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## Program for the Forman Lecture, Vanderbilt University, March 23, 2000

Robert Fuller

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## FORMER RECIPIENTS

*Ernest A. Jones, 1987*

*Melba Phillips, 1988*

*D. Rae Carpenter, Jr. and Richard B. Minnix, 1989*

*Joseph H. Hamilton, 1990*

*Craig L. Whitlock, 1991*

*Judith R. Franz, 1992*

*Anthony P. French, 1994*

*Edward F. Redish, 1996*

*Jack M. Wilson, 1997*

*Ronald D. Edge, 1998*

*Robert B. Clark, 1999*

## GUY & REBECCA FORMAN LECTURE IN THE TEACHING OF PHYSICS



Department of Physics & Astronomy

Vanderbilt University

## ROBERT G. FULLER

United State Military Academy

and

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

“ $\int(\text{calculus}) \cdot d(\text{physics}) = ?$ ”

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2000

4:00 PM, SC 4327

## Guy and Rebecca Forman

In 1986 Professor and Mrs. Guy Forman provided the initial endowment to establish an award at Vanderbilt University to be given annually to recognize outstanding accomplishments in the teaching of physics at the undergraduate level. The endowment has grown significantly and continues to grow through generous contributions from friends, colleagues, and Dr. Forman's former students.

Guy Forman did his undergraduate work at Western Kentucky University, where he met and married Rebecca when they were freshman in 1925. He received his M.A. from Indiana University and Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. Professor Forman had a long and distinguished career in teaching physics. He taught at Western Kentucky for fourteen years. He then served on the Vanderbilt faculty for nineteen years, from 1943 until 1962 during which time he also served as Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Science. He had significant input in to the planning of the Physics Building of the Stevenson Science Center. He left to build the first Department of Physics at the newly-created University of South Florida in Tampa, including designing their building and curriculum, and served there as Professor and Chair for ten years; a total of 43 years of outstanding teaching. Rebecca Forman also graduated from Western Kentucky and taught in public schools for 28 years. They were constant sources of support and encouragement to each other in their combined seventy-one years of dedicated teaching.

Professor Forman was a charter member of the Southeastern Section of the American Physics Society and served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Southeastern Section. He was the first Chair of the Middle Tennessee Science Fair, serving for many years. He directed the master's theses research of twelve students at Vanderbilt. He was a member of the American Association of Physics Teachers and Sigma Xi (serving as chapter vice-President and President at Vanderbilt). He was a life-long active member of the Lions Club.

Professor Forman's distinguished career as a teacher was recognized in the awarding of the George Pegram Medal for Outstanding Teaching, given by the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society, and the Distinguished Service Citation in the Teaching of Physics, given by the American Association of Physics Teachers. The Guy and Rebecca Forman Award is a most fitting, lasting tribute to Professor and Mrs. Forman's lifelong contribution to teaching. Previous recipients of the award are listed on the back of this program.

## Robert G. Fuller

Dr. Fuller currently serves as Visiting Professor at the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY. He has been Professor of Physics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln since 1976. From 1986-88 he served as Distinguished Visiting Professor at the United States Air Force Academy, CO. His Ph.D. in Physics (experimental solid state physics) was obtained in 1965 from the University of Illinois-Urbana, IL.

He has been involved in innovative teaching activities as early in his career as 1971, when he team taught *Topics in Environmental Science*. He has organized *Workshops on College Teaching and the Development of Reasoning* (1975-97); faculty development workshops on *New Technologies to Transform Physics Teaching* (1990-95); developed the *Film Loop Instructional Course (FLIC)* for physics faculty (1972); prize-winning software -- *Ben Franklin*, an electrostatics lesson (1983) for which he received the Verbatim Award, *Guilty or Innocent* (1988), for which he received the Superstack HyperCard Award; *The Physics InfoMall CD-ROM* (1991-95), and "*Paperless*" and "*Paperlite*" mathematics and calculus-based physics (1996-present).

Dr. Fuller has been active for twenty-two years in the American Association of Physics Teachers and served as Vice-President in 1978, President-elect (1979), and President (1980). He has twice received Distinguished Teaching Awards from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1973 and 1986). He received the American Association of Higher Education Faculty Leadership Salute (1986), and was featured in *Change* 18(4), 5, 15, 17, 22 & 31 (1986). In March, 1987 he was listed in *Insight Magazine* as "one of 10 best college professors in America". Dr. Fuller received the *Robert A. Millikan Medal* "for outstanding contributions to the teaching of Physics," awarded by the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1992 [*American J. of Phys.* 61(4), 300-304 (1993)], *Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award*, University of Nebraska (1993). He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Pi Sigma, Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, American Physical Society Fellow (1997- ), National Science Teachers Assoc. (1971-96), and Academy of Distinguished Teachers (Univ. Nebraska, 1995- ).