

Calendar

[Have a safe day!](#)

Wednesday, March 24
2:30 p.m.

Particle Astrophysics Seminar - One West (NOTE DATE)

Speaker: David Schlegel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Title: BigBOSS, Dark Energy, and Inflation

3:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4 p.m.

[Fermilab Colloquium](#) - One West

Speaker: Paola Sapienza, Northwestern University

Title: Culture, Gender and Math

Thursday, March 25

2:30 p.m.

[Theoretical Physics Seminar](#) - Curia II

Speaker: Enrico Lunghi, Indiana University, Bloomington

Title: High Precision Flavor Physics

3:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4 p.m.

Accelerator Physics and Technology Seminar - Curia II (NOTE LOCATION)

Speaker: Alberto Gola, Politecnico di Milano
Title: Design of an SDD-Based Gamma Camera: Detector, Front-End and Signal Processing

Click here for [NALCAL](#), a weekly calendar with links to additional information.

[Upcoming conferences](#)

Campaigns

[Take Five](#)

[Tune IT Up](#)

H1N1 Flu

Feature

Fermilab's newest lab helps to prevent pain, injury



Try out ergonomic office equipment at the Ergo Lab on the fifth floor crossover.

If you've got a crick in your neck, a pain in your wrist or an ache in your back, you might need to visit the Ergo lab, Fermilab's newest laboratory.

The Ergo lab, which sits on Wilson Hall's sunny south fifth floor crossover, is a test-ready grouping of ergonomic office equipment aimed at making your work life as pain-free as possible.

"This new area provides an opportunity for employees to try out the equipment that they need to prevent discomfort and workplace injury from strain," said Lisa Carrigan, a FESS interior designer, who runs the Ergo lab as part of the Ergonomics Subcommittee.

Employees can test out chairs, keyboard trays, monitor arms, foot rests, document holders and several ergonomically designed office products. Carrigan, who has served as the liaison between employees and ergonomic furniture vendors for 20 years, hosts an Ergo lab event every Monday from 10-11:30 a.m. when she can demonstrate equipment and answer questions. An appointment is not necessary.

Currently, some of the chairs in the Ergo lab are rated on a point system. The points indicate the level of the product's certification according to BIFMA, the trade association for the commercial furniture industry. BIFMA's fairly new [level program](#) is a sustainability standard that certifies office furniture based on the sustainability of the material used to make the product, the environmental impact of the manufacturing process, the effect the product has on the health of both people and the environment, and the social responsibility of its maker, in addition to product performance. The ES&H section hopes to institute a system to promote procurement of environmentally friendly products.

Employees, with approval of their supervisor, can

From the Finance Section

A taxing subject

Cindy Conger, chief financial officer and head of the Finance Section, wrote this week's column.

It's tax time in the United States, the time of year when individuals work to prepare their individual tax returns for filing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by April 15. Fermilab does not pay federal income taxes, but we do have tax-related responsibilities. Each year the Finance Section's Accounting Department works hard to issue W-2 forms to employees and 1099 forms to vendors, and to submit other forms and filings that the IRS requires.



Cindy Conger

Employees know that, in addition to submitting forms and filings, the laboratory also complies with IRS requirements to withhold federal income taxes and Social Security taxes from salaries and wages, and remits those monies to the U.S. Treasury.

It might surprise you to learn that in some cases the laboratory must withhold taxes from non-employee payments too. The most common situation for laboratory visitors arises from the fact that the IRS considers the reimbursement of business travel expenses as income if the assignment is expected to last more than one year. From the IRS's point of view, an assignment lasting more than one year is a "permanent" assignment, and reimbursed living expenses are no longer tax-free. If you are concerned about whether this rule might apply to you and your situation, please contact Angela Wan, manager of the general accounting group in the Accounting Department, at x3980, or at awan@fnal.gov.

International visitors to the laboratory often have questions about the U. S. tax system and how it affects them while they are here doing research. Unfortunately, the Finance Section does not have qualified tax professionals on staff to give personal tax advice. The Users' Office can provide general information on resources available to help with tax questions and information on how to find a qualified tax professional.

Safety Update

For information about H1N1, visit Fermilab's flu information [site](#).

