A Letter from the Author: Roger Freedman
on University Physics, 15th edition

Dear Colleague,

I’m excited to share with you the 15th edition of University Physics by Young and Freedman, the leading textbook for the calculus-based introductory physics course. University Physics has always emphasized helping students develop both conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills. In the 15th edition we’ve further enhanced these strengths of the book by adding two new features: Key Concepts that accompany every worked Example, and Key Example Variation Problems designed to enhance students’ problem-solving skills.

The common student lament, “I understand the concepts, I just can’t solve the problems”, shows that students find it challenging to apply physics concepts to problem-solving. To assist them with this, we’ve added Key Concepts to every worked Example in University Physics. These supplement the ISEE rubric (Identify, Set up, Execute, Evaluate) that’s used in all worked Examples, and also serve as a useful tool for students reviewing the key ideas of a chapter.

Students also find it challenging to go from the worked Examples to being able to solve problems on their own. To assist them with this, we’ve added a Guided Practice section to every chapter of University Physics. Immediately after each chapter Summary is a set of twelve Key Example Variation Problems or KEVPs. As the name suggests, these are problems that are slight variations of some of the most important worked Examples in the chapter. The students can solve the KEVPs using the same ideas and techniques presented in the Examples, and can check their work by referring to the answers provided on the last page of the chapter. They can then go on to solve the Bridging Problem that follows the KEVPs, in which they are given guidance on how to solve a more complex problem. These tools will help your students be more successful when they tackle homework and exam problems.

In addition to the new Key Concepts and Key Example Variation Problems, the 15th edition of University Physics incorporates a host of other features. These include an approachable writing style aimed at today’s students, CAUTION paragraphs that confront common student errors and misconceptions, and close integration with the MasteringPhysics online homework and tutorial system. We’ve also enhanced the end-of-chapter Exercises and Problems, and streamlined and updated the text where appropriate.

I think both you and your students will appreciate the enhancements that we’ve added to the 15th edition of University Physics, and that this new edition will help your students understand physics and do physics. I hope you’ll share your experiences and those of your students with us.

Thanks for considering our book!

Sincerely,
Roger
Roger A. Freedman
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