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Physics Digest

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

September 17th, 2021

Announcements

New Graduate Certificate in Science Communication

The UW-Madison Department of Life Sciences Communication has announced a new [Graduate Certificate in Science Communication](#) this Fall. The department is [building on the success](#) of their [Ph.D. Minor in Life Sciences Communication](#) by increasing access to a transcriptable certificate in science communication that is open to students in any graduate program at UW-Madison. To view open classes in this program and for more information, click [here](#). Contact [Tera Holtz Wagner](#) with any questions.

Flu Shots Available Through UHS

Starting September 13, University Health Services (UHS) will offer flu shots to all students and employees. Campus community members can significantly reduce their chance of becoming ill by getting vaccinated. Visit uhs.wisc.edu/flushots for dates, times, and locations throughout the fall semester.

Thesis Defenses

ITG Turbulence Saturation and Near-Resonant Heat Flux Reduction in Gyrokinetic Dimits-Shift Analysis

Date: September 17th, 2021; 9 AM CT

Ping-Yu Li, Physics PhD Graduate Student (Paul Terry, Faculty Advisor) will defend their thesis.

Correlated Charge Noise and Relaxation Errors in Superconducting Qubits

Date: September 21st, 2021; 2 PM CT

Chris Wilen, Physics PhD Graduate Student (Robert McDermott, Faculty Advisor) will defend their thesis.

Instrumentation and Commissioning of the Prototype Schwarzschild-Couder Telescope Camera

Date: October 5th, 2021; 1 PM CT

Leslie Taylor, Physics PhD Graduate Student (Justin Vandenbroucke, Faculty Advisor) will defend their 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.

Exploring Practices in the Classroom: Navigating Challenges with Inclusive Teaching

Date: Thursdays at 1:20 PM - 3 PM CT

This is an interdepartmental TA learning community open to anyone TAing this fall, whether teaching for the first time or for the hundredth. A central goal of the course (which can be taken for optional credit) is to foster community for TAs while also developing the confidence to respond to conflict in the classroom and promote equity through their actions. This learning community meets on campus Thursdays, 1:20pm – 3:00pm, starting September 16. Click [here](#) for more details and to register.

WiSolve Consulting Group: Informational Sessions

Date: September 28th and 30th, 2021; 6 PM CT

WiSolve Consulting Group is hosting two information sessions this month. WiSolve's mission is to provide graduate students and postdocs with hands-on experience in industry and business while working with clients across a range of sectors and topics, including projects with WARF and D2P. WiSolve works with many local businesses and university affiliated start-ups to provide consulting services that our members lead and execute. In addition, members gain valuable networking and professional development skills through various WiSolve sponsored events. Click [here](#) for more information.

UW-Madison Three Minute Thesis Competition

Deadline: October 14th, 2021

The UW-Madison Graduate School will be hosting the 2021-2022 Three Minute Thesis Competition this Fall. Students in research-based master's and PhD programs from all disciplines are eligible to compete. The deadline to register for the competition is October 14, 2021 and you can click [here](#) to register and for more information.

U.S. Department of Energy Launches 2022 Geothermal Collegiate Competition

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the launch of the 2022 Geothermal Collegiate Competition, organized by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and funded by DOE's Geothermal Technologies Office (GTO). This national competition encourages students to develop innovative solutions for geothermal applications through a year-long project that engages collegiate school teams to analyze geothermal energy for a community or campus application. Full details can be found on the [competition website](#).

Professional Development

QED-C Student Research ePoster Sessions

The Quantum Economic Development Consortium hosts monthly Student Research ePoster Sessions in which students present on their research in quantum computing to a diverse audience of researchers, employers, students, and QED-C community members. Presentations last 10 minutes followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. This is a fantastic opportunity to expand on your presentation skills and to display your prowess in the field of quantum computing. If you are interested in participating, contact [Jackson Kennedy](#).

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Application Workshop Series

Date: Tuesdays September 14th-October 5th, 2021; 3-5 PM CT

The Graduate School is excited to offer a workshop series for incoming and second year graduate and senior undergraduate students in STEM or STEM Education interested in applying for an NSF GRFP fellowship. It is recommended that students register for all events in the series. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

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](#).

Teaching with Empathy and for Equity at the Graduate Level

Date: September 21st, 2021; 1 PM CT

Join facilitator Jessica Calarco, PhD, for this National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity webinar that will discuss how faculty can effectively, efficiently, and inclusively advise, mentor, teach, and support their graduate students. Activate your free (UW-Madison) membership or sign in to watch the webinar [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](#).

CQE: Open Quantum Initiative Workshop

Date: September 22nd - 23rd; 2021

The Open Quantum Initiative (OQI) is a group of researchers, educators, and leaders among the Chicago Quantum Exchange (CQE) that champions the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion in quantum science. This virtual workshop will discuss the prevailing issues and barriers in the emerging field of quantum computing. Specifically, the workshop will help the CQE develop a program for undergraduate scientists early in their quantum careers to gain research experiences and build professional networks.

