

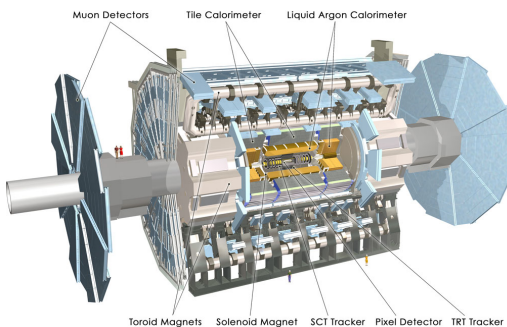
Lives in Science

A newsletter about Steve and Jodi



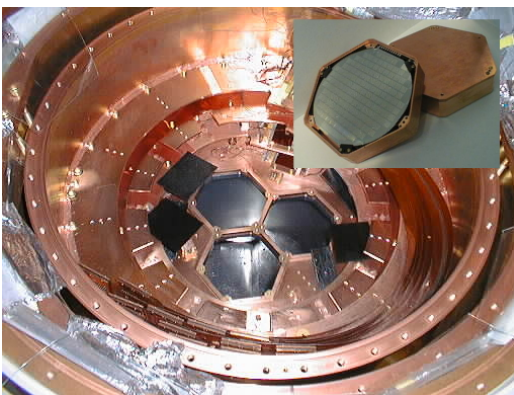
Since 2004, we've been living in California and working as post-doctoral researchers at Stanford University and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC). A big change is coming soon, though – we've both been hired as tenure-track Assistant Professors in physics by Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas!

Southern Methodist University, or SMU, is located near the heart of Dallas. It is a private university, with about 11,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Its physics department was created only about 20 years ago and is unique in the United States in that it is focused entirely on subatomic particle physics. Our employment will increase the faculty in the department by 25%, and Jodi is the first non-accelerator experimental physicist they have ever hired. The university as a whole is trying to raise its profile as a research institution, and we represent a step in the wider campaign to grow the research portfolio.



The ATLAS Detector

We will teach physics and lead research. During the first semester, Jodi will teach cosmology – the science of the origin of the universe – and I will teach second semester. After that, we will each teach one course per semester. We'll also conduct research, hire young scientists and mentor students. Jodi will continue as a leader of the Cryogenic Dark Matter Search (CDMS). Located deep in an old Minnesota iron mine, the experiment is designed to look for “dark matter”, which makes up 85% of the matter in the universe but of which little is known. Steve will join the ATLAS experiment, the world's largest particle detector located at the CERN laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland. He will also search for dark matter, among many other things, being produced by the particle collider at CERN.



The CDMS refrigerator and detectors (inset)

We expect to move to Dallas in July of this year, and our jobs start August 1. We will miss California, but we are very excited to start this next phase both of our lives and our careers!

For more information, check the following websites:

SMU: <http://www.smu.edu> and <http://www.physics.smu.edu/web/index.html>

You can always see what we're up to on our blogs:

Steve: <http://steve.cooleysekula.net/blog> and Jodi: <http://jodi.cooleysekula.net/blog>