AY 2021-22 Officers and Committees

Officers
Chair
Karsten Heeger

Director of Graduate Admissions
Helen Caines

Director of Graduate Studies
Bonnie Fleming

Graduate Program Team
Bonnie Fleming (DGS)
Rona Ramos (program coordinator)
Stacey Watts (registrar)
Andy Szymkowiak (program advisor)

Director of Undergraduate Studies
Nikhil Padmanabhan

Undergraduate Program Team
Nikhil Padmanabhan (DUS)
Daphne Klemme (registrar)

Director of Postdoctoral Affairs
Meg Urry

Joint Boards of Permanent Officers (JBPO) Quorum Members
Charles Baltay
Vincent Moncrief (spring 22)

Committees
Prize Lecture and Physics Club

Yale Physics sponsors prize lectures in physics, bringing distinguished scientists to Yale to present results of frontier research and interact with our faculty, research staff, and students. The weekly colloquium series of the Yale Physics Department is called the Physics Club. These lectures are aimed at graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, research staff and faculty, and are of general interest to the Department of Physics, as well as Applied Physics, Astronomy, and Mathematics.
Tinsley Prize Lecture Committee
The Beatrice Tinsley Prize Lecture is given each year by a distinguished physicist in honor of Beatrice Muriel Hill Tinsley, the first female professor of astronomy at Yale, where she worked from 1974 until her death in 1981. Her work on disk galaxies has proven foundational in the decades following her passing. In 2016, the Yale Society of Physics Students inaugurated the Beatrice Tinsley Prize Lecture, which saw the invitation of Asimina Arvanitaki. This prized was started to honor Tinsley’s myriad contributions and to encourage collaboration and contact between distinguished physicists and the Yale undergraduate physics community. The speaker is jointly invited and hosted by the Society of Physics Students, Women in Physics, and undergraduate students from Astronomy.

Members: 2 students from SPS, 2 students from WiP, Erin Lippitt (Astronomy), Ryan Offman (Astronomy), Nikhil Padmanabhan (DUS), ex officio, Sarah Demers (WiP), ex officio

Space and Facilities
Facilities and space of the Physics Department are critical to its mission in research, teaching, and outreach. They also play a crucial role in building community and fostering interactions within the department and beyond. This committee will advise the department and its chair on the coordination and planning of space and issues related to the facilities of the department. The committee and its members may also be asked to assist as department liaisons to university planning efforts.

Members: Sean Barrett (chair), Andrew Szymkowiak, Sid Cahn, James Nikkel, Bonnie Fleming, Simon Mochrie, Stephen Irons, Nikhil Padmanabhan, Hannah Carroll, Eduardo da Silva Neto

Teaching Assignments
Teaching assignments for the department are done by the Chair, in consultation with the DUS & DGS and graduate and undergraduate program teams.

Members: Karsten Heeger (Chair), Nikhil Padmanabhan (DUS), Bonnie Fleming (DGS), Daphne Klemme (undergraduate registrar), Stacey Watts (graduate registrar), Rona Ramos (graduate program coordinator)

Climate and Diversity Committee (CDC)
The Mission of the Climate and Diversity Committee is to support the department’s goals to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for every member of our community. We are committed to creating a work place whose core principles are based on diversity, equity, and inclusion for every staff member, student and faculty as we strive to obtain our goals of excellence in research, teaching, and mentoring.

https://physics.yale.edu/about/climate-and-diversity-committee
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Members: Rona Ramos (chair)

APS-IDEA Team
The vision of APS-IDEA is that, as a result of collective efforts, physics and related fields will become more inclusive of all social identities, with a diversity reflective of the nation, and with an equitable distribution of opportunities and resources.

http://physics.yale.edu/aps-idea

Members: Helen Caines (co-leader), Rona Ramos (co-leader), Larry Gladney (faculty), Karsten Heeger (faculty), Reina Maruyama (faculty), Meg Urry (faculty), Laura Havener (postdoc), Aniket Maiti (graduate student), new undergraduate TBD, Geriana Van Atta (staff)

