

The Society of Physics Students

*Participation in our Department and
Community*

Alexis Quental
President

A little bit about myself:

- Physics undergraduate student graduating in two weeks! Interested in space exploration and am looking for a job related to this discipline.
- Introduced to SPS by Dr. Jing Shi when I declared my major to physics in my second year and immediately got involved.
- I like to play the violin and am a part of the UCR orchestra.

Information:

- Established by Milton Bose and Elizabeth Mullin in 2007.
- Faculty Advisors: Dr. Gillian Wilson and Dr. Leonid Pryadko
- New website: sps.ucr.edu

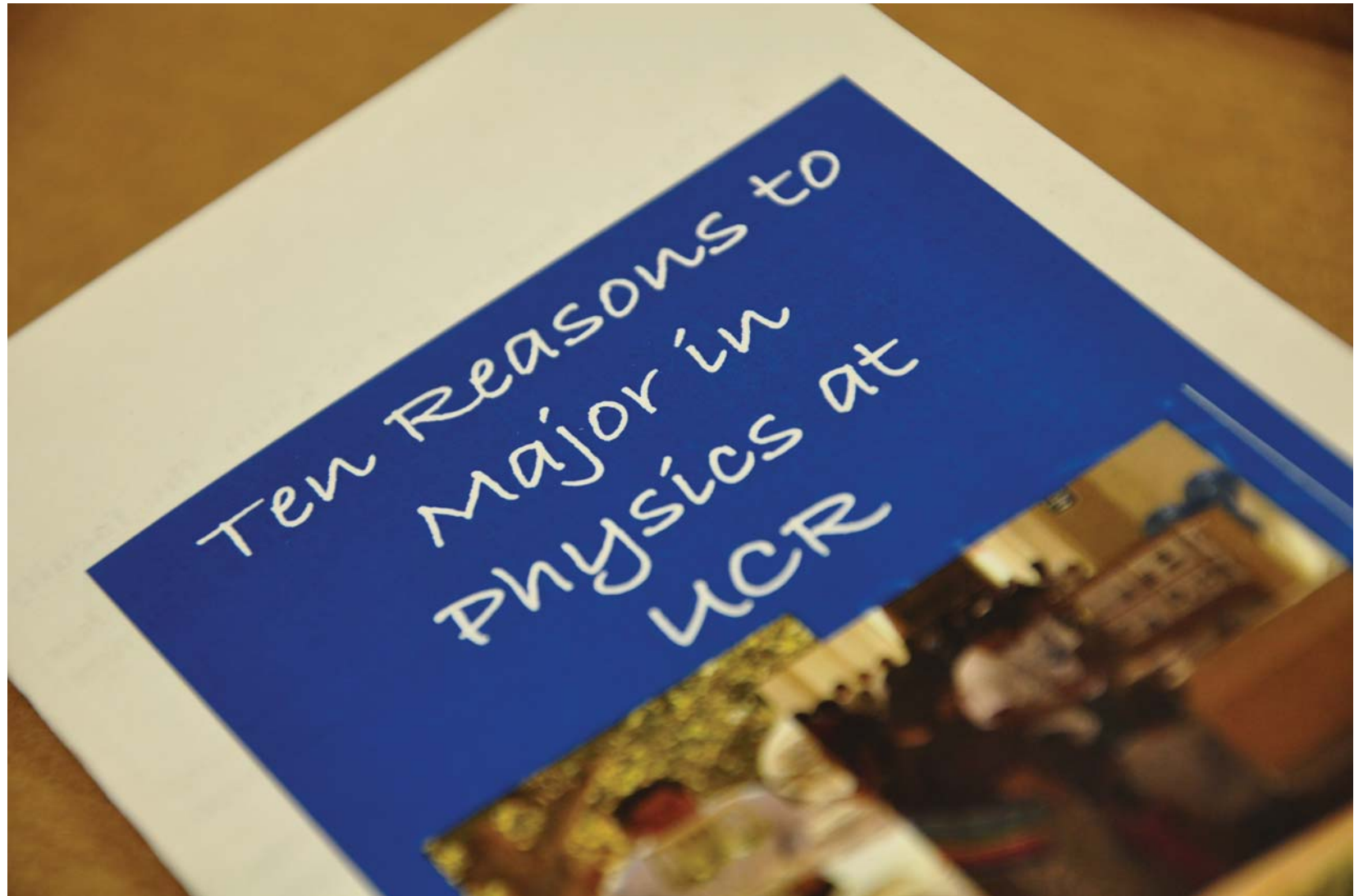
Mission Statement:

“The Society of Physics Students (SPS) provides undergraduates and graduates from all disciplines the opportunity to expand their knowledge of physics and to meet other students, professors, and researchers in the field of physics. Weekly meetings provide a dynamic and interactive environment to discuss physics-related topics.”

