

2008 Gordon Research Conference  
Physics Research and Education:  
*Computation and Computer-Based Instruction*



Bryant University, Smithfield, RI  
June 8 – 13, 2008

**Chairs**

Wolfgang Christian & Bradley Ambrose

**Vice Chairs**

Chandralekha Singh & Enrique J. Galvez

The 2008 Gordon Research Conference (GRC) on Physics Research and Education, the fifth in this series of conferences, will focus on the expanding and deepening role of computers in physics research and instruction, with particular emphasis on undergraduate education. The purpose of this conference is to survey how computational physics is currently being used, to identify problems where computation helps students understand key physics concepts, and to assess the effectiveness of computational-physics instruction. The conference will highlight current efforts to incorporate computational physics and other computer-based methods (such as simulations and visualizations) into the physics classroom. The format of the conference—which will include invited plenary sessions, contributed posters, and generous amounts of unscheduled time for informal discussions—is specially designed to promote dialogue and cross-fertilization of ideas between educators and researchers at the forefront of their fields, including researchers in physics education. College and university faculty, postdocs, computational-physics textbook authors, curriculum and educational software developers, and graduate and undergraduate students are invited to participate.

For more information about the conference or conference site, or to apply to the GRC, see:  
<http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=physres>

Physics Research and Education:  
*Computation and Computer-Based Instruction*  
American Journal of Physics Theme Issue

The American Journal of Physics seeks contributed manuscripts for a special theme issue in conjunction with the 2008 Gordon Research Conference on “Computation and Computer-Based Instruction.” The issue will be published in early 2008. The purpose of the issue is to promote innovation in all aspects and at all levels of undergraduate teaching with computers, including the integration of computational physics research into teaching. Manuscripts that include suggested novel computation projects or problems and the assessment of the impact of this material on student learning are especially encouraged.

Manuscripts should be **received by September 15, 2007** to ensure consideration for the theme issue. Authors should indicate their interest in having their manuscript considered for the theme issue. Manuscripts should be submitted in the usual way to AJP and will be reviewed under the same editorial policy as for regular submissions.

Questions or suggestions about the theme issue can be addressed to the theme issue editors, Wolfgang Christian ([wchristian@davidson.edu](mailto:wchristian@davidson.edu)) and Bradley Ambrose ([ambroseb@gvsu.edu](mailto:ambroseb@gvsu.edu)), and the assistant editors, Chandralekha Singh ([clsingh@pitt.edu](mailto:clsingh@pitt.edu)) and Enrique J. Galvez ([egalvez@mail.colgate.edu](mailto:egalvez@mail.colgate.edu)).

Additional information about both the 2008 GRC and the AJP theme issue can be found at:  
<http://www.opensourcephysics.org/GRC/index.html>