SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2015

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
PUBLIC LECTURE
Centennial Hall — Skogen Auditorium A, Room 1400
4:30 p.m. Reception Refreshments served in the Cameron Hall of Nations
5 p.m. THE FRONTIERS OF FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS
At the frontiers of physics we search for the principles that might unify all the forces of nature and we strive to understand the origin and history of the universe. In this lecture Gross will describe some of the questions we ask and some of the proposed answers. He will also discuss what it might mean to have a final theory of fundamental physics and whether we are capable of discovering it.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
PHYSICS SEMINAR
Centennial Hall — Skogen Auditorium A, Room 1400
3:20 p.m. The Enduring Legacy of Albert Einstein
As we celebrate 100 years of General Relativity, Gross will discuss Einstein’s enduring legacy. The Einsteinian revolution changed forever the way we think about space-time and the universe and still shapes current research at the frontiers of fundamental physics and cosmology.

David Gross, Ph.D., 2004 Nobel Laureate in Physics

David Gross is the Frederick Gluck Professor of Theoretical Physics and former Director of the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics at UCSB. He received his Ph.D. in 1966 at UC Berkeley and was previously Thomas Jones Professor of Mathematical Physics at Princeton University. He has been a central figure in particle physics and string theory. His discovery, with his student Frank Wilczek, of asymptotic freedom—the primary feature of non-Abelian gauge theories—led Gross and Wilczek to the formulation of Quantum Chromodynamics, the theory of the strong nuclear force. This completed the Standard Model, which details the three basic forces of particle physics – the electromagnetic force, the weak force, and the strong force. Gross was awarded the 2004 Nobel Prize in Physics, with Politzer and Wilczek, for this discovery. He has also made seminal contributions to the theory of Superstrings, a burgeoning enterprise that brings gravity into the quantum framework. His awards include the Sakurai Prize, MacArthur Prize, Dirac Medal, Oscar Klein Medal, Harvey Prize, the EPS Particle Physics Prize, the Grande Medaille d’Or and the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004. He holds honorary degrees from the U.S., Britain, France, Israel, Brazil, Belgium and China. His membership includes the US National Academy of Science, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the Indian Academy of Science and the Chinese Academy of Science.

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