



Department of Physics Colloquium

February 20, 2023



3:00 PM

Einstein and Schrödinger's Pursuit of a Unified Field Theory

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After Einstein published his general theory of relativity, a masterful geometric description of gravitation that superseded Newton's, he found it incomplete. He spent the last three decades of his life searching in vain for a unified field theory joining general relativity with Maxwell's equations of electromagnetism and explaining the behavior of electrons without probabilistic quantum transitions. During part of that quest Schrödinger joined him, until, sensing success with a very similar unified approach, claimed victory on his own. After the international press proclaimed Schrödinger's so-called triumph over Einstein, their friendship and collaboration became a bitter dispute, until both of their similar theories were ultimately proven incorrect. The talk is based on the book *Einstein's Dice and Schrödinger's Cat*.

This colloquium will be held in-person, at SERC 116
unless announced otherwise.