Physics Department Seminar Wednesday March 1st, 2000

11:00am in PhSc 105

"Physics Education Research As A Guide For Improving Student Learning In Physics And Physical Science"

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Abstract:

Research on the teaching and learning of physics has shown that many students emerge from traditional introductory physics courses without having developed a basic understanding of some fundamental physics principles. Investigations in more advanced courses have also helped identify some conceptual and reasoning difficulties that have their roots in introductory physics. The results can provide an effective guide for the development of instructional materials at all levels. The process will be illustrated with examples from introductory physics and engineering courses and from special science courses for precollege (K-12) teachers.