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9-25-2003

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Klein to Deliver 18th O. T. Driggs Lecture

Summary:

(September 25, 2003)-Dr. Martin J. Klein, Eugene Higgins professor emeritus of physics and the history of science at Yale University, will deliver the 2003 O. T. Driggs Distinguished Lecture, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, in the HFA Recital Hall on the University of Minnesota, Morris campus. Dr. Klein's topic is "Bohr and Einstein: A Study in Contrasts." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Trained as a theoretical physicist, Dr. Klein completed his B. A. from Columbia University at age 18. Following service in the U. S. Navy in World War II, Dr. Klein completed his Ph. D. at MIT and taught for many years at Case Institute of Technology before joining the Yale faculty in 1967 until his retirement in 2001. His discoveries in physics included major contributions to the study of statistical mechanics and the magnetization of thin films.

As a historian of science, Dr. Klein became a leading expert on the origins of the Quantum Theory and for ten years served as Senior Editor of the Einstein Papers Project at Princeton and California Institute of Technology. In addition, he has been a visiting professor at Rockefeller University, Harvard University, and the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Klein was nominated to the National Academy of Sciences in 1977, the only historian of science to hold that honor.

Dr. Klein has published widely, including articles in Scientific American, and appeared on PBS's Nova series on Einstein. He is noted for his ability to communicate the history of physics to a broad audience.

Since 1986, the annual Driggs lecture has brought distinguished visiting speakers to campus on topics relating to history, liberal arts, and public affairs. It honors the memory of Professor O. T. Driggs, who taught history at UMM from 1963 until his death in 1989 and also served as chair of the Division of the Social Sciences. The lecture is sponsored by the Driggs Lectureship Fund, the UMM Alumni Association, and the Campus Activities Council.

A reception will follow the lecture.

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