



The Physics Observer

January 6, 2021

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 25-28, 2021:
[Axions Beyond Gen 2](#)
- January 28, 2021,
2:00pm:
[Minhao He General Exam](#)
(Advisor: Xiaodong Xu)
- February 3, 2021,
1:00pm:
[Tom Braine General Exam: 'Superconducting Radio Frequency \(SRF\) Cavities for the Axion Dark Matter eXperiment \(ADMX\)'](#)
(Advisor: Gray Rybka)
- February 8-11, 2021:
[AAAS Annual Meeting](#)
- July 8-10, 2021:
[Summitting the Unknown: New Physics, Celebrating the Legacy of Ann Nelson](#)

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)

Welcome to the new year. It is with sadness that I note the passing of Robert Winglee, Professor of Earth & Space Sciences and long-time adjunct faculty in Physics. Prof. Winglee worked with many Physics graduate students over the years, with his most recent Physics student finishing their PhD just last month.

I am happy to report that the Department has received a significant gift from the estate of Werner and Ursula Brandenburg, endowing a new student support fund. Werner was born in Zug, Switzerland, received an M.S. degree from our department in 1961, and later worked in the optical science research lab at Boeing.

We have made it through nine months of teaching and research operations during a pandemic, and likely have another six or so months to go. While this has been very disruptive and challenging for all, I am heartened by how well everyone in the Department is holding up. Best wishes for the new year.

Milestones & Arrivals

- ❖ [Research Engineer, CENPA, Erik Swanson](#) celebrated 45 years at UW.
- ❖ [Professor, Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, Marjorie Olmstead](#) celebrated 30 years at UW.
- ❖ [Research Scientist Fernando Vila](#) celebrated 20 years at UW.
- ❖ [Grants Manager Andrew Sattler](#) celebrated 15 years at UW.
- ❖ [Instrument Shop Manager Bob Scott](#) celebrated 15 years at UW.

Research Awards & Grants

- ❖ [Professors David Cobden, Xiaodong Xu, and former Xu group member Kyle Seyler](#) (Ph.D. '18) made the Web of Science Group's Highly Cited Researchers list. Learn more [here](#).
- ❖ [Professor Subhadeep Gupta](#) received 175K from Air Force Office of Scientific Research for few-body collisions and reactions with ultracold molecules of YbLi.
- ❖ [Director of CENPA, Professor David Hertzog](#) received 3M from US Department of Energy for FY 2017 continuation of solicitation for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program.
- ❖ [Assistant Professor Matthew Yankowitz](#) received 120K from US Army Research Office for band structure engineering of moiré van der Waals heterostructures with high pressure.
- ❖ [Professor Henry Lubatti](#) received 93K from Brookhaven National Laboratory for HL-LHC Pixels IST.

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- ❖ [Professor Martin Savage](#) received 735K from Oak Ridge National Laboratory for the Quantum Science Center.

Department Resources & News

[Zoom](#) has released a new security feature that allows hosts and co-hosts to temporarily pause their meeting to remove a disruptive participant. Learn more about this feature [here](#). Zoom users must get the latest update to continue using the platform. Learn more about how to download it [here](#).

[W-2s](#) will be mailed on [January 24th](#). Ensure that your mailing address is correct [here](#).

[A Year in Focus: 20 from 2020](#). Twenty moments from a year like no other — captured through the lenses of UW photographers. Scroll on for glimpses of the diversity and depth of experiences across the UW in 2020 — the front-line workers caring for our health and safety, the students and faculty who inspired us every day, and the moments that brought us all together.

[UW Staff Demographic Baseline Report](#). The UW Staff Demographic Baseline Report focuses on data points for select staff employment categories and includes contextual information about each unique data set. The aggregate data presented reflects the staff population as of November 9, 2020, and terminations and hires from July 2019 through June 2020. Questions about the report? Email podoe@uw.edu.

Funding Announcements

Applications open for [DOE Energy Storage Program internships](#), for undergraduates or graduate students. US citizens only. See [here](#). Deadline **January 20, 2021**.

Applications open for [2021 NASA Student Airborne Research Program \(SARP\) summer internships](#). See [here](#). US citizens only. Deadline **January 27, 2021**.

Applications open for [DOE High Performance Computing for Manufacturing internships](#), for undergraduates or graduate students. US citizens only. See [here](#). Deadline **February 1, 2021**.

Proposals solicited for [NIST Precision Measurement Grants](#), 50K/year up to 3 years. See [here](#). Deadline **February 5, 2021**.

