The George Washington University
Department of Physics
Colloquium

Undergraduate Research:
Do we really need to grow the number of opportunities?

Dr. John Mateja

Murray State University
and
National Science Foundation

In his presentation, Dr. Mateja will look at the current state of affairs in STEM education at the pre-college, undergraduate and graduate levels and ask the question “Why Change?” After reviewing what the literature says about the impact of research experiences on undergraduates, he will then discuss institutional resources and efficiencies that can be used to build and support a robust institutional effort.

Dr. John Mateja is the Director of Murray State University’s offices for Undergraduate Research & Scholarly Activity and the McNair Scholars Program. He is currently on assignment in the Division of Undergraduate Education at the National Science Foundation. John has been President of the Council on Undergraduate Research, a member of the Board of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, and Chair of the American Physical Society’s Committee on Education. In 2006, he was named a Fellow of the Council on Undergraduate Research.

John was trained as an experimental nuclear physicist in the area of light heavy-ion reactions. After earning his B.S and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Notre Dame, he held a post-doctoral appointment at Florida State University. In 1998, John became the Dean of the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology at Murray State. During his three years as Dean, the College successfully competed for a total of $4.3 million in funding from Howard Hughes Medical Institute, NSF Collaborative Research at Undergraduate Institutions, NSF CCLI, and NSF EPSCoR.

TIME: 4:00-4:50 pm, Thursday the 9th of April 2009
PLACE: 101 Corcoran Hall, GWU

725 21st Street, N.W. (Between G and H Streets)

METRO STATION: GWU/FOGGY BOTTOM (BLUE & ORANGE LINES)