

## **The 21 Club**

### **Social, Dinner and a Talk—*Second Announcement* Monday, April 11, 2016**

The final meeting of the 2015-16 academic year will begin with a wine and beer social at **6:00 PM** in the UNM Faculty Club on Monday, April 11, 2016. A plated dinner will follow at 7:00 PM., and the presentation will start at approximately 7:45 PM.

#### **Dinner choices, appetizer and desert:**

Korean Beef Short Rib with Traditional dinner salad

***Vegetarian Dinner Option:*** Four Cheese Lasagna with Traditional dinner salad

Appetizer: Goat cheese Brushetta, chips and salsa/guacamole.

Desert: Lemon cheese cake with blue berries

The presentation will be delivered by 21 Club member Dr. Bernd Bassalleck. Details concerning the dinner selections and presentations will be posted as usual on the club web site (<http://21club.unm.edu>).

#### **Presentation Abstract**

Strange Physics in a Strange Land.....

Home of \$15 Cantaloupes and “Fresh Life & Delicious The Street”

For more than three decades I have worked with Japanese colleagues in Strangeness Nuclear Physics, a subfield of Nuclear Physics, both in the US and in Japan. In this talk I will combine a brief physics introduction with comments and some stories about working, living, and traveling in Japan.

Strangeness Nuclear Physics focuses on inserting one or more strange quarks into nuclear systems. The strange quark is one of six fundamental constituents of matter that feel the strong or nuclear force. It provides a unique and distinguishable probe of such systems, distinguishable from the other quarks that make up ordinary atomic nuclei. This physics extends from few-quark exotics all the way to theories about neutron stars.

In recent years this research has been and continues to be centered in Japan. The second part of my presentation will consist of some observations about working and living in that fascinating, intriguing, and sometimes strange country. I plan to conclude with some travel scenes to beautiful areas that my wife and I have visited over the years.

### **Brief Biographical Sketch**

PhD, 1977, University of Karlsruhe, Germany  
(Experimental Nuclear & Particle Physics @ CERN, Geneva,  
Switzerland)

1977 - 1981, Postdoctoral Research Positions at the University of  
British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, and at Carnegie Mellon  
University, Pittsburgh, PA

1982 - present, Faculty Member in Physics & Astronomy at UNM

2002 - 2012, Chair of Physics & Astronomy

> 300 co-authored, refereed publications, 10 PhD students,  
secured or helped to secure >\$10M in research funding from  
(mainly) the Department of Energy, the National Science  
Foundation, and Brookhaven National Lab

Currently enjoying status as a "working retiree" at UNM