

Garfinkel Lectureship

The Boris Garfinkel Lectureship Fund is an Astronomy Department endowed fund originating from a gift by Boris Garfinkel. The official purpose of the gift is described in the following: "The net income is to be used to defray the expenses of visiting lecturers in celestial mechanics and related subjects who may be invited by the Chairman of the Department of Astronomy." In 2009, the net income from the fund was ~\$5K.

These funds are to be used to invite one person each year for a special named colloquium, "The Garfinkel Lecture" (or series of talks, "The Garfinkel Lectures") in the field of dynamical astronomy (the modern equivalent of celestial mechanics). Identifying and inviting this person will be the responsibility of the faculty colloquium organizer. The Garfinkel Lectureship funds will be used to pay the speaker's expenses plus a \$1K honorarium. We will encourage the Garfinkel Lecturer to visit the department for up to a week, so that they can interact with students, postdocs, and faculty members. On average the total cost for the Garfinkel Lecturer will be \$2-3K per year (in 2009 dollars).

In addition, the expenses of any regular colloquium speakers who speak on topics in dynamical astronomy can be paid by this fund, rather than department GA funds.

In addition, this fund can pay the expenses for invited speakers at workshops or conferences held at Yale, or sponsored by Yale, if the topic of the workshop or conference is in the field of dynamical astronomy. Such an event is expected to occur only occasionally, but could easily use the yearly income plus any accumulated balance when it does occur.

In addition, the Garfinkel Lectureship funds may also be used for public lectures at the Leitner Observatory and Planetarium, if such a lecture is given by a visitor and involves dynamical astronomy.

In addition, these funds can help pay the salary of Lecturers who teach Yale Astronomy Department courses in a field of dynamical astronomy (e.g. Stellar Dynamics).

last updated: 5/11/09 JDK