Yale physicist will offer insights into search for Higgs Boson particle

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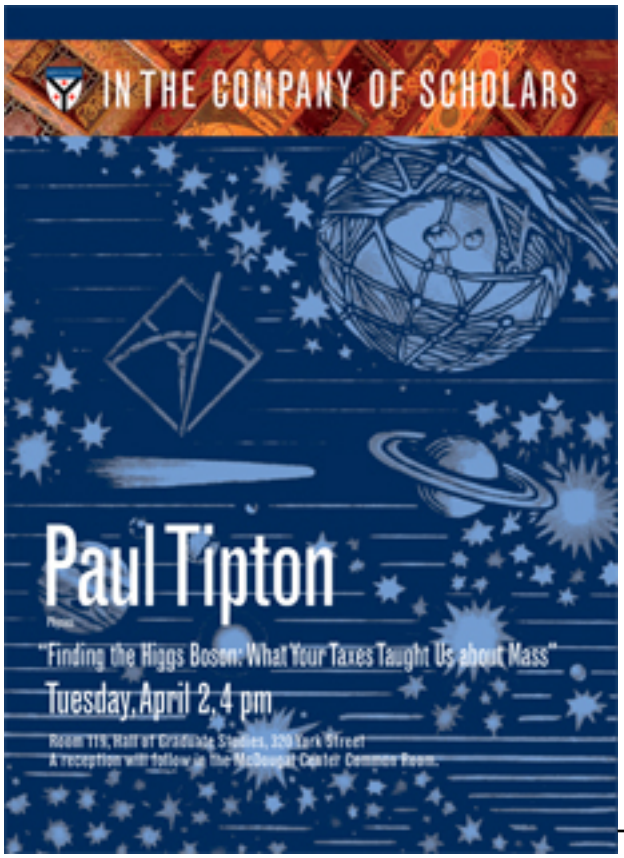

The discovery of the Higgs Boson particle is the focus of the next talk in the Graduate School's In the Company of Scholars lecture series.

Titled "Finding the Higgs Boson: What Your Taxes Taught Us About Mass," the talk will be presented at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, by Yale physics professor Paul Tipton. It will be held in Rm. 119, Hall of Graduate Studies, 320 York St. A reception will follow. The talk, which is free and open to the public, will also be broadcast live on Yale's YouTube channel [1].

"Experiments at CERN have announced statistically compelling evidence for a new state with properties that roughly match those expected for the Higgs Boson, one of the last puzzle pieces in the standard model of particle physics," notes Tipton. In his talk, he will discuss the historical and scientific context of the Higgs search, the search itself, and the evidence for the new particle state.

"The search for the Higgs has taught us lessons beyond science," adds Tipton, who will also explore those lessons in his talk.

Tipton is chair of the physics department. Of his own scientific interests, he writes: "My research is in experimental elementary particle physics. I am part of the ATLAS

experiment at the LHC, at CERN in Geneva Switzerland, and the CDF experiment at Fermilab, outside of Chicago. I am looking for signatures of new interactions or new objects, like for example, a fundamental particle that would explain the astronomical evidence for dark matter."

In the Company of Scholars is sponsored by Thomas D. Pollard, dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. Earlier lectures this year featured Yale historian Beverly Gage talking about "J. Edgar Hoover and the Rise of Modern Conservatism,"; [2]political scientist Jacob Hacker on the theme "Is American Politics Undermining the American Dream?" [3]; and religious studies scholar Kathryn Lofton discussing "Religion and the Practice of American Parenting." [4]

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