



The Physics Observer

December 3rd, 2020

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, December 3, 2020, 12:30pm:

[Elementary Particle Experiment \(EPE\): Quantum Computing in High-Energy Physics and Related Fields](#)

- Monday, December 7, 2020, 12:30pm:

[Physics Colloquia: Out-of-equilibrium phenomena with ultracold atoms in optical lattices](#)

- Monday, December 7, 2020, 2:30pm:

[CENPA: Recent Developments in Gravitational Wave Astrophysics](#)

- Thursday, December 10, 2020, 12:30pm:

[ABC Physics \(Atomic/Bio/Condensed Matter\): Harnessing](#)

Welcome

The Physics Observer is a periodic bulletin of happenings in and around UW Physics. Our goal is to share information of notable happenings, events, and news associated with the department. Please feel free to pass this newsletter to anyone who may be interested.

Readers wishing to subscribe, or unsubscribe, may do so [here](#). Previous newsletters may be found on the physics website at [The Physics Observer Newsletter](#). Information for future editions may be sent to the editor, [Alexis Hall](#).

Chair's Corner (L. Yaffe)

I hope everyone was able to enjoy a pleasant and low stress Thanksgiving break. I am thankful that Covid safety measures appear to be working well. The College has announced that faculty, TAs and staff can plan on working remotely from home until June 30, 2021, with only limited and voluntary on-site work for approved critical operations. I am grateful to everyone — students, staff and faculty — who have been holding up remarkably well and continuing to study, teach, research, and keep our entire enterprise functioning during these trying times. A special thanks to Eric Adelberger and Blayne Heckel who have recently made significant contributions to Physics department endowments.

While this monthly newsletter is, by design, focused on happenings in and around the UW Physics department, we are all participants in our broader society as well. In this last edition of 2020, I'd like to share a short video with a powerful and timely message produced by a pediatrician in Utah, a friend of one of my relatives:

<https://www.instagram.com/tv/CHqzdb1DATZ>.

May next year be less eventful, more just, and more filled with compassion.

Milestones

- Lecturer Emeritus [Vitaly Efimov](#) has completed 30 years of service with UW.
- Administrative Coordinator [Alexis Hall](#) has completed 5 years of service with UW.

Research Awards & Grants

UW ADMX Postdoc [Tatsumi Nitta](#) was awarded the [Young Scientist Award of the Japanese Physical Society](#) for his thesis work.

Department Resources & News

UW-IT has implemented changes to storing **Zoom recordings** in the UW Zoom cloud. These changes are necessary to free up cloud storage capacity that will ensure Zoom continues to be available for everyone. Effective **September 1, 2020**, recordings stored in the Zoom cloud are now set to **auto-delete after 90 days**. As recordings age to 90 days, they are moved automatically from cloud storage to Zoom trash. To learn more about these changes, including steps you can take: [See the UW Zoom cloud storage FAQ](#)
[Learn how to download your Zoom recordings from cloud storage](#)

Zoom has released a new security feature that allows hosts and co-hosts to temporarily pause their meeting to remove a disruptive participant. This new feature, called Suspend

[Atomistic Defects to Advance Materials Discovery and Design](#)

- Thursday, December 10, 2020, 12:30pm: [Elementary Particle Experiment \(EPE\): Quantum Science at Fermilab](#)
- January 25-28, 2021: [Axions Beyond Gen 2](#)
- July 8-10, 2021: [Summitting the Unknown: New Physics. Celebrating the Legacy of Ann Nelson](#)
- July 11-20, 2021: [Snowmass 2021: High Energy Physics Community Planning](#)

[SOCIAL MEDIA](#)

Instagram: [@uwphysics](#)

Facebook: Link [here](#).

YouTube: Link [here](#).

Twitter: [@physicsuw](#)

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Participant Activity, is located in the Security panel and shuts down disturbances from Zoom bombing by ejecting the participant from your meeting. [Learn how to use this new feature](#). To use the Suspend Participant Activities feature, you must be signed in to the meeting as a host or co-host, and must have version 5.4.3 or higher of [Zoom software](#).

Require UW NetID for meetings with UW-only participants.

For meetings with only UW participants, enable the meeting setting "Require authentication to join." When this setting is enabled, participants must sign in to UW Zoom with their UW NetID to join the meeting. Please make sure to share (for example, in your Canvas course) instructions on [how to sign in with a UW NetID](#) with your meeting participants.

For more information about keeping your meetings safe, visit the [UW Zoom security page](#).

Funding Announcements

[Matter and Light for Quantum Computing](#) has a summer research internship program in Germany for advanced BSc students interested in quantum science and technologies. Excellent international and German BSc students in Physics or other relevant programs can apply. This will take place 8 to 12 weeks between May and September. Application deadline for 2021 internships is **December 4, 2020**.

