TAMU Department of Physics and Astronomy
Who are we?

TAMU Department of Physics and Astronomy:

63 faculty (25<50 -- 16>70)

11 Distinguished Professors
35 Professors
12 Associate Professors
2 Assistant Professor \(\leftarrow\) 1 will be considered for T&P
1 Sr. Lecturer
3 Lecturers

Two active faculty searches

43 Ph.D. research personnel
5 Joint appointments (Fulling, Hyland, Laane, Yang, Harris)
2 Adjunct appointments (Towner, Corkum)
4 Emeritus (Bryan, Church, Hu, Duller)
Research funding

![Graph showing research funding trends from 1998 to 2014. The x-axis represents years from 1998 to 2014, and the y-axis represents external funding in millions of dollars. The funding shows a general increase over the years.]
Student Enrollment

Fall 2012:

248 undergraduates – 144 freshmen!

183 graduate students
Physics undergraduates

2001-2011
avg = 18.1 grads/year
Physics undergraduates

Corrected to spring enrollment

2001-2011 avg = 18.1 grads/year
Goal is to see this gentle (sustainable) growth reflected in graduation rate.

2001-2011
avg = 18.1 grads/year
What do TAMU graduates do?
What do TAMU graduates do?

We don’t fully know

2010:

- HS Physics teacher in Sherman, TX
- Business analyst at Capital One Corporate in Plano
- Graduate School:
  - UT Austin law school
  - UT Houston medical school
  - Rice University
  - UT Austin
  - Washington University
  - Cornell University
  - TAMU
  - U. Colorado
  - Swinburne University (Melbourne)
- (10 unknown)
What do TAMU graduates do?

We don’t fully know

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2010: | • HS Physics teacher  
  • Business analyst  
  • Graduate School:  
  • UT Austin law school  
  • UT Houston medical school  
  • Rice University  
  • UT Austin  
  • Washington University  
  • Cornell University  
  • TAMU  
  • U. Colorado  
  • Swinburne University (Melbourne)  
  • (10 unknown) |
| 2011: | • Graduate School  
  • UT Dallas (Applied Math)  
  • TAMU (NUEN)  
  • TAMU (NUEN)  
  • UT Austin  
  • UT Austin (Applied Math)  
  • TAMU (NUEN)  
  • TAMU (NUEN)  
  • RPI (Materials Engineering)  
  • Caltech  
  • University of Arizona (MATH)  
  • (9 unknown)  
  • (1 unknown) |
# What do TAMU graduates do?

**We don’t fully know**

## 2010:
- HS Physics teacher in Sherman, TX
- Business analyst at Capital One in Plano, TX
- Graduate School: UT Austin law school
  - UT Houston medical school
  - Rice University
  - UT Austin
  - Washington University
  - Cornell University
  - TAMU
  - U. Colorado
  - Swinburne University
- (10 unknown)

## 2012:
- Boeing: Phantom Works
- Cyclotron Institute
- PTC, Technical Consulting
- USAF officer training
- Graduate School
  - GA Tech (NUEN)
  - Rice University
  - UC Berkeley (PHYS and CHEM)
  - TAMU (NUEN) **X 3**
  - UCLA (Astrophysics)
  - TAMU
  - TAMU (Geophysics)
  - Rice
  - Ohio State
  - UT Austin
  - UC Boulder
  - Ohio State (ASTR)
- (12 unknown)

## 2011:
- Graduate School
  - UT Dallas (Applied Math)
  - TAMU (NUEN)
  - TAMU (NUEN)
  - UT Austin
  - RPI (Materials Engineerin
  - Caltech
  - University of Arizona (MA
- (9 unknown)
Nationally, What do physics graduates do?

After receiving a bachelor’s in physics, most new graduates either continue on to graduate school or enter the workforce in the year following their degree.

Sixty percent of the new graduates from the classes of 2009 and 2010 combined chose to enroll in a graduate program. Of this group, the majority chose to study physics or astronomy.

![Diagram showing status one year after earning a physics bachelor's degree, classes of 2009 & 2010 combined.

Status One Year After Earning a Physics Bachelor's, Classes of 2009 & 2010 Combined

- Graduate Study
  - Physics & Astronomy: 36%
  - Other Fields: 24%
- Employment: 35%
- Unemployment: 5%

(N=4,219)

http://www.aip.org/statistics
Trend over last 15 years

These proportions have been fairly flat for the last 15 years
Where do physics graduates get jobs?

