Abstract for an Invited Paper for the APR07 Meeting of The American Physical Society

## Daniel Heineman Prize: The Quest for Quantum Gravity

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Finding a consistent theory that incorporates both quantum mechanics and general relativity is extremely hard, and no complete solution exists. In string theory, the progress toward this goal has proceeded through a series of often unexpected discoveries. I describe one such step, the discovery of D-branes, and discuss how this fits into the present and future direction of string theory.