

PART II

Brief history of the OSU Physics Department  
from 1966 to 1971.

James J. Brady

1966-67

Faculty

Dr. David Nicodemus, Professor of Physics, became Dean of Faculty.

Dr. James J. Brady, Professor, was on sabbatical leave spring term visiting universities in Europe and the Middle East.

Dr. McAllister Hull, Jr., became Chairman of the Department July 1, 1966.

Dr. Will Au was appointed Assistant Professor. Dr. Au received his B.S. degree in 1958 and his Ph.D. degree in 1963 - both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a Research Associate at the University of Colorado 1963-64, a Visiting Assistant Professor at Vanderbilt University 1964-65 and a Research Associate at Yale University 1965-66 before coming to OSU.

Dr. Au's research interests are primarily in theoretical nuclear physics.

Dr. Charles Drake was appointed Associate Professor. Dr. Drake received his B.S. degree from the University of Maine in 1950, his M.A. degree from Wesleyan University in 1952, and his Ph.D. degree from Yale University in 1958. He was an instructor at Yale 1957-60, and an Assistant Professor at Yale from 1960-66.

Dr. Drake's principal research interests are primarily in experimental atomic physics.

Mr. John Garman, Associate Professor, retired after 44 years of service.

Dr. Harold Vinyard, Associate Professor, retired after 40 years with the department.

Dr. Edwin Yunker, Professor and Chairman of the Department (1949-66), retired after a total of 42 years in the department.

Courses

Commercial Photography, Ph 362, was given for the last time. The graduate courses in Kinetic Theory and Statistical Mechanics was given under the title Statistical Thermophysics, Ph 557, 558, and 559. Selected topics in Theoretical Physics was given.

1967-68

Faculty

Dr. Clifford Fairchild was promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.

Dr. Peter Fessenden was appointed Assistant Professor. Dr. Fessenden received his B.A. degree from Williams College in 1959, his Sc.M. degree from Brown University in 1963 and his Ph.D. degree in 1965 from Brown University. His principal research interests are in low and intermediate experiments nuclear physics.

Dr. Peter Fontana was appointed Associate Professor. Dr. Fontana received his M.S. degree from Miami University (Ohio) in 1958 and his Ph.D. degree from Yale University in 1960. Dr. Fontana was a Research Associate at the University of Chicago 1960-62 and an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan 1962-67. His principal research interests are in theoretical atomic physics.

Dr. David Griffiths was appointed Assistant Professor. Dr. Griffiths received his B.A. degree in 1959, his M.Sc. degree in 1960 and his Ph.D. degree in 1965 from the University of British Columbia. He was a Research Associate and Lecturer at the University of Southern California from 1965-67. Dr. Griffiths's principal interests are in experimental solid state physics.

Courses

Courses given under the subtitle Meteorology were given for the last time under this heading.

Photography Ph 361 was given for the last time.

A new undergraduate course Thermal Physics, Ph 451 and 452, was given for the first time.

The elementary physics courses designed primarily for engineering students Ph 207, 208, 209 was entitled Introduction to Classical Physics.

A new graduate course entitled Atomic Interactions, Ph 584, 585, and 586 was introduced.

1968-69

Faculty

Dr. David Burch was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor.

Dr. Howard Davis was appointed Associate Professor. Dr. Davis received his B.S. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Electrical Engineering in 1954.

He received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Rochester in 1960. He was a Research Associate at the University of Pennsylvania 1959-61 and an Assistant Professor at the University of Washington 1961-68. Dr. Davis' principal research interests are in experimental energy physics.

Dr. David Grillot was given a one year appointment as Assistant Professor. Dr. Grillot received a B.S. degree in 1959 and an M.S. degree in 1962, both from Ohio University. He received a Ph.D. degree in 1967 from Michigan State University. He was a Research Associate at the University of Oregon 1966-68. Dr. Grillot's principal research interests are in theoretical nuclear physics.

