Abstract Submitted for the DAMOP15 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Developing a Parametric Downconversion Apparatus for Single-Photon Experiments in Quantum Optics STEPHEN DIIORIO, Union Coll — We report our progress toward developing a parametric downconversion apparatus for studying single-photon quantum optics in undergraduate laboratory classes, following the model of Galvez, et al. (Galvez, E. J., et al., Am. J. Phys. 73, 2 (2005)). We pump a beta barium borate (BBO) crystal with a 405nm diode laser to produce correlated pairs of single-photons that we detect using avalanche photodiodes (APD). We can conduct coincidence and anti-coincidence counts and a measurement of the degree of second-order coherence with the apparatus, and we expect to report on single- and bi-photon interferometry experiments.

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Date submitted: 02 Feb 2015 Electronic form version 1.4