Weather



[Extended Forecast](#)
[Weather at Fermilab](#)

[Current Security Status](#)

[Secon Level 3](#)

Wilson Hall Cafe

Wednesday, March 24

- English muffin sandwich
- Portabello harvest grain
- Santa Fe chicken quesadilla
- Hoisin chicken
- Parmesan fish
- Cuban panini
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Pesto shrimp linguini w/leeks & tomatoes

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

Chez Leon

Wednesday, March 24

- Lunch
- Catfish w/coarse ground mustard sauce
 - Collard greens
 - Parsley potatoes
 - Jalapeño cheese cornbread
 - Pecan pie w/ bourbon cream

Thursday, March 25

- Dinner
- Closed

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x3524 to make your reservation.

Archives

purchase ergonomic equipment through their group's Procard holder, or a purchase order through Procurement. To request a formal ergonomic workstation evaluation contact your division, section or center [ergonomics subcommittee safety officer](#).

In the News

New report explains 'Why So Few' women in science

From **Science Insider**, March 24, 2010

Anyone familiar with the cultural and environmental factors that make it harder for women to become scientists and engineers may not learn much from reading [a new report](#), "Why So Few?" by the American Association of University Women. That's because the report, out today, summarizes the findings of eight major gender equity studies of the past decade.

The repetition is OK with the National Science Foundation, which traditionally supports researchers trying to create new knowledge. That's because its \$250,000 grant to AAUW was aimed at sharing that knowledge with people who can make a difference, says Jolene Jesse, who runs NSF's Research on Gender in Science and Engineering program.

"We want to get what we know into the hands of the practitioners," Jesse explains. "And our definition of practitioner includes teachers and faculty members, guidance counselors, parents, and anybody who can have an impact on a girl's choice of a career in science."

[Read more](#)

In the News

How black holes gobble dark matter

From **Space.com**, March 23, 2010

To better understand the inexplicable dark matter that seems to dominate the universe, scientists have modeled how supermassive black holes gobble up this strange brand of cosmic stuff.

Dark matter does not reflect light or interact with ordinary matter except through gravity. So when dark matter is swallowed by a black hole, it behaves somewhat differently than normal matter, the new study found.

For example, as normal matter falls toward a black hole, it heats up and radiates light. The radiation can be so intense that it actually halts the accretion of matter onto the black hole at what scientists call the Eddington limit. But because dark matter doesn't emit light, this effect doesn't apply to it.

ES&H weekly report, March 22

This week's safety report, compiled by the Fermilab ES&H section, includes no injuries. Find the full report [here](#).

[Safety report archive](#)

Announcements

Latest Announcements

[FORE! The 2010 golf season is about to hit you](#)

[AutoCad Fundamentals class - June 6 - 8](#)

[AutoCAD Intermediate classes - June 22 -24](#)

[Butts & Guts class - March through May](#)

[SciTech summer camps start June 14](#)

[Ask HR - 15th floor comes to CDF Thursday](#)

[NALWO bus trip to The Museum of Science and Industry - April 24](#)

[Blackberry Oaks Monday night golf league](#)

[Martial arts classes begin March 29](#)

[Spring book fair - March 24-25](#)

[Watch you mail station for the arrival of your Fermilab statement of benefits](#)

[Employee discount at Batavia Rosati's](#)

[Fermilab summer day camp registration deadline April 2](#)

[Harlem Globetrotters special ticket price - April 15](#)

[Qi Gong, Mindfulness and Tai Chi Easy for Stress Reduction](#)

[International Folk Dancing, Thursday evenings at Kuhn Barn](#)

[Argentine Tango through March 31, student discount](#)

Fermilab Today

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[Result of the Week](#)

[Safety Tip of the Week](#)

[CMS Result of the Month](#)

[User University Profiles](#)

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[Hiring summer students for 2010](#)

[Calling all softball players](#)

[English country dancing - March 28](#)

[Requesting donations for Fermi Maternity Closet](#)

[Excel Programming with VBA class - March 30 and April 1](#)

[Fermilab Management Practices seminar classes begin in April](#)

[March 31 deadline to enroll young adult dependents](#)

[Intermediate /Advanced Python Programming - May 19-21](#)

[Additional activities](#)

[Submit an announcement](#)