Initial Employment Sectors of Physics Bachelor’s, Classes of 2009 & 2010 Combined

- Private Sector: 53%
- College & University: 13%
- Civilian Gov’t, National Lab: 10%
- High School: 11%
- Active Military: 8%
- Other: 5%

http://www.aip.org/statistics
Where do physics graduates get jobs?

Field of Employment for Physics Bachelor’s in the Private Sector, Classes of 2009 & 2010 Combined

- Engineering: 32%
- Non-STEM: 26%
- Computer or Information Systems: 21%
- Other STEM: 8%
- Other Natural Sciences: 8%
- Physics or Astronomy: 5%

STEM refers to natural Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

http://www.aip.org/statistics
## What companies in TEXAS hire physics grads?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Company Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accenture</td>
<td>National Instruments Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad Astra Rocket Company</td>
<td>National Oilwell Varco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apex HiPoint</td>
<td>NexRev, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Nanotech Holdings, Inc.</td>
<td>One Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATC Logistics &amp; Electronics</td>
<td>Peterbilt Motors Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atco Rubber Products, Inc.</td>
<td>Rackspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capgemini Energy</td>
<td>Raytheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centinel Financial Corporation</td>
<td>Reynolds and Reynolds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGGVeritas</td>
<td>Samsung Austin Semiconductor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular Energy</td>
<td>Schlumberger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimensional Fund Advisors</td>
<td>Southwest Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Testing Service</td>
<td>Superconductor Technologies, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farwest Corrosion Control Company</td>
<td>TASC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWT, LLC</td>
<td>Texas House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GeoMark Research</td>
<td>Texas Instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geos Communications, Inc.</td>
<td>Towers Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honeywell International</td>
<td>United Space Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JM Assets, LP</td>
<td>Univ. of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3 Communications</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luminant Power</td>
<td>WesternGeco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MicroPower Global, Ltd</td>
<td>Whataburger, LP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We have no reason to think that our unreported graduates do not match the national averages.
Let’s look at Physics and Astr. Graduate Students

- Total number of graduate students
- Total Ph.D. - average = 14.0/yr
- Total (terminal) Masters - 6.7/yr
- No degree - 6.8/yr
- Total number of students leaving program - 27.5/yr
Let’s look at Physics and Astr. Graduate Students

Total number of graduate students

Total Ph.D. - average = 14.0/yr
Total (terminal) Masters = 6.7/yr
No degree = 6.8/yr
Let’s look at Physics and Astr. Graduate Students

We would like to improve this, but it is actually pretty good by national norms.
Let’s look at Physics and Astr. Graduate Students

We do not expect to see this level increase, mainly due to TAMU budget cuts.
What do TAMU Ph.D. graduates do?

2010

**MS:**
- Seismic Data Processing Engineer at Western GECO / Schlumberger
- Samsung Semiconductor in Austin, TX in engineering
- TAMU grad school in MATH

**PhD:**
- Houston geo-services company as technical staff
- CGGVeritas, Houston technical staff
- CGGVeritas, Houston technical staff
- Working in automotive lighting for company in Germany
- TAMU Physics and Astronomy postdoc
- TAMU Physics and Astronomy postdoc
- Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics postdoc
- Iowa State University postdoc
- Louisiana State University postdoc
- Univ. of Penn postdoc in Medical School Radiology Dept.
- Univ. of Colorado-JILA postdoc
What do TAMU Ph.D. graduates do?

2011

**MS:**
- Working at an observatory in Hawaii

**PhD:**
- Samsung R&D Lab (Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology) in Korea research staff
- Intel fabrication facility in Albuquerque, NM position
- TAMU postdoc in Atmospheric Sciences
- IPMU in Japan postdoc
- Univ. of Arizona postdoc
- Methodist Hospital Research Institute postdoc
- Mathematical Sciences Center, Tsinghua University, China postdoc
- Stockholm University postdoc
- University of Kaiserslautern in Germany
What do physics Ph.D. grads do?

The market of potentially permanent jobs available to new physics PhDs in the U.S. constricted in the aftermath of the recent global recession. Consequently, more PhDs from the classes of 2009 and 2010 accepted postdocs than in preceding years.

![Initial Employment of Physics PhDs, Classes of 2009 & 2010.](http://www.aip.org/statistics)
What do physics Ph.D. grads do?

The market of potentially permanent jobs available to new physics PhDs in the U.S. constricted in the aftermath of the recent global recession. Consequently, more PhDs from the classes of 2009 and 2010 accepted postdocs than in preceding years.

In 1991, the survey questionnaire was changed to measure “other temporary” employment as a separate category.

http://www.aip.org/statistics
What kind of positions do Physics Ph.D.s get?

Most new physics PhDs work in physics and nearly all work in STEM fields.

