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Physics Digest

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

January 22nd, 2021

Announcements

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.

Vacant Graduate Student Seat on ULC

Graduate students interested in serving on ULC will need to apply through The ASM Shared Governance Committee. They may also reach out with questions [here](#).

Enroll for Spring 2021: Deadline 1/29/2021

The [deadline](#) to enroll for Spring 2021 is Friday, January 29th. The Physics 990 research class numbers can be found [here](#). Contact [Michelle Holland](#) with any questions.

Inventions, Patents and Beyond

Tom Krupenkin (renowned inventor) will offer a this course this spring. This course is open to all UW Madison students.

Union launches new winter activity event series

Date: January 5th-February. 14th, 2021

The Wisconsin Union team will hold wintertime activities — including night hikes, photo opportunities, crafts and a scavenger hunt — during a new event series called [Winter Wonderland](#).

Spring 2021 Course - Research Mentor Training Practicum (INTEGSCI 660, 1 credit)

Practicum course for graduate, post-doctoral or senior undergraduate students to be taken concurrently while mentoring an undergraduate engaged in an independent research experience.

Nominations to the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honors Society

Deadline: January 31st, 2021

The purpose of the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society is to recognize outstanding scholarly achievement and promote diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate. All PhD

students who reach dissertator status before the start of the Spring 2021 semester and postdoctoral researchers can apply.

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.

Physics and Astronomy Anti-Racism Coalition (PAARC) Event

Date: January 31st-31st, 2021

The PAARC Fair is a weekend retreat where physicists and astronomers interested in DEI can come together to share strategies and engage in collective action.

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:

Winter Professional Development Challenge

Date: January 1–31, 2021 (Online)

Complete at least five activities in January to earn a limited-edition long sleeve shirt while investing in yourself at the same time! Professional development activities on a variety of topics will be revealed on the Winter Professional Development Challenge webpage beginning on the January 1 launch date. Stay tuned...

Exploring Practices in the Classroom. Remote Teaching and Learning

Date, January 26th, 2021; 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

This interdisciplinary learning community of TAs will help you develop an effective, inclusive remote classroom as well as navigate teaching challenges as they emerge throughout the semester.

DELTA: Teaching in Science and Engineering: The College Classroom

Date: January 27th, 2021; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Develop foundational knowledge of evidence-based pedagogical practices, explore how excellence and diversity are intertwined, and practice new teaching approaches in a supportive environment.

DELTA: Book Club: Black, Brown, Bruised, talking about race and STEM education

Date: January 27th, 2021; 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

We invite anyone and everyone to join us for a book club and community conversation around [Black, Brown, Bruised: How Racialized STEM Education Stifles Innovation](#) by Dr. Ebony Omotola McGee.

DELTA: Research Mentor Training

Dates: Tuesdays, 2:10PM – 3:00PM, starting January 26

Wednesdays, 9:30AM – 10:30AM, starting January 27

Thursdays, 4:00PM – 5:00PM, starting January 28

Explore strategies to become a more effective, culturally responsive mentor, and discuss mentoring challenges as they arise.

Understanding and Overcoming Procrastination

Date: January 28th, 2021; 5:30–6:30 PM

The goal for this workshop for graduate students, presented by James Gresh, M.S., UHS, will be to better understand why we procrastinate and to explore strategies to overcome our procrastination tendencies.

Successful Online Learning

Asynchronous/On-Demand (Online)

Explore strategies to prepare to learn remotely, engage in your courses, and maximize your time. This module is for grad students taking their first online courses or those looking for some new resources on online learning.

The DELTA Program Offerings:

Interested in semester-long support for teaching remotely?

Join a learning community of fellow TAs by enrolling in the Delta course [Exploring Practices in the Classroom: Remote Teaching & Learning](#)

Hoping to jumpstart your semester with a few TA workshops?

Consider signing up for Delta's workshops on [Holding Remote Office Hours that Students Use, Designing and Facilitating Remote Discussions](#), and [Teaching Inclusively & Equitably from the First Day of Class](#).

Looking for drop-in conversations with other TAs to troubleshoot problems and share tips?

Check out Delta's [TA Teaching and Learning Hour](#), a weekly opportunity to address challenges together with your peers.

Why Capable Students Suffer from Impostor Syndrome and How to Thrive in Spite of It

Date: February 2nd, 2021; 11:00 AM–1:00 PM

Millions of people around the world secretly worry they're not as bright and capable as other people "think" they are. Join us for an interactive presentation led by speaker and author Dr. Valerie Young.

3MT® Finals

Date: February 3rd, 2021; 6:00–7:00 PM

Three Minute Thesis® or 3MT® is an international competition in which graduate students explain their research to a general audience in three minutes or less. Join us to watch the finalist presentations, hear from the competitors, vote on the People's Choice award, and see the winners announced!

Employment Opportunities

P33 Quantum Council Fellowships

Deadline: January 22nd, 2021

It is a 12-month, paid, part-time opportunity for quantum researchers to engage with and shape the Illinois quantum ecosystem in partnership with the P33 Quantum Council. Please apply [here](#).

TA opening in Kinesiology for Spring (33.3%)

Kines 318: Biomechanics – 33.3% (Tuition waiver and \$1,517/month stipend). A TA for Kines 318 will be responsible for teaching laboratory sessions (Fridays), website maintenance, grading assignments, and student interactions via email and office hours. Further questions can be directed to the instructor, Professor [Kreg Gruben](#)

Research assistant for novelist Chloe Benjamin

Deadline: January 29th, 2021

Chloe Benjamin, author of [The Anatomy of Dreams](#), (Edna Ferber Fiction Book Prize) and [The Immortalists](#), is working on her third novel. Subjects will range from the micro (what kind of car might a social worker have driven in Dane County in 1983?) to the macro (an overview, for example, of major developments in soil science during a certain number of years). She anticipates a rough average of 10 hours per week at \$25/hr for the spring semester. If interested, please send a cover letter and CV [here](#).

Public Engagement Programs Manager

The American Physical Society (APS) is looking for Public Engagement Programs Manager. Please apply [here](#), if interested.

Postdoctoral Appointee Quantum Information Science

Seeking postdoctoral scholars to join the Simulation & Systems Thrust of the Q-NEXT National Quantum Information Science Research Center at Argonne National Laboratory.

Please contact [Martin Suchara](#) with any questions.

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](#).

Funding Opportunities

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.