

MAR09-2008-020387

Abstract for an Invited Paper  
for the MAR09 Meeting of  
the American Physical Society

**Physics in Africa: The Case of South Africa**

MZAMO P. MANGALISO, National Research Foundation, South Africa & University of Massachusetts, Amherst

South Africa plays a special role in building science throughout Africa. The areas of science, particularly those related to physics, which are being developed, will be described together with the involvement of other African countries. Data will be presented that demonstrate the high attrition rate that exists especially in the science track PhD pipeline and highlight the bottleneck at the honors (fourth year) level. Programs designed to overcome this will be presented, and their success discussed. Thoughts on how to go about expanding the interactions between US scientists and South African scientists as well as with African scientists will be presented.