



Physics Colloquium

Friday October 5th, 2012

4:10 – 5:00 pm, EPS108

“Surprises in solar physics”

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and

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Abstract:

Some might think that solar physics is a mature, even senile, scientific endeavor. Indeed, Leighton is famously credited with the statement "...if it were not for magnetic fields, the Sun would be as boring a star as most astronomers believe it to be." So I will, from first principles, ask the question: "Why would the Sun choose to do that?"

To find out what kinds of thing "that" might be, and why the Sun is surprising from the point of view of elementary physical principles, you'll have to come along to the colloquium. I'll highlight some surprising theoretical ideas, including the tragic case of the untimely demise of ideal magneto-hydrodynamics.

Host:

Charles Kankelborg

Refreshments 3:45 p.m.

EPS 2nd Floor Atrium