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# Physics Digest

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

July 16th, 2021

## Announcements

### Payroll Schedule Changes Are Here

Effective in the next few weeks, UW System will move employees and graduate students on the monthly payroll schedule to the biweekly payroll schedule. The first change employees will experience as part of the move to the biweekly payroll is receiving a partial monthly paycheck on July 30 for time worked July 1 – July 17. On August 12, employees will receive their first biweekly paycheck for time worked July 18 – July 31. If you have automatic payments set up (for example, rent, car loan, utilities, etc.), review your monthly budget and prepare for biweekly paychecks. You may want to adjust your automatic payments to match your biweekly paycheck amounts. Visit the [Single Payroll resources web page](#) for frequently asked questions, budget planning information and [updated 2021 payroll schedules](#). Additional resources include [pay date models](#), [guides on updating contributions and withholdings](#), and a [paycheck estimator](#).

### DEI Micro-Courses Available

The Office of Inclusion Education and UW-Madison Libraries, have partnered to develop two online micro-courses to expand your knowledge of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). These non-graded, self-paced and interactive professional learning objects aim to expand learners' knowledge of social justice, including race in your classroom and facilitating discussions around racial topics. To participate in these micro-courses, click [here](#).

### Add Your Pronouns to Zoom

Effective now you can add your pronouns to your UW-Madison Zoom profile. Click [here](#) for instructions.

### 10 Things to Do on Campus This Summer

Are you in Madison and looking for more things to do this Summer? The Division of Student Affairs has you covered with a great list of [10 Must-Dos on campus this #UWSummer](#).

### MS&E Fall Elective Courses

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering invites you to explore our exciting array of elective courses! Below you will find a list of selected MS&E elective courses that may be of interest to Chemistry or Physics students. The below list contains the name of each course and course instructor. [Attached](#) is also a

compilation of each select course's summary and advertisement. Please feel free to reach out to the instructor with any questions.

MSE 401: Inorganic and Organic Hybrid Materials (Dawei Feng)  
MSE 448: Crystallography and X-ray Diffraction (Chang-Beom Eom)  
MSE 521: Advanced Polymeric Materials (Padma Gopalan)  
MSE 748: Structural Analysis of Materials (Paul Voyles)  
MSE 756: Advanced Electronic Materials (Mike Arnold)  
MSE 760: Molecular Modeling in Materials Science (Dane Morgan)

### **COVID-19 Vaccination & Campus Operations Update**

The Office of the Chancellor sent out an update concerning [what to expect this fall](#) in the university response to COVID-19. As a reminder, University Health Services (UHS) has COVID-19 vaccine appointments available for employees and students. UHS is also now able to offer vaccines to anyone who lives, works or studies in Wisconsin, including friends and family of UW–Madison students and employees. For more information and to schedule a vaccine appointment, click [here](#).

### **Fall 2021 Enrollment Happening Now!**

[Fall 2021 enrollment began on April 12th](#). If you need to enroll in Physics 990, please review the instructions for adding by course number and the Physics 990 course numbers for Fall 2021 [here](#). The Graduate School maintains a policy page on [minimum enrollment requirements](#). For questions, contact [Jackson Kennedy](#).

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## **Thesis Defenses**

### **Multi-messenger Astrophysics**

*Date: July 26th, 2021; 11 AM*

Raamis Hussain (Justin Vandenbroucke, Faculty Advisor), Physics PhD Graduate Student, will defend their thesis.

### **Many-body Theory of Collective Neutrino Oscillations**

*Date: August 6th, 2021; 4:00 PM*

Michael Cervia (Baha Balantekin, Faculty Advisor), Physics PhD Graduate Student, will defend their thesis.

### **Untriggered Searches for Astrophysical Neutrino Transients Using Data from the IceCube Neutrino Observatory**

*Date: August 19th, 2021; 2:00 PM*

Will Luszczak (Albrecht Karle, Faculty Advisor), Physics PhD Graduate Student, will defend their thesis.

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## **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.