A Typical SPS Meeting:

- Invite guest speakers, specifically faculty and other undergraduate students
- Plan for events, trips, and other activities
- Watch The Big Bang Theory
- Talk about physics, technology, current events, tell jokes, etc.

Physics Department Open House - October 30th



Left to right:
Kevin Myhro, Samantha Rorick,
and Emily Swanson

Kevin is showing Samantha and
Emily how to run the 'jumping
wire' demonstration.





Ahlam Jadallah at the 'Pulling the Tablecloth' station.

Another successful tablecloth pull by a participant!



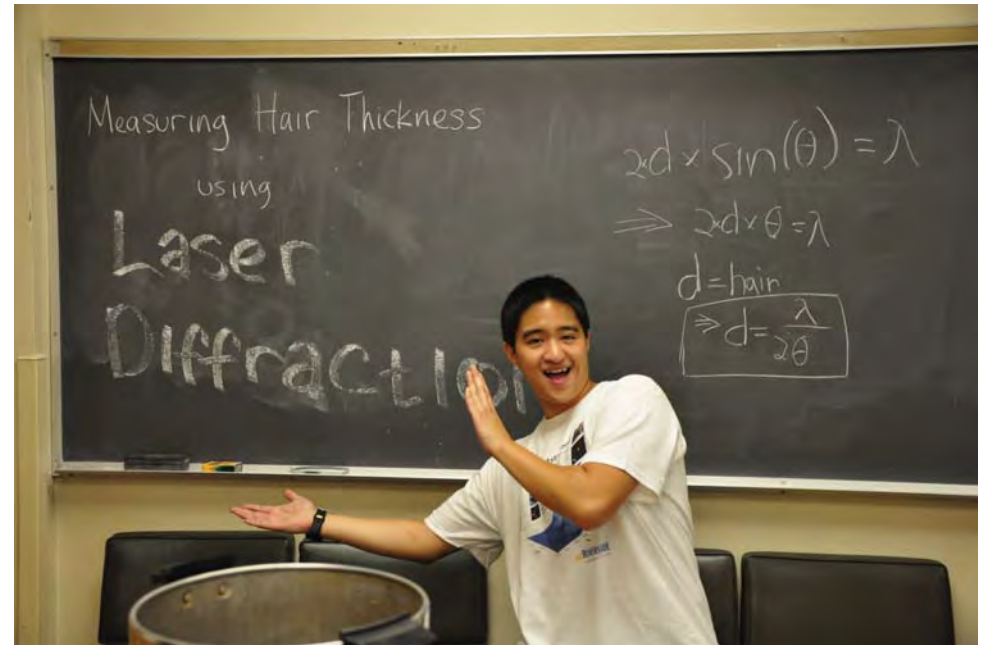


Left: Daniel Ryan demonstrating the conservation of angular momentum.
Right: Michael Woolls at the 'Peddle Power' station.



Dr. Gail Hanson giving a presentation about high energy physics.

Kyle Chan at his station for 'Measuring Hair Thickness Using Laser Diffraction' and giving a demonstration.





Left: Shattering glass with sound.

Right: Bobby Sanderson explaining the physics of music.



Right: Kevin Myhro explaining the chaotic pendulum.



Left: Rob Fletcher explaining coupled oscillators.

