

**Physics Colloquium Friday October 21, 2011 – 4pm PSC 3046 – coffee at 3:30**

**On the Trail of Smuggler's Booty:  
the modest ZEEP reactor and its impact**

Dr. Randall Brooks  
V-P and Chief Curator (ret'd)  
Canada Science and Technology Museum Corp.  
Ottawa

This presentation will begin with a brief introduction to the mandate and collection of the CSTMC and its 3 museums. The CSTM has approximately 8,000 artefacts in its scientific apparatus collection, with many related to the nuclear industry in Canada. The most significant is the ZEEP nuclear reactor -- the first to go critical outside the US. It and Canada's nuclear industry are all tied to an event in Norway in 1940 -- the smuggling of heavy water to France. We will follow the trail of the event and the heavy water to see how it determined Canada's nuclear path and the individuals that were instrumental in making it happen. We will also look at the war-time relations with the US and the post-war impact on the nuclear industries of Britain, France, India and other countries. Who knew a bit of water could have such an impact?