

Graduate Student Organization:

May, June, and July Newsletter



Interested in helping physics graduate students find a sense of community, develop professionally, and advocate for student needs with the department? Want to develop professional skills in administrative and leadership activities? Then look no further than the Duke Graduate Student Organization! *ELECTIONS* for the next academic year will begin in early July, and there are three elected roles to fill: Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, and President. Election commissioner Jon Yuly will begin to accept nominations for these roles, as well as class representative roles, in June. (Ask any current leader or class rep if you have questions!) The responsibilities of each role include, but are not limited to:

Secretary-Treasurer - Records minutes of all meetings; maintains financial records of organization.

Vice-President - Promotes communication among committees; chairs meetings in absence of president; generally splits some responsibilities with president for overall leadership of the GSO.

President - Represents the organization to the University and community (e.g., registers the organization with GPSC); sets agenda for and chairs all meetings; works with executive board to appoint committee members; makes sure committees are doing their jobs and helps if necessary.

Department-Wide Photo Contest (adapted from Professor Bass's 04-25 email): Have you taken a cool/insightful/fun picture of your lab? Or your colleagues engaged in cutting-edge research? Or any other subject material that tells a Physics story? Then **submit your photo(s) to Katherine Siler by Friday**, **June 14th** to be considered for putting up on the walls of room 298 and possibly other public spaces in the physics building! Here are the contest rules:

- One entry name per photo (single/group entries allowed)
- A panel of judges (members of our department) will review photos and select up to 8 winners
 - There will be a set of prizes for the winners

Planning to travel this summer? Here are some reimbursement tips: (1) Apply for graduate school funds >30 days prior; (2) Do NOT use PI/faculty member's p-card to purchase anything for your trip (no airfare, hotel); (3) All meal receipts must be *detailed* – no alcohol; (4) *Final folio* from hotel is required for lodging reimbursement; (5) If lodging is shared, all parties must turn in a receipt for reimbursement; (6) Complete travel reimbursement cover sheet and give receipts to Katherine upon return.

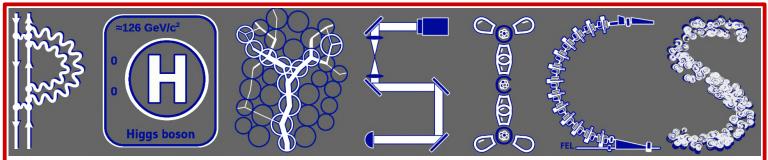
Let's warmly welcome our twenty Fall 2019 incoming students: Joel Bierman, Ryan Bouabid, Aitor Bracho, Duane Byer, Rebecca Chen, Andrew Gordeev, Zhiyuan Guo, Austin Hulse, Xincheng Lin, Mingru Li, Jordan McCourt, Katherine Parham, Swapnil Patel, Erik Peterson, Charles Prior, Kevin Wang, Shiv Yadavalli, Masaya Yamamoto, Bo Yu, and Simon Schneider (exchange student from Vienna)!

- The **community pantry** is open to any and all graduate students and their families at the GPSC House (306 Alexander Avenue). The pantry also has items like diapers and used professional clothing items.
- The **Emergency Travel Fund** lotteries off funding for emergency travel purposes such as, but not limited to, bereavement and conference travel. Applications are reviewed and funded monthly on a first come first serve basis--though the vast majority of applications are successfully funded.
 - The **Law Assistant Program** allows students to get free legal advice from an attorney retained by GPSC weekly at the Bryan Center.

GPSC Updates



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P: Feynman diagram (Jon Yuly); **H**: Higgs Boson (Aaron Mahler); **Y**: Force chain in a granular medium, in memory of Bob Behringer (Ryan Kozlowski); **S**: Optical setup schematic (Tamra Nebabu); **I**: CO₂ molecule (Aaron Mahler); **C**: Part of a Free Electron Laser (FEL) storage ring (Aaron Mahler); **S**: Particle simulation in Perlin noise field (Shobhit Sharma)

The **Duke Physics 2019 t-shirts** are in! They were designed by current undergraduates and graduates in the department, who are shown to the right donning the beautiful T's. Aaron Mahler headed the project and organized volunteers to make each letter of the shirt in January, and the shirt was produced and distributed in early March.

Back row, left to right: Jon Yuly, Aaron Mahler, Shobhit Sharma. Front row, left to right: Ryan Kozlowski, Tamra Nebabu.





Designers show off the front and back of the shirt.

All shirts were given freely to each department member, and leftovers were sold out within a week! Another order may be coming in the future - so keep your eyes peeled if you want more for your friends or family.