company, Inc., of Stevens Point, a leading worldwide provider of filtration systems. The other (Jeff) did his internship in England in the summer of 2011, where he helped develop components of a sustainable technologies program at London South Bank University.

About the speakers:

Kyle Leaf is a senior majoring in Physics and Music.

Jeff Kokke is a senior majoring in Physics with an emphasis in Mechanics and minoring in Mathematics.

Matt Rucinski is a senior majoring in Physics with an emphasis in Mechanics.