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2006-2007 :: Ph.D. in Physics :: Graduate Program in NSM [review segment]		
7. Annual Report		
Annual Report		
+	7.1 Executive Summary	<p>The faculty in the Physics Department at UT Dallas carried out an assessment of the physics degree programs in the Spring 2007 semester. Data were collected by faculty by examining the rates of publications, paper submissions, dissertations and proposals of dissertation research, and comparing the success rates of various goals.</p> <p>We have identified the strength of the Ph.D. program: The assessment of the Ph.D. in Physics program is extensive and showed many strengths of the program including (1) dissertation completion, (2) publication of research results and paper submissions, and (3) present a conference talk or a public colloquium.</p> <p>The assessment of this cycle showed that the learning objectives were mostly met. Weakness identified : rate of successful completion of Ph.D. dissertation proposal is slightly below the expected rate.</p> <p>To close the gap the department designates Prof. Chaney to coordinate the effort of completing the proposal on time, and target Spring 2008 as the beginning of the period when the target will be met.</p>
	7.2 Top 3 Program/Unit Accomplishments	<p>Professor Anvar Zakhidov was elected foreign member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences and was awarded the Kapitza medal for scientific discovery by the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences.</p> <p>UTD High Energy physics began participation in the Atlas experiment currently under construction at CERN's Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, Switzerland. The Atlas experiment will explore the electroweak symmetry breaking and the origins of mass by searching for the Higgs Boson and new physics beyond the Standard Model of Physics. The group includes two physics professors, Joseph Izen and Xinchou Lou, 1 research scientist and two graduate students.</p> <p>The Physics department at UT Dallas initialized a self-study of its degree programs. The self-study document was produced during Fall 2006. The review of the Physics programs was conducted by a committee consisting of external and UT Dallas members and was completed in Spring 2007.</p> <p>Dr. John Hoffman and his group at UT Dallas completed the design and construction of a mass spectrometer to be used in the Mars Scout Program for flights to Mars in the 2007 launch opportunity. The work was funded by NASA.</p> <p>In the Spring 2007 semester Physics faculty hosted local high school students in the Physics Olympics competition.</p> <p>Nobel Laureate Sir Anthony James Leggett, Ph.D. in Physics, spoke to more than 1,000 high school students from science classes around the Metroplex on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at UT Dallas. Dr. Leggett delivered the Anson L. Clark Memorial Lecture titled "Why Can't Time Run Backwards?" on March 30. Physics students</p>