

Department of Physics
MCMICKEN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
FOR UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2006

The Department of Physics is pleased to offer the following research project for the summer of 2006. Interested students are urged to contact the faculty member(s) directing the project that most interests them. By contacting the faculty member, you can discover more about the project, learn what your responsibilities will be and if possible, develop a timetable for the twelve-week research period.

STUDY OF THE PLANETARY SYSTEMS: OUR OWN SOLAR SYSTEM AND THOSE FORMING AROUND OTHER STARS

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>Dr. Mike Sitko's current research program includes the study of the
>planetary systems, our own solar system and those forming around other
>stars, using imaging and spectroscopic techniques. In particular, the
>light that is scattered and thermally emitted by cosmic dust grains in
>these systems provides valuable information about how they formed and
>evolved. In May Dr. Sitko will be observing Comet SW3 and some young
>stars using NASA's Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF) on the summit of
>Mauna Kea (Hawaii). The student will have the opportunity to learn the
>use of astronomical electronic detectors, and to become involved with
>the processing and interpretation of the data obtained.