

## Five UO science faculty receive ranking of fellow

■ **PHYSICS:** The most recent professors appointed join the 11 who are already fellows

By Laura Kepshire  
Higher Education Reporter

Five University science faculty members received the highest ranking title in the American Physics Society this year for their contributions to the science community.

"We are fortunate to have such a prestigious group of faculty members here at the University," said Steadman Upham, the University vice provost for research. "Their quality of research has been deemed exceptional."

The American Physics Society, founded in 1899, is made up of 40,000 members. Its objective is to further the knowledge, learning and teaching of physics, said Nihendra Deshpande, University physics department head.

The society is divided into 16 divisions based on each members' specialty. Each division is allowed to nominate 1 percent of its members to receive the title of fellow every year. The nominations are sent to the council of the society which screens them and elects only half of 1 percent of the nominees. This year the society named 180 fellows worldwide, Deshpande said.

"It is very competitive," Deshpande said.

pande said. "You have to be a top leader in your field to receive such an honor."

The five faculty members share the title of fellow with 11 other University faculty. Out of the five nominated this year, four are from the physics department and one is from the chemistry department.

"I think it [the number of faculty with the title of fellow] is very encouraging. [It] creates awareness at the community level that good science research is going on at the University and should be supported," said chemistry professor Carlos J. Bustamante, who was nominated by the division of Biological Physics.

The four professors from the physics department who received the title of fellow are: Rudolph C. Hwa, who was nominated by the division of Particles and Fields; Stephen D. Kevan, who received the title of fellow in the division of Condensed Matter Physics; Thomas W. Mossberg, who was nominated for a fellowship by the division of Laser Science Topical Group; and George W. Rayfield, who was nominated by the division of Biological Physics.

"We've been pretty successful over the past few years," Kevan said. "Good hiring is a reflection of that and the department has always been fairly strong. We are finally being acknowledged more now than in the past."

## Sheriff fires guards for mock hanging of black inmate

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) — Two white guards were fired from the county jail Monday after staging the mock hanging of a black inmate.

Sgt. Gary Lambert and Officer Steve Rickman had already been suspended with pay and charged with misdemeanor battery after the March 24 incident.

The guards placed a hangman's noose around inmate Kenneth Ziegler's neck, tied it to a pole and handcuffed Ziegler's hands behind his back, police said.

The guards told police they were joking, and that their action was not racially motivated. The FBI is investigating.

"They crossed the line, a very



serious line," said Mike Thomas, president of the Huntington chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "It's a situation where they hung themselves."

A board of inquiry of the guards' peers recommended the firings, said Sheriff Otis Adkins.

Ziegler, who is serving time on a misdemeanor drug charge, did not want to talk to the media, Adkins said. Lambert's attorney, Harry Hager, said his client would appeal. Rickman's attorney, Jim Spurlock, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment.

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UO Student Health Center  
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