Applications open for [AIP science policy fellowships](#). Experience a unique year in Washington, DC, working at the headquarters of the U.S. Department of State or in the halls of Congress. If you are a member of one of AIP's member societies, you may be eligible to apply, including:

- Congressional fellows (**deadline Dec 15th**), See [here](#).

Nominations solicited for the Symmetry 2020 Young Investigator Award. 2000 CHF. Nominees must be within 8 years of PhD. See [here](#). **Deadline December 31**.

Applications open for [DOE Scholars Program](#), funding internships for undergraduate students, grad students, and post-graduates in DOE program offices and field sites. The DOE Scholars Program is a program designed to create a pipeline of highly qualified talent in disciplinary fields that support mission critical areas of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). US citizens only. See [here](#). Application **deadline January 4th**.

Applications open for Keck Foundation science and engineering grants. Up to \$1M. For projects which fall outside the mission of public funding agencies and with potential for transformative impact. See [here](#). **Internal UW deadline: January 14, 2021**.

Applications open for UW Population Health pilot research grants, up to \$50,000. See [here](#). **Deadline January 29, 2021**.

Applications open for a variety of postdoctoral and senior research awards administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine for work at many different federal laboratories and affiliated institutions. See [here](#). **Next selection cycle deadline: February 1, 2021**.

Applications open for undergraduate or graduate students interested in DHS summer internships at the Transportation Security Lab in Atlantic City NJ. US citizens only. See [here](#).

Job Opportunities

- Expressions of interest are solicited for a wide range of job opportunities in the new US administration, including science and policy positions. See [here](#).
- Assistant Teaching Professor - Physics in the Division of Physical Sciences at the University of Washington Bothell. See [here](#).
- Assistant Professor in Mass Spectrometry, Vanderbilt University. Apply [here](#).
- Faculty Position in Applied Physics, Cornell University. Apply [here](#).

- Assistant Professor in Theoretical or Computational Astrophysics and Cosmology, University of Southern California. Apply [here](#).
- Professor in Experimental Nuclear Physics, University of Illinois. Apply [here](#).
- Assistant Professor in Physics, University of Texas Austin. Apply [here](#).
- Faculty Position in Physics and Astrophysics, UCLA. Apply [here](#).
- Assistant Professor in Theoretical Particle Physics, New York University. Apply [here](#).

Selected Publications

"Quantum Oscillations in the Field-induced Ferromagnetic State of $\text{MnBi}_{2-x}\text{SbxTe}_4$ ", Q. Jiang, P. Malinowski, Z. Liu, Yue Shi, Z. Lin, Z. Fei, T. Song, X. Xu, J. Yan, J.-H. Chu, et al, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.11798>.

"Relativistic three-particle quantization condition for nondegenerate scalars", T. Blanton, S. Sharpe, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.05520>.

"Accelerated design of arbitrary meta-optics using a computational graph", S. Colburn, A Majumdar, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.03626>.

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UW Coronavirus Response Information

Current UW status: Phase 2

The University of Washington's Bothell, Seattle and Tacoma campuses are in Phase 2 of the COVID-19 recovery, in accordance with [Washington's Safe Start plan](#) and the state's [Campus Reopening Guide](#).

- [Face coverings are required](#) on all campuses.
- Telework is strongly encouraged for all non-critical personnel, and all in-person work must adhere to all appropriate safety measures and unit [COVID-19 Prevention Plans](#).
- Majority of courses offered remotely. Only instruction with approved safety protocols may be offered in-person.
- Gatherings of more than five people are not permitted, with the exception of instructional sessions following approved safety protocols.

If you traveled, get tested for COVID-19 as soon as possible when you return to the University.

If you are enrolled in [Husky Coronavirus Testing](#), you should receive an email or text by November 11 with instructions on how to get a travel-related test for Thanksgiving break, unless you had already indicated you weren't interested. This testing will be available only by appointment or by home testing kit. HCT enrollees will also be contacted prior to winter break to schedule travel-related tests.

If you are not enrolled in HCT, see ["I want to get tested for COVID-19. Where can I go?"](#) for testing options.

If you test positive after the break, [stay home](#) and away from other people and notify the EH&S COVID-19 Response and Prevention team at covidehc@uw.edu.

If you participated in [higher risk activities](#) or think that you may have been exposed, in addition to following the 3 W's, take these extra precautions to protect others for 14 days after you return: [Stay home](#) as much as possible and avoid being around [people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19](#).

Contact the [EH&S COVID-19 Response and Prevention Team](#) at covidehc@uw.edu or 206-616-3344 if you have any questions about COVID-19.