Applications open for various [NSF Data Science & Statistics Research opportunities](#) for undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs. See [here](#). Deadline for summer internships: **March 31, 2021**.

Job Opportunities

- Tell your friends about research openings at UW. Positions with critical hiring needs are posted [here](#).
- Faculty Professor Assistant/Physics and Astronomy, University of Pittsburgh. Apply [here](#).
- Assistant Teaching Professor-Physics, UW Bothell. 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](#).
- Faculty Position in Physics and Astrophysics, University of California Los Angeles. Apply [here](#).
- Faculty Positions in Physics and Astronomy, University of Southern California. Apply [here](#).
- Research Assistant Professor-Quantum Simulation of Quantum Systems, UW Seattle. Apply [here](#).
- Visiting Professor in Physics, New York University Abu Dhabi. Apply [here](#).

- Assistant Researcher in Physics, University of California Berkeley. Apply [here](#).

Selected Publications

"Fission fragments intrinsic spins and their correlations", A. Bulgac, I. Abdurrahman, S. Jin, et al., <https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.13422>.

"Anomaly-induced sound absorption in Weyl semimetals", A. Andreev, et al., <https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.09895>.

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.

[More details on Phase 2](#) are available below.

[COVID-19 FAQs](#) (Source: UW Medicine)

1) When will a COVID-19 vaccine be available?

- a. According to current guidelines, healthcare workers at risk of infection, individuals living in long-term care facilities (who are at the highest risk of severe illness and death), and the healthcare workers in those facilities will be prioritized in the first wave. As more vaccines are approved and more doses become available, we will follow CDC guidelines to ensure that everyone has access to the vaccine starting with the most at-risk and vulnerable populations. We will be communicating with our patients and updating our website when we have more information.

2) I'm worried I have COVID-19. What do I do?

- a. If you start to feel ill, try not to panic. Many people who get COVID-19 experience minor symptoms and do not need medical care. When you first start to feel sick, call your doctor for guidance and track your symptoms. You can contact your doctor by phone or eCare, or use the UW Medicine On-Demand Virtual Care.
- b. If you still have questions, please call our COVID-19 info line at 206.520.2285 or 855.520.2285.
- c. If you have a mild case, you can get tested at the COVID-19 Testing Site at Harborview Medical Center or the COVID-19 Testing Site at UW Medical Center – Northwest and may be able to treat your symptoms at home.
- d. Staying home helps prevent you from exposing other people to the disease.
- e. You don't need to go to the hospital unless you're experiencing symptoms that could be a medical emergency. These symptoms include having trouble breathing, feeling a persistent pain or pressure in your chest, becoming confused or disoriented, or having your face or lips turn blue.
- f. If you can, have someone call the hospital in advance so they can prepare for your visit.

3) Do I need to be tested for COVID-19?

- a. You should get tested for coronavirus if:
 - i. You have any of the following NEW symptoms not explained by another known condition: Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or

smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

- ii. You have had close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- iii. You have been referred for a test by a healthcare provider or state or local health department.

4) What steps should I take if I test positive for COVID-19?

- a. Stay home except to get medical care.
- b. Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home. This is called home isolation.
- c. Call ahead before visiting your doctor or a hospital.
- d. Wear a facemask if you are sick if possible.
- e. Cover your coughs and sneezes. Use a tissue or your elbow, not your hand.
- f. Wash your hands often.
- g. Avoid sharing personal items, such as dishes, drinking glasses or towels.
- h. Clean all "high-touch" surfaces, such as doorknobs and light switches, every day.
- i. Monitor your symptoms and contact your doctor if you get worse.
- j. Get medical attention immediately if you experience any of these warning signs: difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, and/or bluish lips or face.

5) How long does someone with COVID-19 need to be in home isolation?

- a. How long to isolate yourself depends on several different factors? Detailed information can be found on the CDC's website.

6) Does UW Medicine charge for COVID-19 lab tests?

- a. The UW Medicine price for the COVID-19 lab test is: \$255. The Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) has ordered all health plans regulated by its office to cover testing for COVID-19 without copays or deductibles. However, there are several health plans not regulated by the OIC that may have coinsurance and deductibles applied to your out-of-pocket expense, including employer plans that are self-funded, out-of-state Medicaid, Medicare, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, United Health Care, federal employee health plans, health plans for members of the military or veterans, the Uniform Medical Plan for state and school employees. For uninsured patients, UW Medicine representatives will assist you to see if you qualify for free COVID-19 test coverage by the state. Please call 206.598.4388, for more information or if you have any other questions.

7) Can I still make an appointment for regular care?

- a. Yes, UW Medicine is open, safe and available for appointments.