# Physics Colloquium

# Friday, September 4, 2015 4:10 – 5:00 PM EPS103

## How to Be a Part of Montana's Growing Photonics Industry

### Dr. Larry Johnson, President of the Montana Photonics Industry Alliance

#### **Abstract:**

Southwestern Montana has one of the highest per capita concentrations of optics and photonics companies in the United States. With over 30 organizations, rapid growth, and high paying jobs, the photonics industry promises to be an important part of Montana's economy in the 21st century. In this Colloquium you will learn more about Montana's photonics industry, how one of Montana's early photonics companies became a world leader, and what opportunities there are for you in the future.

## **Biographical note:**

Dr. Larry Johnson is the President of the Montana Photonics Industry Alliance, a consortium of optics and photonics companies in southwest Montana. Prior to serving in this position Larry was the founder of ILX Lightwave Corporation and served as the company's President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Directors from its inception in 1986 until it was purchased by Newport Corporation in 2012. Prior to ILX Larry was a development group leader at Rosemount Inc where he was responsible for the development of fiber optic sensors for industrial applications. Prior to 1983 Larry held a number of technical positions in aerospace and government laboratories where his work focused on electrooptical systems for defense and environmental monitoring. Dr. Johnson holds MS and PhD degrees in Optical Sciences from the University of Arizona and an undergraduate degree in Engineering Physics from the Colorado School of Mines.

#### Host:

**Rufus Cone** 

\*\*\* Refreshments served in the EPS second floor atrium at 3:45 \*\*\*