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Physics Digest

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

June 4th, 2021

Announcements

Prepare Now! Payroll Schedule Change Coming in July

UW System employees, including graduate students, who are paid monthly will move to a biweekly payroll schedule beginning in July 2021. 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](#).

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. The UW System is partnering with UW Credit Union for a [Savings & Spending Plan Workshop](#) on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 5 PM CST. Finally, the UW System hosted and recorded single payroll virtual town hall meetings, which can be accessed [here](#).

University Health Services (UHS) Summer Offerings

As enrolled students on campus this summer, all MSPQC students are eligible to utilize services provided by UHS. This summer UHS will be offering [group counseling](#) with 4 groups emphasizing the graduate student experience: the Graduate Student Support Group, Graduate Women Support Group, Graduate Students of Color Group, and Dissertator Support Group. UHS is also offering a Grad Resilience series, which are 1-hour lunch discussions for graduate students on Tuesdays at noon CST. Sign up for this series [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination & Campus Operations Update

The Office of the Chancellor sent out an update this week concerning [face mask requirements](#). See [here](#) for further information concerning building access, travel guidelines, and campus policies for 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](#).

Summer and Fall 2021 Enrollment Happening Now!

[Summer 2021 enrollment began on April 5th and Fall 2021 enrollment began on April 12th](#). The deadline to enroll in Summer 2021 courses is June 18th. If you need to enroll in Physics 990, please review the instructions for adding by course number and the Physics 990 course numbers for Summer 2021 [here](#) and Fall 2021 [here](#). The Graduate School maintains a policy page on [minimum enrollment requirements](#). For questions, contact [Jackson Kennedy](#).

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.

Professional Development

Quantum Computing Tutorial

Date: June 14th - 18th, 2021

The tutorial is designed to provide hands-on experience programming IBM quantum computers using Qiskit and quantum simulators. Participants will learn the basics of how to formulate and solve quantum chemistry and combinatorial optimization problems using Qiskit. For more information, click [here](#) and to register, click [here](#) (you will need to enter the following password to register: quantumcomputing2021).

Summer Teaching Institute at the University of British Columbia

Date: June 14th - June 23rd, 2021; 11:00 AM - 7 PM CST

The CIRTL Summer Institute is an intensive teaching development institute that combines an emphasis on learning evidence and theory-based approaches to teaching and learning with the opportunity to apply those theories in practice. In this institute, grad students and postdocs will gain foundational knowledge in evidence-based teaching and learning theory and apply insights in three mini-teaching sessions using an experiential learning based lesson planning approach. Over the course of 8 days and a mix of synchronous sessions and asynchronous work, you will explore topics like novice/expert learning, evidence-based approaches to goals and objectives, assessment, active learning, and inclusivity.

Transforming Your Research Into Teaching Short Course

Date: Wednesdays, June 16th - July 28th, 2021; 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CST

This is a hybrid course focused on learning the skills of course design and developing a college-level course based on the area of your research expertise. In this course, you will be matched with peers across the country who are developing courses in similar areas for peer review and inspiration. You will also have a learning community, either based out of your institution, or a cross-network learning community to have weekly synchronous meetings for discussion of your projects and what you're learning. The course runs for 6 weeks (with an additional week for project presentations), has one one-hour meeting per week, and

requires around 1.5–2 hours of self-directed video and project development work per week. To register, click [here](#).

Summer Computational Physics Program: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Date: June 23rd - July 16th, 2021

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute will be hosting a boot camp and summer school on computational physics with particular emphasis on applications that require high performance computing. This program will be held entirely online and is open to advanced undergraduates and all levels of graduate students. you can apply for the program [here](#).

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.

Employment Opportunities

UW-Madison Graduate School: Academic Planning & Curricular Analysis

The UW-Madison Graduate School is hiring a 50% project assistant to oversee assigned projects related to academic planning which may include policy research and editing, develop methods of curricular analysis related to GSTS; take lead in identifying appropriate methods and overseeing analysis, and lead in archival efforts of academic planning and shared governance documentation. To apply, click [here](#).

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](#).

Chicago Prize Postdoctoral Fellowship in Theoretical Quantum Science, UChicago

Deadline: July 15th, 2021

Fellowships are awarded for a duration of two years to outstanding young scientists and engineers, with the possibility of a third-year support. Please submit your application [here](#).

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](#).

Useful Links

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

[Warrant Request Form](#)

[Graduate School Degree Deadlines](#)

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.