

## Physics Today for a Brighter Tomorrow

Susan Coppersmith and Brenda Lopez

In conjunction with the 2006 March meeting in Baltimore, in addition to sponsoring the Congressional visits by APS members, DCMP, DAMOP, and DCOMP jointly sponsored a reception in the Rayburn Foyer of the Rayburn Congressional Office Building in Washington DC to talk about science with Congressional Representatives, their staff members, and others (including NSF Director Arden L. Bement, Jr.). The event was co-sponsored by Reps. Rush Holt and Vernon Ehlers, the two physics Ph.D.'s in Congress. Our message: physics research is vital to America's economy and our children's futures (and it's fun!). Equipped with an arsenal of physics demonstrations, we showed congress people and their staffers that the physics discoveries in the areas covered by the APS March Meeting are both interesting and important.



Prof. Sid Nagel (right) and graduate student Sarah Case (left) demonstrate the strange behaviors of granular materials to Meg Warnement, staff member of Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH-1st).

Events of this type remind our country's political leaders that science involves real people who make real changes in the world by discovering real things.



Prof. Sid Nagel (left) demonstrates the properties of materials to Prof. Myriam Sarachik and U.S. Rep. Vernon J. Ehlers as Prof. Leo Kadanoff (right) looks on.



Graduate student Panos Oikonomou demonstrates the properties of materials to Walton Irving, 12-year-old son of Vicki Irving, staff member of Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA-47th).

Dr. William Phillips and Congressman Rush Holt (D-NJ-12th).

