

Rotational Force: Riding the Coriolis Carousel

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Featured speaker

Boyd Edwards, PhD, physicist
Professor, Department of Physics, Utah State University

John Edwards, PhD, computer scientist
Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science,
Utah State University

[Coriolis Carousel: Short](#)

[Coriolis Carousel: Demo](#)

[Coriolis Carousel: Safety](#)

Date

Friday, January 19, 2024

7 p.m. [Eccles Science Learning Center](#),

Emert Auditorium, Room ESLC 130

Hands-on learning activities and refreshments follow the talk in the Eccles Science Learning Center atrium.

Admission is free and all ages are welcome.

[Directions and Parking Information](#)

Talk Description

Why do things get weird when you're rotating, and where do all these weird forces from rotation come from?

Physicist Boyd Edwards and computer scientist John Edwards – who happen to be brothers – team up to help

us understand these “weird” phenomena, with a little help from French scientist Gaspard-Gustave de Coriolis (1792-1843). Coriolis first described the inertial force (named for him) that a body experiences, when it moves with respect to a rotating frame of reference.

Sound confusing? Drs. Edwards and Edwards will sort it out for us, as they demonstrate, using a carousel, the centrifugal and Coriolis forces that we experience in rotating frames of reference. It will be an active, fun and spinning approach to science!