

SE&T Colloquium Series-Winter 2014

Speaker	Dr. Cameron Reed Charles A. Dana Professor of Physics Alma College
Title	<i>An Overview of the Manhattan Project: Making the First Generation of Nuclear Weapons</i> Host: Professor Laurie Reed
Abstract	<p>In the summer of 1942, the United States Army Corps of Engineers formally established the “Manhattan Engineer District” to undertake the development of weapons that would draw their power from the energy released in the nuclear fission of uranium and plutonium. By mid-1945 the resulting “Manhattan Project” employed over one hundred thousand workers, cost nearly two billion dollars, and produced bombs that helped bring World War II to an end while simultaneously establishing the basis of American postwar global influence. In this talk, which is aimed at a general audience, I will review the scientific background of the Manhattan Project, how the Project was organized and carried out, the effects of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the current state of worldwide nuclear weapons deployments.</p>
Date	Tuesday, March 25
Time	4:10-5:00pm
Place	Pioneer 240
	Refreshments will be served at 4:00pm.