Workshop participants will learn how they can engage with these efforts and become a more informed member of and advocate for an open quantum community. To register to attend, click [here](#).

Fellowship Application Writing Workshop

Date: September 24th and October 7th, 2021

The Graduate School is excited to offer a workshop series for graduate students focused on applying for fellowships from external agencies and foundations. In this workshop series, you will learn the basics of grant applications, what funders look for, and how to write a compelling application. Even if you are not ready to apply to a fellowship at this point, this series can be a great professional development tool. Click [here](#) for more details and register.

Academic Career Success Conference

Date: September 25th, 2021; 10 AM CT

At this 3rd annual live, online conference, Aurora by Beyond the Professoriate experts will help you advance your career despite Covid-19, learn effective presentation, writing, and time management skills to help you successfully navigate grad school, build leadership and mentorship skills that will help you in any career path, and develop a metric for deciding on postdoc options and next steps after graduate school. Click [here](#) to register for this free conference.

Design Principles for Presentations

Date: September 28th, 2021; 12 PM CT

DesignLab Associate Director Mandy Morrow will share how to structure your presentation(s) for your audience, explore common presentation mistakes/errors, and provide you with tools to communicate your desired message clearly and effectively. Click [here](#) to register.

Pathways to Social Change

Date: September 29th, 2021; 12 PM CT

Workshop attendees will be introduced to a framework that includes activism, organizing, and community-engaged teaching and research, and will leave the event with a more complete understanding of community engagement and a plan to promote social change in their communities. Click [here](#) to register.

Quantum Creators Prize Symposium

Date: September 29th -30th, 2021

The University of Chicago is hosting the first annual Quantum Creators Prize Symposium which aims to promote the achievements of early-career researchers working in exciting new directions of quantum science and increase the diversity of researchers in the field. Researchers who are selected will receive an honorarium and a prize certificate for their participation in the symposium. Graduate students from any institution are encouraged to apply. Applications for the Quantum Creators Prize Symposium are due August 15, 2021. To learn more about the symposium and how to apply, click [here](#).

You're Researching What? Crafting a 3-Minute Research Talk that Appeals to the Public

Date: September 30th, 4:30 PM CT

Communicating your research to a non-specialist audience is an essential career skill, whether you're preparing for job interviews, building your network, competing in the Three-Minute Thesis®, or trying to explain to family or friends what you do with your time. Click [here](#) to register.

Employment and Funding Opportunities

IAIFI Postdoctoral Fellowship Competition

Deadline: September 21st, 2021

The Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions has opened its Postdoctoral Fellowship competition for early-career scientists. These Fellows will spark vital interdisciplinary, multi-investigator, multi-subfield collaborations. IAIFI aims to appoint three new postdoctoral IAIFI Fellows each academic year, for a three-year fellowship term each. To apply, click [here](#).

Princeton University: Robert Dicke Fellowships Postdoctoral Positions

Deadline: October 22nd, 2021

The Princeton University Physics Department seeks exceptional recent Ph.D. recipients in experimental physics for an honorific postdoctoral fellowship program. Candidates from all areas of experimental physics will be considered and selected through an annual competition. The selected scholars are expected to work with the existing experimental groups in the department, although those who wish to pursue a specific independent research program will also be considered. Princeton has experimental research programs in Atomic Physics, Biophysics, Condensed Matter Physics, Cosmology & Gravitation, High Energy Physics, and Particle Astrophysics. In their application, applicants are encouraged to discuss potential research group or groups that they would be interested in working with. This year the Physics Department will select two postdoctoral research scholars with annual appointments including salary, benefits, and \$9,000 in discretionary funds. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

IBM: Summer 2022 Internships

IBM has begun the application process for their 2022 summer internships and early-career opportunities. Click [here](#) for more details and to apply.

UCLA: QuBiT Lab Postdoctoral Position

The Quantum Biology Tech (QuBiT) Lab at UCLA, is searching for postdoctoral candidates with quantum optics/spin physics experience. The QuBiT Lab's mission is to establish the extent to which quantum mechanics accounts for biologically relevant phenomena, and can be manipulated to technological and therapeutic advantage. For more information, click [here](#) and contact [Clarice Aiello](#) to apply.

ENS Paris: PhD Scholarship and Postdoctoral Position

The Kastler-Brossel Laboratory at ENS Paris is hiring a two-year postdoctoral position and is offering a three-year scholarship working with Ultracold 1D Fermi Gases. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

ColdQuanta: Quantum Physicist

ColdQuanta would like to hear from experimental physicists, preferably with an expertise in Atomic Molecular and Optical (AMO) physics. Candidates having experience with Rydberg atoms, cold and ultracold atoms, and/or ion-trapping are strongly encouraged to apply. This position will collaborate on R&D projects and support development of new concepts and approaches for future investigation and will work closely with a team consisting of fellow physicists, engineers, and technicians. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

Useful Links

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

[Warrant Request Form](#)

[Graduate School Degree Deadlines](#)

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 with any questions.