There are viable ways for new PhDs to change subfields or to move into non-physics fields, should they desire.
Again, we have no reason to think that our unreported graduates do not match the national averages.
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Classes.

• Research!
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Classes.

Core curriculum: (B or better)
  • Mechanics
  • E&M 1 and E&M 2
  • Quantum 1 and 2
  • Math Methods

2 distribution electives
  AMO/CM
  Particles/Nuclear
  several from astro
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Classes.

Core curriculum: (B or better)
• Mechanics
• E&M 1 and E&M 2
• Quantum 1 and 2
• Math Methods

2 distribution electives
AMO/CM
Particles/Nuclear
several from astro

Astronomy track:

Core curriculum
• Radiative Transfer
• General Relativity and Cosmology
• Stellar Interior and Atmospheres
• Galactic Astronomy
• Extragalactic Astronomy
• Astronomical Instr. and Statistics

Physics classes:
• E&M 1
• QM 1
• Stat Mech
• Math Methods
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

Classes.

Core curriculum:
• Mechanics
• E&M 1 and E&M 2
• Quantum 1 and 2
• Math Methods

2 distribution electives
AMO/CM
Particles/Nuclear
several from astro

Physics classes:
• E&M 1
• QM 1
• Stat Mech
• Math Methods

We expect to offer a Ph.D. in Astronomy in the near future.

We currently offer a Ph.D. in Applied Physics with a slightly different course load, but I expect this to go away in the future.
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

- Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy

AMO experiment:
  Attoseconds, Nonlinear optics, Laser Physics, “Bio-Agri-Photonics”, etc.
  Fry, Schuessler, Sokolov, Scully, Zheltikov

AMO theory:
  THz and semiconductor devices, Atomic/molecular coherence, many-body theory, Fundamentals of QM, Quantum information theory
  Belyanin, Kocharovskaya, Kocharovsky, Scully, Zubairy
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy

CM experiment:
Novel and nano-magnetism, nano-features, STM, superfluidity
Lee, Lyuksyutov, Naugle, Roshchin, Ross, Teizer, Weimer, Wu

CM theory:
Spintronics, Computational Physics, Quantum computing, nano-magnetism, disorder, topological effects
Allen, Abanov, Finkel’stein, Katzgraber, Pokrovsky, Saslow, Sinova
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy

HE experiment:
Accelerator Physics, Dark matter (LUX, CDMS), Collider physics (LHC/CMS)
McIntyre, Webb, Mahapatra, Toback; Eusebi, Safonov, Kamon, TBA

HE theory
String theory, phenomenology, cosmology
Pope, Sezgin, Becker, Becker, Nanopoulos, Dutta, TBA
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy

Experiments:
  From low to high energy – Parity nonconservation, Nuclear reactions, nucleon structure, QGP
  Gagliardi, Hardy, Melconian, Mioduszewski, Rogachev, Tribble, Youngblood

Nuclear theory
  Rapp, Ko, Fries
What does it take to get a Ph.D. at TAMU?

• Research!

