

Friday, October 2, 2015

4:10 – 5:00 PM

EPS103

The Evolution of Intro Physics at the University of Illinois

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Abstract:

About 17 years ago we significantly changed the way we taught intro physics at UIUC. The innovation, which in hindsight seems almost trivial, was to define these courses in terms of their content and associated infrastructure rather than in terms of the faculty assigned to teach them. Having our courses rest on a solid departmental foundation rather than on the shoulders of faculty means that faculty have the time and freedom to innovate, making incremental yet significant improvements to these courses over time. In this talk I will discuss this evolution as well as several of the resulting innovations, including pre-lectures, just in time teaching, peer instruction, and a new approach to labs.

Host:

Anton Vorontsov

***** Refreshments served in the EPS second floor atrium at 3:45 *****
