

Why Doesn't It Work Here? *A Systems Approach to Physics Instruction*

Ken Heller

University of Minnesota

Wednesday, Oct 7, 2015

TBBC 4630

(Chemistry's Thatcher Seminar Room)

4 – 4:30 refreshments & music

4:30 – 6:00 lecture

Abstract:

Introductory physics is the gateway to most modern technical professions. Physics faculty struggle to suit the wide variety of students in their classes. This talk will seed discussion on identifying and improving the complex system we call a course. Students, instructors, disciplinary culture, content, institutional constraints, and stakeholders are all essential and interlocking components in forming implementable and sustainable teaching methods.



Kenneth Heller is the College of Science and Engineering Distinguished Professor of Physics and Morse Alumni Distinguished Teacher Professor at University of Minnesota. His particle physics research in neutrino oscillations is currently with the NOvA experiment. He has served on the Fermilab Board of Trustees and Users Executive Committee, as president of AAPT, and chair of APS Forum on Education. He is a fellow of the APS and AAAS. Current research focuses on problem solving while using computers to coach physics.

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