Dr. Wayne Swenson was appointed Associate Professor. Dr. Swenson received a B.S. degree in 1954 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. from the same institution in 1960. He was a Research Associate at MIT 1960-62, a staff member of the Bartol Research Foundation 1962-66, Assistant Director of the Space Radiation Effects Laboratory 1966-67 and Assistant Professor at College of William and Mary 1967-68. Dr. Swenson's principal research interests are in experimental nuclear physics.

Mr. C. L. Church, Assistant Professor retired after 26 years of service.

Dr. Wendell Hewson was appointed Professor of Physics. Dr. Hewson received a B.S. degree from Mt. Allison University in 1932, an M.A. degree from the University of Toronto in 1935 and a Ph.D. degree from the University of London in 1937. He was Research Meteorologist for Meteorological Service of Canada 1937-47, Director, Diffusion Project, MIT 1948-53, Research Physicist, Engineering Research Institute University of Michigan 1953-54, Professor of Meteorology 1954-61, Director Meteorology Laboratory University of Michigan 1957-63 and Professor of Meteorology at the University of Michigan 1961-68. Dr. Hewson was brought in to the physics department with the intention of his becoming Chairman of a new Atmospheric Science Department after one year.

1968-69 (cont'd)

Shop Personnel

Dean Schilling who was in charge of setting up the elementary laboratory equipment, helping with the lecture demonstrations, in charge of inventory and several other tasks, died on June 27, 1969.

Larry Hughes, a former graduate student in physics, was hired as a replacement for Dean Schilling.

Dale Weeden, a retired naval officer, who was in charge of our Electronics Shop for several years, retired from the physics department on January 31, 1969.

Leo Tice, a retired Air Force man, was hired as an electronics expert July 1, 1968. He took over the management of the electronics shop on the retirement of Dale Weeden.

Courses

The elementary course for engineers Ph 211, 212, 213 (previously Ph 207, 208, 209) was entitled General Physics I.

A new 5-hour course for physics majors was introduced for the first time and entitled Physics I, Ph 221, 222, 223. The second year course for physics majors was introduced and entitled Physics II, Ph 321, 322, 323.

The courses previously given under the subtitle Meteorology were given under Atmospheric Science. The following new titles of courses were introduced:

Ph 471, 472, 473 - Selected Topics in Classical Physics

Ph 474, 475, 476 - Selected Topics in Modern Physics.

A new graduate course entitled Quantum Theory of Solids, Ph 551, 552, 553, was introduced.

1969-70

Faculty

Dr. Melvin Cutler was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor.

Dr. Alan Wasserman was promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.

Dr. Larry Schecter was on sabbatical leave to Saclay in France to do research in low energy nuclear physics.

Dr. Melvin Cutler was on sabbatical leave to Cambridge, England to do research in solid state physics.

Dr. Victor Madsen was on sabbatical leave to Copenhagen, Denmark to do research in theoretical nuclear physics.

Dr. Wendell Hewson left the Physics Department to become Chairman of Atmospheric Science. Dr. Fred Decker, after many years in the physics department transferred to the Atmospheric Science department.

Courses

The title of the course Ph 311, 312, 313 was changed from Introduction to Modern Physics to General Physics II.

1970-71

Faculty

Drs. L. Schechter, M. Cutler and V. Madsen returned from their sabbatical leaves in Europe.

Dr. Harry Easterday was on sabbatical leave to Lawrence Radiation Laboratory at Livermore, California to do research in nuclear physics.

Dr. Fred Decker of the Atmospheric Science department taught Astronomy Ph 204, 205, 206.

Courses

The following graduate courses were given:  
Particle Physics Seminar Ph 507, 507, 507  
Nuclear Physics Seminar Ph 507, 507, 507

Mathematics for Engineers and Physicists,  
Mth 481A, 482A, 483A for Physics Majors  
was given by Dr. Au.