

# *Physics Colloquium Series*

## *"What Determines the Maximum Size of Trees? Investigations of Physical and Biological Limits to Tree Growth and Size"*

*What determines maximum tree size is a simple question but there is no simple answer. Trees must deal with the physical challenge of moving vital fluids like water across long distances and against gravity, metabolic costs that increase with tree size, obtaining nutrients from soils, mechanical stability constraints, and evolutionary forces. This talk will review some new insights into this long standing question.*

***Prof. Nathan Phillips***  
(Physics Alumnus Honoree, Class of 1989)  
*Boston University, Geography Dept.*

**Thursday, October 7, 2004**

**4:00-5:20 PM MND 1015**

**OPEN & FREE TO ALL STUDENTS & FACULTY**