**COLLOQUIUM**

Department of Physics

**Nuclear Weapons: Hiroshima to Today**

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**Abstract**

The importance of nuclear weapons and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is highlighted by the intense debate about the Iran agreement. An overview of the nuclear arms race will be presented with some lessons from history. Discussions about preventing proliferation and use started in the secrecy of the Manhattan Project, continued in public during the rapid cold war buildup to the present era of gradual arms control. The central role of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, the Iran agreement, and a personal view of the future outlook to prevent future nuclear weapons use will be presented.

Aron Bernstein is Professor of Physics, Emeritus, MIT. His physics research has focused on experimental tests of the symmetries of the standard model (chiral symmetry and  anomaly). He has followed the nuclear arms race carefully since the Cuban Missile Crisis, has taught courses on this subject, and has done research on arms control issues such as the dangers posed by the Russian and US short ballistic missile launch times. He is a National Board Member of the Council for a Livable World

 **Monday, October 19, 2015, 3:00 pm**

 **SERC, Room 110A**

 **Coffee will be served at 2:45 pm**