

UNL students get involved with high-energy physics

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

UNL physics students and professors could be taking high-energy physics farther than it has ever gone before.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, as part of a regional program connected with a Superconducting Super Collider being constructed in Dallas, will explore new levels of high-energy physics beginning in the next few years.

According to William Campbell, vice chairman of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, UNL will be working on a detector for the SSC.

The detector is "where the physics is really done," Campbell said.

He said both graduate and undergraduate students will benefit from UNL's participation in the project.

The university will hire a group of experimentalists who will introduce graduate students to new levels in high-energy physics, Campbell said. High-energy physics is probing sub-nuclear levels with very high energy accelerators.

And, he said, undergraduates as well as graduates will be directly involved in building the detector and analyzing data once the SSC is completed around the year 2000.

Campbell said he also hopes the

research will attract more physics students to the university.

But, he said, the real gain from the collaboration is that the department will be able to hire a three-person, high-energy physics experimentalist group.

Campbell said the SSC utilizes two beams of protons accelerated to velocities approaching the speed of light that collide, and the detectors look at what comes off.

"It's an attempt to go a little bit deeper in our understanding of the fundamental particles that make up nature," he said.

Funding for the four-story, 50-yard-long detectors is being provided by Texas.

When Texas was awarded the location for the SSC, the state passed a \$1 billion bond for development. One hundred million dollars will be spent over a 10-year period to support people interested in doing SSC research.

Campbell said UNL asked for \$12 million over a 10-year period but so far has received only \$500,000 for the first year.

After the project is completed, Campbell said, UNL will continue to participate by collecting and analyzing data.

"That's when the fun begins," he said.

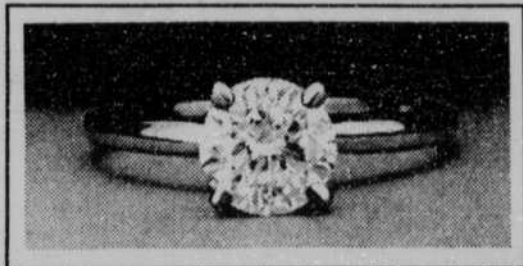
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Mamiya

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She started teaching at UNL after completing her Master of Arts and doctorate degrees in art and art history at the University of California-Los Angeles in 1987. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Yale University in 1977.

At UNL, she teaches the 100-level survey art history course, encompassing art since the Renaissance, and the 400-level Art Since 1945.

Some of her students say she performs well at her challenge to relate to a diverse student audience the emotional and symbolic meanings in important artwork.

Her teaching philosophy relies on the historical significance in the artwork and why the work was done rather than asking students to memorize names and paintings.

Mamiya says traveling is her favorite way to spend free time, because it's another method for her to reach below the surface in

— 66 —
The tourist wants hula girls and grass skirts, and that's what we give them.

Mamiya
UNL assistant professor

— 99 —
teaching art.

The more actual exposure she can get to art translates into better learning for her students, since many of them won't get the opportunity to see the works, she says.

Her trips are to major metropolitan cities that have a large, progressive supply of art — usually Chicago, New York or Los Angeles, but about once a year she visits home in Honolulu.

Mamiya's research interests have coincided with her travel interests.

As an "off-beat project," Mamiya did a paper on Hawaiian postcards and whether they accu-

ately portray life on the islands. She says that although postcards are not one of her long-term academic interests, they are unique artistic media.

Mamiya presented the paper on her postcard findings at the American Studies Association annual meeting in November.

Mamiya says postcards depict how the tourism industry promotes a stereotype of life in Hawaii that may be phasing out the real Hawaiian culture.

"The tourists want hula girls and grass skirts, and that's what they give them," she says. "It's getting farther and farther away from what Hawaiian culture is really like."

To battle the high cost of living in Hawaii, a person must be in either travel management or hotel management, and Hawaiian natives usually only find jobs "playing a role" in tourism, she says.

Real Hawaii, Mamiya says, is shown in its best quality, the ethnic diversity.

The Honolulu she knows is a regular cosmopolitan city with a mixture of Asian, Hawaiian and American cultures.

"I loved (Hawaii) growing up," she says emphatically.

Her Hawaiian background has not had a large impact on the way she lives her life now, but it did help shape her tastes in art, she says.

Oceanic art, and specifically Polynesian art, are an interest of hers tracing back to her life in Hawaii.

Her Hawaiian background also affects her cooking, she says, in that she cooks more multi-cultural foods.

Mamiya says it's tough to get all of the ingredients for traditional Hawaiian food here.

But after a small pause, she adds, "Yes, I like Lincoln."

Mamiya says she intends to stay in Lincoln and has no plans to move back to Hawaii because she can live in a city she enjoys, Lincoln, and on occasion visit home in Honolulu.

"Now I have the best of both worlds," she says.



Mamiya

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