Active groups in AMO, CM, HEP, Nuclear, and Astronomy

Galactic structure/cosmology
Supernovas
Astronomical Instrumentation

Macri, Tran, Papovich, Wang, Suntzeff, Krisciunas, Depoy, TBA, TBA
## Endowments in the Department of Physics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Name of endowment</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Book value</th>
<th>Additional committed</th>
<th>Monthly income to holder</th>
<th>Chairholder or individua with signature authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Herschel E. Burgess Chair</td>
<td>Other than High Energy Physics</td>
<td>776,488</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,518</td>
<td>Markian Scully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ed Rachal Chair</td>
<td>High Energy Physics</td>
<td>621,190</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,414</td>
<td>Robert Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mitchell/Hepp Chair in High Energy Physics</td>
<td>Theoretical High Energy Physics</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,428</td>
<td>Dimitri Nanopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mitchell/Hepp Chair in Experimental HEP</td>
<td>Experimental High Energy Physics</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,069</td>
<td>Peter McIntyre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Schüssler-Lax/Mitchell/Hepp Chair</td>
<td>Optical and Biomedical Physics</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,076</td>
<td>Hans Schüssler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Stephen Hawking Chair</td>
<td>Fundamental Physics</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,917</td>
<td>Christopher Pope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mitchell/Hepp/Munnerly/ Chair</td>
<td>Observational Astronomy/Cosmology</td>
<td>1,334,000</td>
<td>666,000</td>
<td>4,997</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>George F. Mitchell Chair</td>
<td>Experimental Physics</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,884</td>
<td>Edward Fry</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Munnerly/Hepp Chair</td>
<td>Quantum Optics</td>
<td>699,892</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>2,364</td>
<td>Sushil Zobair</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Arsevan/Mitchell Chair in Astro Statistics</td>
<td>Astronomy Statistics</td>
<td>302,293</td>
<td>697,707</td>
<td>1,314</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>William R. Thurman '58 Chair in Physics</td>
<td>Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
<td>362,014</td>
<td>637,986</td>
<td>1,097</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Stephen E. Harris Professorship</td>
<td>Quantum Optics</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>Alexei Sokolov</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Rachael/Mitchell/Hepp Professorship</td>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>755,298</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,351</td>
<td>Darren DePoy</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mitchell/Munnerly/Hepp Career Award</td>
<td>Untenured Faculty</td>
<td>666,000</td>
<td>334,000</td>
<td>2,495</td>
<td>L. Macri / R. Eisebl</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>George P. Mitchell Post-Doc. Fellowship</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>500,100</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>1,916</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>George P. Mitchell Post-Doc. Research Fund</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>724</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Nelson M. Diller Endowment</td>
<td>Experimental Physics</td>
<td>458,941</td>
<td>541,059</td>
<td>1,646</td>
<td>Glenn Amsalu</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Mitchell Institute Endowment</td>
<td>HEp Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>Mitchell Inst. Dir.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Chia-Lal Wang Memorial Fund</td>
<td>Women Students</td>
<td>25,027</td>
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<td>95</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>C. F. Squire Fellowships</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>66,061</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>William Robbs Fellowship</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<td>159</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Stephanie &amp; Jack Crawford Fellowship</td>
<td>Graduate Students (or undergrads)</td>
<td>100,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Jean R. Whitmere Fellowships</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Robert and Marianne Hamm Scholarships</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>470</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Katherine &amp; Ronald Wilson/72 Scholarship</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Donald F. Hagan Scholarship</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>29,700</td>
<td></td>
<td>124</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Physics Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>17,644</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Matthew P. Hodge/99 Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>25,125</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Jack McIntyre Scholarships</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>99,988</td>
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<td>328</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>James G. Pitter Scholarships</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>24,008</td>
<td></td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Cynthia W. Mitchell Scholarship for Women</td>
<td>Undergraduates (women)</td>
<td>135,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Renato Schüssler Lax/Mitchell Garden Endowment</td>
<td>Experimental Physics</td>
<td>16,733</td>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>Hans Schüssler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>George P. Mitchell Annual Lecture</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>326</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>George P. Mitchell Colloquium Fund</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>362</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>George P. Mitchell Family Travel Endowment</td>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>72,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>261</td>
<td>Nicholas Suntzeff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Friend of Cambridge Visitors' Endowment</td>
<td>Mitchell Institute</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>875</td>
<td>Mitchell Inst. Dir.</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Cynthia Woods Mitchell Garden Endowment</td>
<td>Garden</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>846</td>
<td>Department Head</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>William Bassichis Fund Teaching Excellence</td>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>2,553</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Charles &amp; Judy Munnerly Fund</td>
<td>Physics/Astronomy</td>
<td>2,050,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Phillip and Dottie Moses Student Support</td>
<td>Physics/Astronomy students</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>William Thurman Scholarship</td>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Totals:** $15,798,455 | $9,754,252 | $68,484
PHYSICS & ENGINEERING
FESTIVAL
APRIL 5-6, 2013

HANDS-ON SCIENCE DEMONSTRATIONS FROM
10 AM TO 4 PM IN THE MITCHELL PHYSICS BUILDINGS

Impending Close Encounter with Asteroid Apophis
JOHN JUNKINS
Distinguished Professor
Friday, 7pm
Hawking Auditorium

The Accelerating Universe: Einstein's Blunder Undone
ROBERT KIRSHNER
Author and Professor
Saturday, 4pm
MPHY Lecture Hall (Rms. 203-205)

GREGORY CHAMITOFF
ASTRONAUT
Public Lecture | 11 AM
Hawking Auditorium

DUDELY HERSCHBACH
NOBEL LAUREATE
Public Lecture | 1 PM
Hawking Auditorium

DAVID LEE
NOBEL LAUREATE
Public Lecture | 2 PM
Hawking Auditorium

TOM NODDY’S BUBBLE MAGIC
SATURDAY: 11 AM / 1 PM / 2 PM

All events are sponsored by the Texas A&M TOP grant, the Department of Physics & Astronomy, the George P. and Cynthia Woods Mitchell Institute for Fundamental Physics & Astronomy, the Texas A&M College of Science, and the Department of Aerospace Engineering.
Thank you for your time.