

Honors Day 2013

April 26, 2013

On Monday, April 22, the physics department honored a distinguished alumnus, exceptional students, and the year's outstanding teacher at the annual Honors Day celebration.



Department Head Hanno Weitering presents Dr. Bill Bugg (Ph.D., 1959) with the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The ceremony opened with the presentation of the **2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award**, which went to Professor Emeritus Bill Bugg, who earned his Ph.D. with the department in 1959. His citation was "for his leadership in the creation of and research with the UT Particle Physics Group leading to participation in

legendary experiments at BNL, Fermilab, SLAC, LEP and LHC at CERN, KamLAND, and others; and for his service as Physics Department Head for 27 years." Dr. Bugg is a graduate of Oak Ridge High School and received his bachelor's degree in physics from Washington University in 1952. He spent two years in the Army before enrolling in UT's graduate program in 1954. He joined the physics faculty after completing the Ph.D. and helped build the elementary particle physics research group, winning continued support over four decades from the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the university. He helped bring UT's particle physics efforts to a leadership role in detector development and construction for important high energy physics experiments. In 1969, he became head of the department, holding that post until 1996. He retired from UT in 2002, but maintained a funded research program for several years, and is still a fixture in the department.

Dr. Bugg gave the Honors Day talk, which covered the history of the university and included several interesting anecdotes, including speculation that our own Dr. Lee Riedinger might in fact be the reincarnation of UT President Joseph Estabrook.

See the **2013 Honors Day Photo Album**

(<http://www.phys.utk.edu/events/2013-honors-day/index.html>) and get **to know the names behind our awards**

(<http://www.phys.utk.edu/honors.html>).

Following the talk, the department revealed the student award winners for the 2012-2013 academic year. They were as follows:

- Outstanding First Year Student: **Jesse Buffaloe**
- Robert Talley Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research: **Emily Finan**
- Robert Talley Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Leadership: **Richard Prince**
- James W. McConnell Award for Academic Excellence: **Bart Weitering**

- Douglas V. Roseberry Award: **Alex Perhac**
- Robert W. Lide Citation for Physics Laboratory Service: **Richard Prince** and **Kristen Beard**
- Outstanding GTA Award: **Joseph Tubergen** and **Santiago Munoz**
- Outstanding Tutor Award: **Allison Sachs**
- Colloquium Award: **Mark Foerster**
- Stelson Fellowship for Beginning Research: **Nick Sirica**
- Stelson Fellowship for Professional Promise: **James Austin Harris**
- Fowler-Marion Award: **Miaoyin Wang**
- Society of Physics Students Teacher of the Year Award: **Professor Soren Sorensen**

During the Honors Day ceremony the department inducted four new students into the national physics honor society, Sigma Pi Sigma. They were: **Logan Hoskins**, **Nickolas Luttrell**, **Richard Prince**, and **Hanneke Weitering**.

The department also acknowledged our **2013 Chancellor's Honors Awardees** ([news-04092013-chancellors-honors.html](http://www.phys.utk.edu/news-04092013-chancellors-honors.html)): **Lee Riedinger** (H.R. Hesler Award); **Norman Mannella** (Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement); **Alex Perhac** (Extraordinary Academic Achievement); **Emily Finan**, **Nirmal Ghimire**, **Stanley Paulauskas**, and **Alex Woods** (Extraordinary Professional Promise).



Among the special guests at the department's celebration were members of the Roseberry Family, for whom the **Douglas V. Roseberry Award** (<http://www.phys.utk.edu/honors.html>) is named. Pictured are (left to right) **Viki Smartt**, **Kay Roseberry McCarron**, **2013 Roseberry Awardee Alex Perhac**, and **Steven Roseberry**.