

Calendar

Monday, October 3

2:30 p.m. Particle Astrophysics Seminar
- Curia II

Speaker: R. Wigmans, Texas Tech
University

Title: Neutrinos in an Expanding Universe

3:30 p.m. Director's Coffee Break -
2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. All Experimenters' Meeting -
Curia II

Special Topic: Homeland Security
Presidential Directive 12

Tuesday, October 4

3:30 p.m. Director's Coffee Break -
2nd Flr X-Over

Note: There will be no Accelerator
Physics and Technology Seminar today

Weather



Partly Cloudy **87°/67°**

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

[Secou Level 3](#)

Wilson Hall Cafe

On The Job: VMS Provides Nonstop 'Eyes of the Lab'



Visual Media Services Staff, from left to right: Al Johnson, Cindy Arnold, Diana Canzone, Karen Seifrid, Deborah Guzman Meyer, Reidar Hahn, Fred Ullrich and Jim Shultz. (Click on image for larger version.)

They're everywhere: shooting photos of a department picnic in the Village, talking with physicists at DZero about a poster and capturing images of Fermilab from a helicopter soaring overhead. The eight employees of Visual Media Services might be based on the ground floor of Wilson Hall, but they're hardly confined there. "We get to be the eyes of the lab and we get to go to pretty much every place in the lab," said video producer Jim Shultz. "Not every person who works here can say that they've been to every accelerator tunnel."

VMS offers photography, video production, duplication, graphic arts, streaming video and speaker support for Fermilab scientists, employees and visitors. Having these services available on site gives Fermilab an "in-house advantage" said VMS manager Fred Ullrich. "We know a lot about how the lab operates so we have that inside track of knowing what the priorities are and are able to produce things that really are

Safety Tip of the Week

Distracted Driving

We all hope that everyone on the road is focused and attentive to the safe operation of their vehicles.

Unfortunately, distractions are unavoidable. Drivers interact with others, adjust things, groom themselves, gawk,



eat and smoke. And what about their mental state? When operating a vehicle, any distraction can be problematic and we need to take appropriate care. However, today's article is limited to one particular distraction - cell phone use.

At any moment during daylight hours in 2004, eight percent of drivers were talking on cell phones. As expected, this is a growing trend; cell phone usage was four percent in 2000 and six percent in 2002 (NHTSA). It may seem obvious that talking on a phone can be distracting, but controversy remains about whether it actually contributes to accidents.

A recent paper in the *British Medical Journal* provides convincing evidence that cell phone use does increase the likelihood of an accident. The study took place in Perth, Australia between April, 2002 and July, 2004. It involved 456 drivers who used cell phones and were involved in accidents that required hospital visits. Cell phone use at crash time was determined from interviews and phone company records.

Monday, September 19

- Potato Au Gratin
- Monte Cristo
- Savory Roasted Chicken Quarters
- Lasagna Bolognese
- Chicken Ranch Wrapper
- Assorted Pizza Slices
- Szechuan Style Pork Lo Mein

The Wilson Hall Cafe accepts Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express at Cash Register #1.

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

Chez Leon

Wednesday, October 5

Lunch

- Ancho Fried Pork
- Moroccan Sweet Potatoes
- Apple Strudel

Thursday, October 6

Dinner

- Curried Squash
- Grilled Duck with Red Wine and Fig Sauce
- Wild Rice with Raisins
- Almond Orange and Olive Oil Cake

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x4512 to make your reservation.

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Info

effective," he said.

The average day for a VMS staffer is defined by deadlines. Reidar Hahn, who's worked in the department for 18 years, juggles requests for posters, displays and photo assignments of Fermilab experiments, gatherings and conferences. "I like the fact that I'm not doing the same thing every day," he said.

The department also serves as a historical record-keeper, storing more than 1,200 taped Fermilab lectures online. A search of its online photo database reveals more than 46,000 rolls of film dating back to 1970, and binders found in VMS's office hold proof sheets from the first days of Fermilab. For administrative assistant Karen Seifrid, the joy of working at VMS is preparing those images for the Web. "There are a lot of places I haven't been, but I've seen them through the pictures," she said.

—Kendra Snyder

In the News

From *Physics Web*, September 27, 2005

New look for laser accelerators

Physicists in the US have developed a new type of laser-based particle accelerator. Tomas Plettner and co-workers at Stanford University and the Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) used a commercial laser operating at a wavelength of 800 nm to modulate the energy of electrons travelling in a vacuum. The modulation they achieved was equivalent to an electric field gradient of 40 million volts per metre. The technique could be used to accelerate particles into the TeV energy range in the

The study concluded that cell phone use within 10 minutes before a crash was associated with a fourfold increase in crash risk ($p < 0.001$). The increase did not depend on driver age, gender or whether a hands-free device was being used. Presumably, it is the distraction caused by conversion that is the source of the risk and not the handling of a phone.

[Safety Tip of the Week Archive](#)

Accelerator Update

September 28 - 30

- During this 48 hour period, 1 store provided 33 hours and 45 minutes of luminosity.
- TeV helium leak
- Pbar AP1 vacuum leak
- NuMI Horn problems

[Read the Current Accelerator Update](#)

[Read the Early Bird Report](#)

[View the Tevatron Luminosity Charts](#)

Announcements

Volunteer for Girl Scout Projects

On November 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be a Fermilab Girl Scout Badge workshop on site. Volunteers are needed to help with cemetery and village history projects, the prairie harvest, Ask A Scientist/Engineer-type activities and various other things during this event. Anyone and everyone is welcome to help out! If you have any questions or wish to volunteer contact Anne at Lucietto@fnal.gov.

Upcoming Classes

October 11: Excel Advanced

October 12: Word Advanced

October 11, 12, and 26: Interpersonal Communication Skills

Fermilab Today is online at:

<http://www.fnal.gov/today/>

Send comments and suggestions to

today@fnal.gov

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future (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95 134801).

Conventional accelerators have to be hundreds of metres in length, or longer, to accelerate particles to energies of interest to particle physicists. In recent years, scientists have developed a variety of techniques, mostly based on laser-produced plasmas, that are able to achieve much higher acceleration gradients than conventional accelerators. This opens the possibility of significantly reducing the length of these machines. However, some of these techniques suffer from synchrotron radiation losses or poor beam quality, which will limit their appeal to particle physicists.

[Read More](#)

October 24-27: C++ for Embedded Programmers

[More Information](#)

Identity Theft Prevention Class

Wellness Works will present this brown-bag seminar from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00p.m. in the 1-West conference room on Thursday, October 6.

[Upcoming Activities](#)