CSU PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

"Physics for the Many"

Chris Chiaverina

New Trier High School/The Physics Teacher (AAPT)

Monday, Oct. 28th at 4:00pm

120 Engineering (Hammond Auditorium)

Abstract

I think that most individuals involved with doing and teaching physics would agree the world is a much more interesting place and that their lives are richer because of their awareness and understanding of physics. Unfortunately, the majority of people in our society, and in other countries, are not conscious of the myriad physical processes that are going on all around them, much less do they understand the physics behind these phenomena. Numerous groups, for example the American Association of Physics Teachers and individuals such as Paul Hewitt and your own Brian Jones, are trying to make physics for the many a reality. This talk will explore some of the approaches that are being used to make physics more accessible to non-scientists.

Biography

Chris Chiaverina taught high school physics for 34 years. In 2002 he served as President of the American Association of Physic Teachers. He has written articles on physics education, has co-authored four science textbooks, and is currently editor of The Physics Teacher journal's "Little Gems" column. His most recent project has been preparing the second edition of Light Science, a text on physics and the visual arts that he co-authored with Thomas Rossing. In retirement Chiaverina has had the good fortune of being invited to give presentations to teachers and the public in Europe and Asia, as well as the United States.