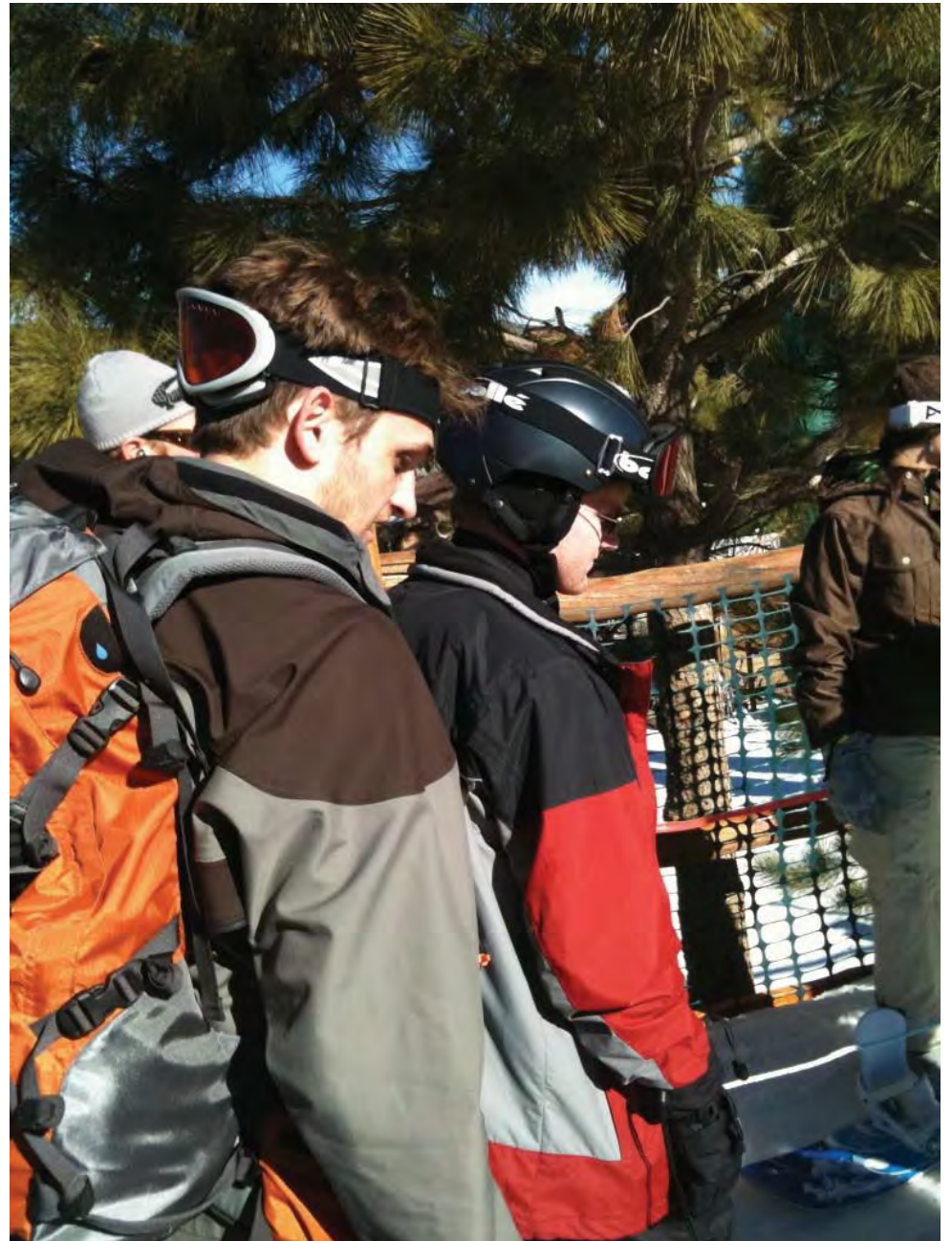


We had a great turn out at the physics open house!

SPS Ski/Snowboard Trip at Big Bear - January 15th



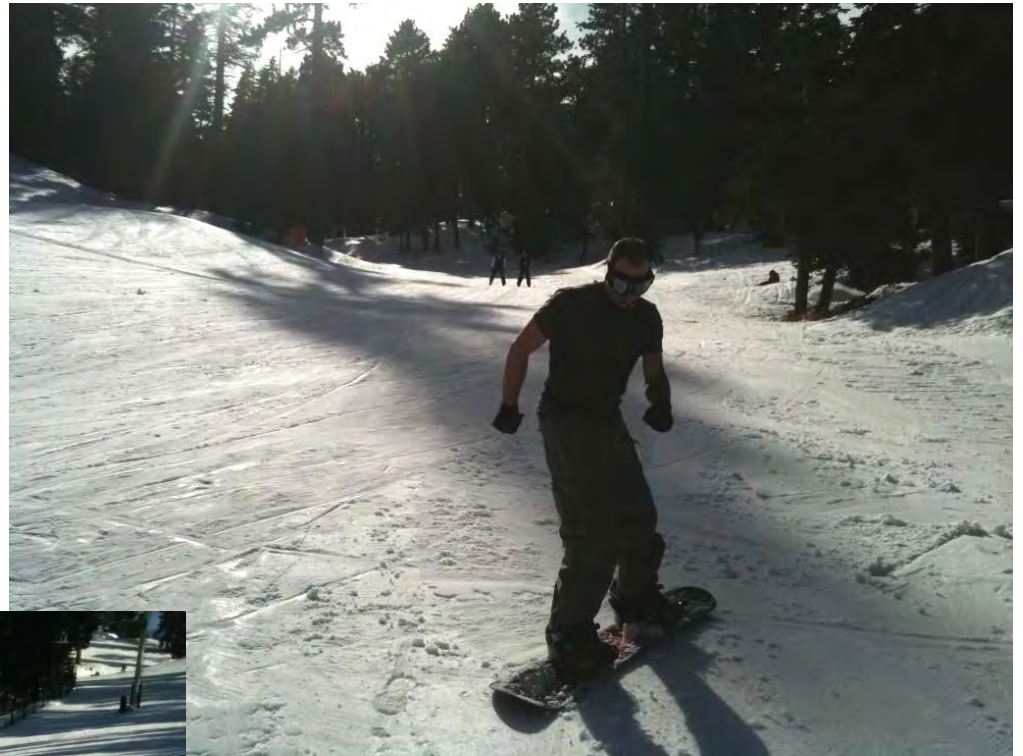
In line for the ski lift are graduate students Jesse Heilman (left) and Pat Odenthal (right).





