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Physics Digest

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

January 29th, 2021

Announcements

3MT® Three Minute Thesis finalist

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

Physics Ph.D. student Jimena Gonzalez is a 3MT® Three Minute Thesis finalist! [Watch her compete](#)

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.

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.

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 [Jackson Kennedy](mailto:jkennedy3@wisc.edu) (jkennedy3@wisc.edu) or [Michelle Holland](#) with any questions.

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

Ekmele 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 30th-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...

The DELTA Program:

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!

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

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](#).

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 [Maia Lang](#) for more information.

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.