### **Volunteers Needed: DOE Grad Fair**

*Date: July 22nd, 2021; 12-5 PM*

UW-Madison will be participating in the upcoming Department of Energy Grad Fair next week. More information about the fair is attached [here](#). There will be faculty and graduate student representatives from Physics and Engineering at the UW booth in shifts throughout the five-hour long fair. If you are interested in serving as a graduate student representative, please contact [Michelle Holland](#) as soon as possible.

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## **Professional Development**

### **Chicago Quantum Exchange Summer Workshop Series**

*Date: July 8, July 22, August 19; 12 – 1 PM CT*

The Chicago Quantum Exchange, NSF QLCI on Hybrid Quantum Architectures and Networks (HQAN), and Q-NEXT are pleased to invite our members and partners to our joint Summer Workshop Series: a virtual series on different perspectives on quantum technology commercialization and career pathways. The workshops will be held on Thursdays July 8, July 22, and August 19 at 12pm CST, with optional networking afterward. Please click [here](#) to register.

### **UW-Madison Teaching Academy: 2021 TA-LEaP**

*Date: August 25th-26th, 2021*

LEaP into teaching! Learn the basics of how we learn along with the 7 things UW-Madison students want most from their instructors! Explore the basics of syllabus, assignment and rubric design. Discuss assessment and learn the most common mistakes instructors make on exams, and how to avoid them! Learn simple active learning techniques that you can apply in your classroom immediately and start developing materials for your own course while you learn! Become part of a community of practice with colleagues in all disciplines and get connected to other teaching and learning programs across the campus through the Teaching and Learning Collaborative.

### **Women in Science Conference**

*Date: September 18th-19th, 2021*

The Women in Science Conference (WISC) invites graduate students to attend and to apply to present their research. WISC is a conference led by graduate students with the intent of providing other women and gender minorities in STEM with an opportunity to highlight their research, as well as providing networking and career development opportunities with leading professionals in the field. Those attending the conference will be able to present their research through poster and oral presentations, participate in career development workshops and events, and attend three keynote talks by leading professional women in STEM. Registration is due by September 8th and applications to present and for grants to cover the cost of attendance are due August 20th. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Rising Stars Symposia**

*Date: September 2021*

The University of Chicago invites applications for its 2021 Rising Stars Symposia, which will recognize the achievements of early career researchers working in the fields of Soft and Biological Materials, Quantum Science and Technology, and Experimental Particle Physics. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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## Employment Opportunities

### IDA: Research Staff Analyst

The Naval Warfare Group at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) is hiring a full-time Research Staff Member. IDA is a non-profit Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) under contract with the Department of Defense to provide independent, objective, and rigorous analyses of national security issues. They are interested in American citizens who are either graduate students or post-docs who will be available this summer. For more information and to apply, contact Project Leader [Steve Rabinowitz](#).

### UW-Madison ECE: Graduate Student Researchers

The UW-Madison Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering is hiring graduate students for research starting Fall 2021. The open research positions are in the areas of material growth, device design, and fabrication for electronics, optoelectronics, bio-photonics, and quantum applications. Research expenses, tuition, and stipend will be covered. For more information, click [here](#). To apply, contact [Professor Shubhra Pasayat](#) with relevant coursework, specific research interests, and your resume/CV.

### CNM: Postdoctoral Appointee

The Center for Nanoscale Materials (CNM) is seeking a postdoctoral researcher for the Dissipation-aided Microwave-Optical Entanglement program. The program aims to develop a high-frequency superconducting piezo-optomechanical system combined with dissipation engineering technique to generate highly entangled microwave-optical photons. For more information and apply, click [here](#) and search for requisition number 410139. For questions, contact [Dr. Xu Han](#).

### Q-Next Quantum Information Science Postdoctoral Appointees

The [Q-NEXT Center](#) will be hosting quantum information science postdoctoral openings with start dates in 2021. The postdoctoral scholars will have the opportunity to work at Argonne National Laboratory on projects of strategic national importance in quantum information science. For questions contact [Martin Suchara](#) and to apply, visit [here](#).

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## Useful Links

[Dates and Deadlines from the Office of the Registrar](#)

[Warrant Request Form](#)

[Graduate School Degree Deadlines](#)

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**Connect with us!**



**[Department of Physics](#)**

1150 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706

*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](mailto:phddigest@physics.wisc.edu) with any questions.*