Left to right: Pat Odenthal, Steven Tjung, Alexis Quental and Grant Quental.

Fellow graduate student Arron Shiffer.



Steven Tjung and Alexis Quental.

Jet Propulsion Laboratory Open House - May 14th



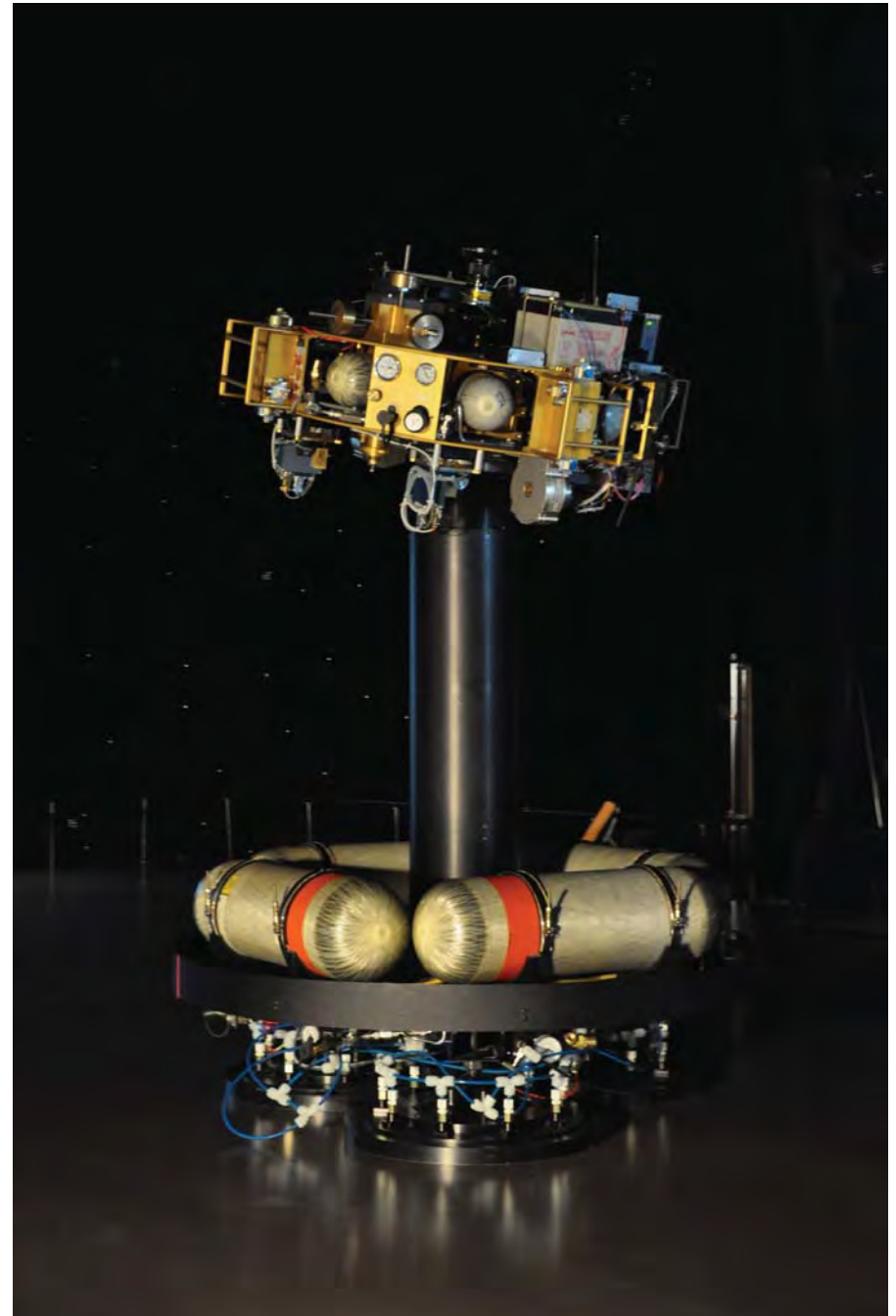
Samantha Rorick and Emily Swanson are excited to be at JPL!



