



March 25, 2013

Dear Physics Teacher,

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING**

**Department of
Physics & Astronomy**

128 PETRIE SCIENCE &
ENGINEERING BLDG.
4700 KEELE ST.
TORONTO ON
CANADA M3J 1P3
T 416 736 5249
F 416 736 5516
www.physics.yorku.ca

The Department of Physics and Astronomy at York University would like to notify you and your students of the York University **Spring Open House** to be held on **Saturday, April 6, 2013**. From **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the **Lassonde Building**, it will be possible for high school students to come and get acquainted with the many educational offerings and facilities of the Faculty of Science at York University, including those of the Physics, Astronomy, and Biophysics Programs. At this event, high school students and their families will be able to meet professors and students to talk about study opportunities, and to join tours of key facilities, including our undergraduate biophysics laboratory, a world-class antimatter research laboratory, and our astronomical observatories. As well, it will be possible to see some space science and engineering facilities. **Free parking is available.**

We would be especially grateful if you would notify Grade 11 students of this opportunity to visit us, as the experience will be invaluable for helping them to select preferred postsecondary directions in the first half of Grade 12. Although applicants to York from Grade 12 have been alerted about the Open House already, a reminder to them about the Physics, Astronomy, and Biophysics components would be appreciated, also. Further information including directions can be found on the website yorku.ca/springgala.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy at York University is committed to teaching and research of the highest quality. We offer flexible degree programs in Physics and Astronomy, as well as a program in Biophysics which in many ways is unique in Canada. Degrees may be combined as majors or minors with other science programs, or with programs in the Faculties of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, Fine Arts, Environmental Studies or Health. Our undergraduates have many opportunities to get involved in research, in which case they have access to well-equipped laboratories in areas as diverse as laser cooling, bio-acoustics, elementary particle physics, nano-materials, space hardware, and stellar evolution. Astronomy students are given access to the telescopes of the York University Observatory starting in first year. Also, our physics program is the only one in Canada where students can engage in atom trapping as part of their curriculum.

We would be grateful if you would bring this information to the attention of students in your school. Please don't hesitate to contact me for information about specific departmental affairs or even to arrange an appointment. I can be reached by phone at 416-736-5249 or by email at chphas@yorku.ca. I look forward to talking with you or your students over the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. L. McCall".

Marshall McCall
Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy
Director, Undergraduate Program in Physics and Astronomy
Director, Undergraduate Program in Biophysics