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Physics Digest

News, info, and updates for Ph.D. students in Physics at UW–Madison

February 5th, 2021

Announcements

UMB Research Study Seeks Participants

We are currently seeking participants for a brief 20-minute research study designed to understand the impact of COVID-19 and systemic racism on graduate Women of Color's mental health and STEM persistence. If you are interested in participating in this study, please click the link [here](#). If you have any questions about the research study, please feel free to email the principal investigator, [Kerrie Wilkins-Yel](#).

Black History Month - University of Wisconsin–Madison

Check out the various ways that UW-Madison is celebrating Black History Month.

APS March Meeting Job Expo

date: March 16th-18th, 2021

You do not need to be registered for the March Meeting and participation is FREE for job seekers! Registering for this event does not give you access to the March Meeting. If you wish to attend the scientific sessions, register separately for the meeting on the [website](#).

COVID-19 Updates

Be sure to check out the latest updates for spring semester as there are many new procedures for testing and accessing campus buildings.

On-campus spaces available to students for virtual learning and exams

If students specifically need a quiet space to take an exam, they can [request an exam room reservation](#) for one or more of their online exams. Computers can also be requested. For questions, please email [Mary Thompson](#).

Payroll Schedule Change Coming in July

In July 2021, the UW System will move all employees who are currently paid monthly to a biweekly payroll schedule. In addition, most benefits deductions will be divided evenly between the biweekly paychecks.

Thesis Defenses

Electron-electron interactions in Si/SiGe Quantum Dots

Date: March 8th, 2021; 2:00 PM

Ekmel Ercan, Physics PhD Graduate Student, will defend his thesis.

Upcoming Events

Department of Physics Event Calendar

See the departmental events calendar to be sure you don't miss any of the upcoming seminars, workshops, or journal clubs, workshops!

Student Affairs: Campus Happenings

See the UW Student Affairs news website and scroll to the "current happenings" listing each week.

Spring 2021 Virtual Career Fairs

Date: February 10th-25th, 2021

A full listing of all virtual career fairs on Handshake can be viewed [here](#).

Professional Development

The following items are event highlights from the UW-Madison Graduate School Office of Professional Development:

Navigating Job Negotiations for Graduate Students

Date: February 9th, 2021; 12:00–1:30 PM CST (Online)

Don't leave money on the table! This hands-on workshop will help you identify your "non-negotiables", and learn and practice proven strategies for negotiation, a critical part of the job offer/acceptance process.

Graduate Student Interest Groups

The following opportunities for students to meet other graduate students and share their interest in a particular topic, or just have time to work together, are ongoing.

- [Work-Life Integration and Priority Management](#)

Every other Monday (Next meeting is Feb 8) | 4:00–5:00 PM CST

- [Prelim Preparation](#)

Every other Tuesday (Next meeting is Feb 9) | 4:00–5:00 PM CST

- [Job Market Preparation](#)

Every other Wednesday (Next meeting is Feb 10) | 4:00–5:00 PM CST

- [Virtual Coworking Space \(Virtual Coffee Shop\)](#)

Every Thursday (Next meeting is Feb 3) | 4:00–5:00 PM CST

Investment and Retirement Planning Session for Graduate Students

Date: March 2nd, 2021; 1:00–2:30 PM CST (Online)

In this interactive workshop, Linda Lepe, CFP & Faculty Associate in the Personal Finance Program (SoHE), will share best practices for retirement planning and prioritizing expenses, loans, savings, and investments during and after graduate school. Leave with personalized financial goals and a plan and resources to accomplish them.

Employment Opportunities

Post-doctoral Fellowships in Atomic Physics and Quantum Optics at Ben-Gurion University, Israel

Deadline: February 25th, 2021

Post-doctoral researchers in the field of quantum optics, cold atoms, Bose-Einstein condensation, matter-wave interferometry, atom spectroscopy, magnetometry, and Quantum Physics in general are invited to apply. Students can apply for an International Postdoctoral Fellowships sponsored by the [Zuckerman leadership program](#).

Zurich Instruments internship opportunities

Date: Summer 2021

We are happy to share that Zurich Instruments will be offering two internship opportunities exclusively for [CQE students](#) starting summer 2021. You can contact [Maja Lang](#) for more information.

Funding Opportunities

Straka Fellowship

Deadline: March 7th, 2021

This Fellowship will support a middle-class, middle-income dissertator. One dissertator will be selected for a 12-month fellowship with a \$28,000 stipend, full tuition and segregated fees, and access to health insurance.

Dickie Fellowship

Deadline: March 7th, 2021

This Fellowship will support a UW-Madison graduate student who lived in Sauk County, WI at the time of matriculation at the UW-Madison. One graduate student will be selected for a 9-month fellowship with a \$22,909 stipend, full tuition and segregated fees, and access to health insurance.

Spring 2021 Student Research Grant Competition awards

Deadline: June 30th, 2021

Funding for these awards generously comes from the Vilas Trust. Award levels are \$1,200 to \$1,500 for Research Travel and \$1,200 for Conference Presentation funds. Please apply [here](#).

Connect with us!



Department of Physics

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This newsletter is for Ph.D. students in Physics at UW–Madison; we update the mailing list at the start of each semester. Please contact phddigest@physics.wisc.edu with any questions.