Our first stop of the day was at the 'Robo Dome' where we saw this robot moving on an air-cushioned platform.

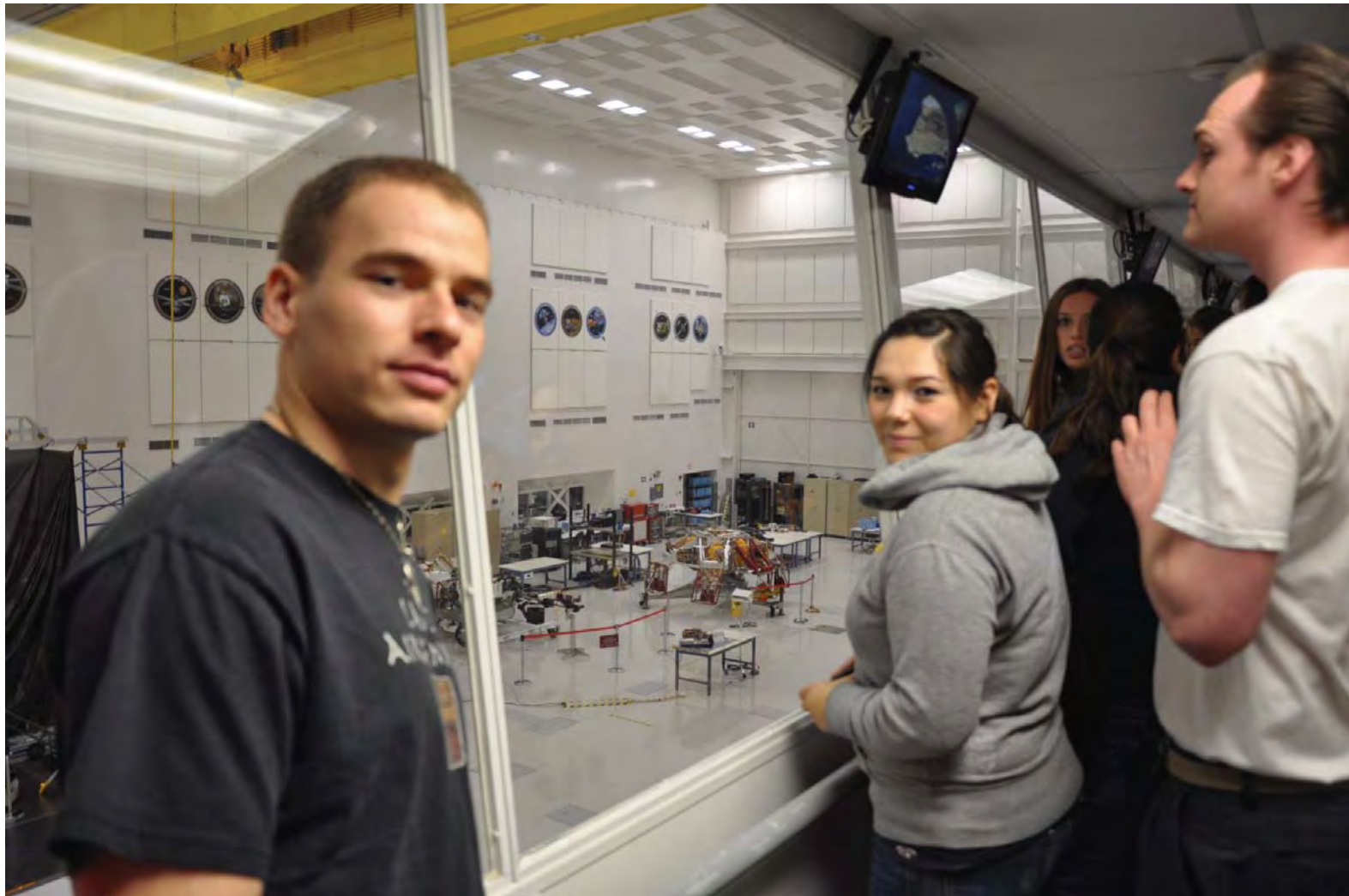
This robot was being tested to use stars (simulated by lights in the ceiling) as a means to orient itself.

