## **STUDENT NEWS 2008**



Melany Klauser won the 2008 AAPM Summer Undergraduate Fellowship Award. Melany will be spending 10 weeks at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center in the Department of Radiation Oncology. She will be working under Dr. Anil Sharma. Her project is entitled, "Dosimetry of multi-channel interstitial Implants for the treatment of prostate, gynecological and head &

neck tumors". She will be involved in planning these complex implants and verification of the dose and dose distribution of such implants. Melany will also attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AAPM meeting in Houston in July 2008.



Kimberly Garrett also won the 2008 AAPM Summer Undergraduate Fellowship Award. Kimberly will be spending her internship with Therapy Physics, Inc., a consulting group in Southern California. Her mentor will be Melissa Martin and she will learn acceptance test procedures for mammography, fluoroscopy, and radiographic units. In addition, she will

also learn accreditation evaluations for CT and MR scanners and shielding design for diagnostic units and therapy vaults. Kimberly will also attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AAPM meeting in Houston in July 2008.



Smitha Sunny will spend her summer doing an internship at the University of Wisconsin – Madison under Dr. Rupak Das in the Department of Human Oncology.



Harkiran Dhah will be doing an internship under Dr. Martin Tornai at the Multi-Modality Imaging Lab at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC. She will be working on a project to speed up the dedicated breast imaging x-ray CT system data acquisition.



Jeffrey Schmall will spend his summer at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine under Dr. James McDonough in the Division of Medical Physics. He will be involved in the installation of a proton therapy facility and/or projects involved with verification of dose delivery using PET imaging.



Geoff Nelson is graduating this May and has been accepted for a graduate program in Bioengineering at Stanford University in the Fall.



Matthew Middione is also graduating this May and has been accepted in the Biomedical Physics Program at UCLA. He will be joining in the Fall as well.

## **December 20, 2007**

## 2 physics students' research recognized

Two students in the Department of Physics at California State University, Fresno have been recognized for research in their respective disciplines.

Geoffrey Scott Nelson, a 25-year-old junior from Sanger majoring in biomedical physics, received the Steven Chu award for best research at the meeting of the California section of the American Physical Society in October.

Nelson's research including spending last summer making a documentary titled "Facts from the Fallout: Research conducted in the aftermath of Chernobyl." He joined researchers at the Research Center for Radiation Medicine in Ukraine, the leading group studying long-term effects of the Chernobyl reactor accident.

The project made a documentary summarizing the findings, methodology and implications of the research conducted at Chernobyl.

Takako Kurimoto, a 25-year-old physics graduate student from Chiba, Japan, received an Excellency award for her student talk last summer at the Nuclear Physics Methods and Accelerators in Biology and Medicine seminar held in Prague.

Her project focused on plant irradiation and consisted of growing Arabidopsis thaliana (common name mouseear cress) under a controlled environment, irradiating living samples of the plant with different types and doses of radiation, and analyzing physical and physiological effects of radiation.

Kurimoto also received one of the 2007 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards from the American Physical Society.

For more information, contact the Department of Physics at 559.278.2371.

## STUDENT NEWS 2007

Alicia E. Meza is our first student graduating this spring (2007) with a B.S. in Special Major (Biomedical Physics). She will be working this summer at UCLA in Dr. McNitt-Gray's laboratory. The project involves multicenter trials using CT imaging of the lungs as a measure of how well patients respond to treatment.



Geoffrey Scott Nelson is a junior and will be spending his summer of '07 making a documentary: "Facts from the Fallout: Research conducted in the aftermath of Chernobyl." This project is meant to be a collaborative effort and all interested are invited to contribute. Video postings, blog forums, and information can be found at chernobylresearch.blogspot.com. Requests for further information and questions can be sent to geoffsn@yahoo.com



Matthew Middione is a junior and plans to do a summer internship at The Cherry Laboratory at The University of California at Davis. The laboratory's research is focused on the rapidly growing field of molecular imaging involving technologies and techniques such as positron emission tomography (PET), single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT), x-ray computed tomography (CT), and optical imaging. The group is also exploring integration of PET imaging with MRI systems.



Melany Klauser is a sophomore in the program. She is a member of the Smittcamp Honors College and the Physics Department Nominee for a Downing Scholarship.



Jarvis Jensen is a junior in the program and is doing his internship at the St. Agnes Cancer Center in Fresno where he will be doing a project on radiation dosimetry with film and TLD and observing the commissioning of a Novalis BrainLAB stereotactic radiosurgery equipment.



Jenny Parra is a junior in the program and is doing her summer internship at the Nuclear Medicine Clinic of the VA Medical Center in Fresno. She will be helping with QC documentation and studying Myocardial Perfusion Imaging.



Jeff Schmall is a junior in the program and is going to do his summer internship at the Fresno Cancer Center under Dr. Richard Dunia. He will be assisting with monthly calibration, weekly charts, and learning treatment planning.



George Chiu is a junior in the program and will be doing a summer internship at UCSF Center for Molecular and Functional Imaging under Dr. Seo at the nuclear medicine instrumentation and image analysis research lab.



Kimberly Garrett is a sophomore in the program. She will be shadowing the medical physicist at Fresno Cancer Center this summer to learn more about day-to-day working life of therapy medical physicist.

Sheppora Hood is a junior in the program. Sheppora will be spending this summer learning more about ultrasound and MR physics and the clinical applications. She will be working with a radiologist at the VACCHCS Imaging Division under Dr. Malcolm Anderson.