Postdoc Advisory Committee (GSAC)
The Postdoc Advisory Committee serves as a point of communication between the postdocs and the administration of the department. The committee advises the Chair, the Director of Postdoctoral Affairs, and other faculty on matters related to postdocs and the postdoc program, including (but not limited to) helping plan and organize annually scheduled departmental events. The committee members also advocate on behalf of postdocs with the Chair and the Director of Postdoctoral Affairs. Committee members are appointed for one calendar year. The composition of the committee includes postdocs with varied appointment dates, with a primary goal of representing inclusive and diverse sets of interests. Committee members meet with the Chair and the Director of Postdoctoral Affairs once a month. Members: Karsten Heeger (Chair) Meg Urry (Director of Postdoctoral Affairs) Postdocs TBD

Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC)
The Graduate Student Advisory Committee serves as a point of communication between the graduate students and the administration of the department. The committee advises the Chair, the DGS, and other faculty on matters related to graduate students and the graduate program, including (but not limited to) helping plan and organize annually scheduled departmental events. The committee members also advocate on behalf of graduate students with the Chair and DGS. Committee members are appointed for one calendar year. The composition of the committee includes at least one representative from each cohort, with a primary goal of representing inclusive and diverse sets of interests. Committee members meet with the Chair and DGS once a month. The committee also meets internally once a month while regularly soliciting feedback from other students in their cohorts.

http://physics.yale.edu/academic/graduate-studies/GSAC

Spring and Fall 2022
Members: Bonnie Fleming (DGS, co-chair)
Karsten Heeger (Chair, co-chair)
Rona Ramos (Faculty)
Stacey Watts (Graduate Registrar)
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Hannah Bossi (Year 4)
Sumita Ghosh (Year 6)
Caitlin Gish (Year 2)
Sophia Hollick (Year 2)
Aniket Maiti (Year 4)
Xiaowei Ou (Year 1)
Samantha Pagan (Year 3)
Iris Ponce (Year 2)
Joseph Shomar (Year 3)
Benjamin Siegel (Year 3)

Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee (SAC)
The Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee (SAC) serves as a point of communication between undergraduate students interested in the physics major and the leadership of the department. The student representatives work with the Chair, the DUS, and the undergraduate program team on matters related to the physics major. Members meet at least once a semester.
http://physics.yale.edu/academics/undergraduate-studies/student-advisory-committee-sac-0

Spring and Fall 2022
Karsten Heeger (Chair, co-chair)
Nikhil Padmanabhan (DUS, co-chair)
Daphne Klemme (undergraduate registrar)
Wyatt Kremer (2024)
Barkotel Zemenu (2024)
Laura Zhou (2022)

Student Group Faculty Advisors
- QuARK (Queer Affiliated fRiends of PhysiKs) -Jack Harris
- Yale Physics Department Happy Hour -Rona Ramos
- Yale Society of Physics Students -Nikhil Padmanabhan
- Yale Women in Physics + -Simon Mochrie
- Yale Women in Physics -Sarah Demers

Ad-hoc Committee on Introductory Physics Classes
This ad-hoc committee is asked to evaluate the Phys 170/171 and 180/181 course sequence in light of their changing enrollments and the broad range and preparation of students interested in taking these courses. In particular, the committee is asked to provide input on the course sequence in the Physics Department for non-majors, while recognizing that a growing number of physics majors start in 180/181. The committee is also asked to suggest how to best support the large enrollment of these courses. The relation between the introductory lecture courses and the lab courses in the Physics Department needs to be considered. The committee is asked to consult broadly with ladder and instructional faculty and will present their findings and recommendations to the faculty before the end of the spring semester.
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Members
Alison Sweeney (Chair), David Poland, Adriane Steinacker, Simon Mochrie, Sarah Demers, Nikhil Padmanabhan (DUS) ex officio