The lights were not turned on, but the robot was moving around on the platform.





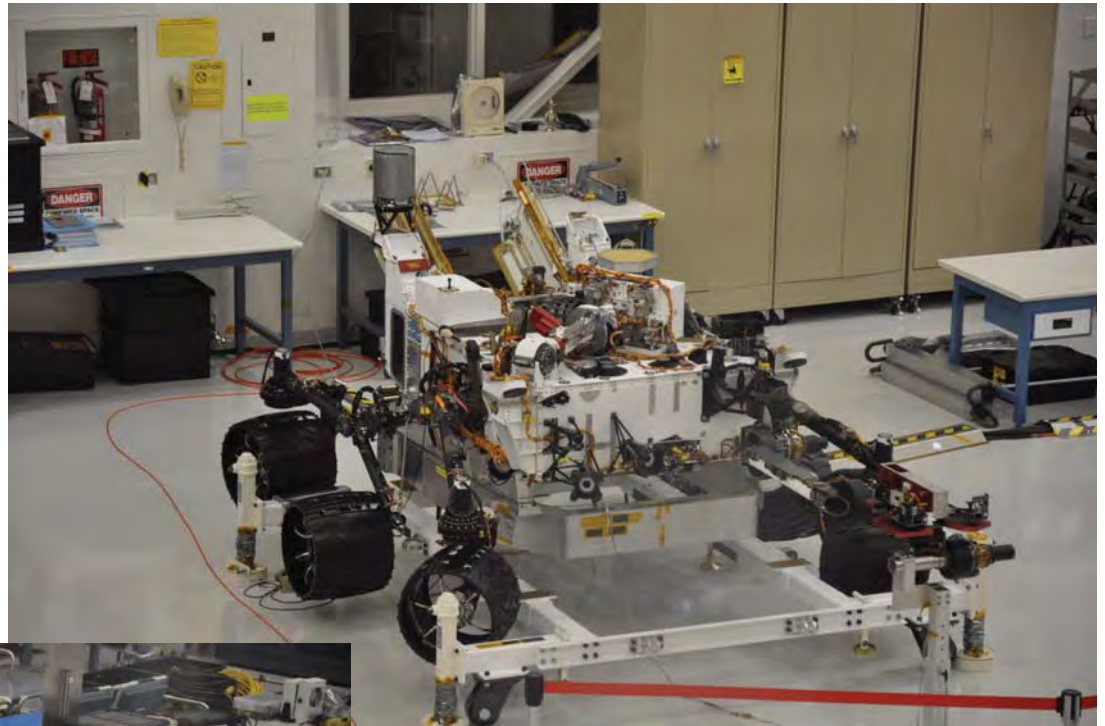
We got to see two full scale models of the Spirit and Opportunity rovers moving around in the courtyard. They had staff on hand to answer questions.



The view from the clean room observation deck.

On the left is Igor Pinchuk and on the right is Eugina Olivas with Kevin Myhro.

A close up shot of two projects in the clean room.





Two views of the machine shop.



The control room for the 25' Space Simulator. The space simulator is a large vacuum chamber that is pumped with liquid nitrogen to simulate (and maintain) the conditions of space to test materials.



Emily Swanson, Samantha Rorick, and Rob Fletcher look at the different space blanket materials.





Everyone standing in front of the 25' vacuum chamber.

Other Activities:

- Tutoring at the Learning Center on campus
- Physics Open House on March 5th
- GRE Group Study over Spring Break
- Hosted Dr. Thomas Olsen, the Assistant Director of SPS on May 4th
- SPS Zone Conference on May 6th at Cal Poly Pomona

Special Thanks:

Thank you to Dr. John Ellison and Dr. Shan-Wen Tsai for the opportunity to talk about the Society of Physics Students today.

Thank you to Steven Tjung and Rob Fletcher for taking the photographs that I used in the presentation 😊