

# Yale Department of Physics

Yale Physics Newsletter

November 17 & 24, 2017

## News

**Robert Schoelkopf (Sterling Professor of Applied Physics)** in the news! New York Times article from November 13, 2017 on the race for a quantum computer. From the article entitled Yale Professors Race Google and IBM to the First Quantum Computer: “Robert Schoelkopf is at the forefront of a worldwide effort to build the world’s first quantum computer. Such a machine, if it can be built, would use the seemingly magical principles of quantum mechanics to solve problems today’s computers never could.” [Click here](#) for full article, related article also featured in [Yale News](#).

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The Physics Department will be holding its annual Holiday Luncheon on Monday, December 11, 2017 from 12: to 3:00 in SPL 3rd floor lobby. We will be accepting donations for Toys for Tots. We encourage you to join in the holiday spirit of giving and bring a toy to the event.

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**Yale Young Global Scholars** is a highly selective academic leadership program that hires 100 undergraduate and graduate students to teach, mentor, and supervise participants both in and out of the classroom. To learn more about YYGS, [click here](#).

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**The Yale Undergraduate Research Association (YURA)**, an undergraduate organization, recently compiled and released the Research Database (RDB), a cross-disciplinary, searchable, integrated database of 1400 professors across 60 departments and fields of study. It serves to help students and faculty find out about the research of professors at Yale. RDB can be found [here](#).

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**Girls’ Science Investigations in Yale Daily News.** From the Yale Daily News Issue of November 14, 2017 - “The classrooms of Sloane Physics Laboratory buzzed on Saturday with laughter and excitement, as more than 160 middle school girls competed to see who could engineer the most stable boat.” [Click here](#) for full story.

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## Save the Date

December 11, 2017 is the Holiday luncheon! Look for the formal invite to come shortly.

## Seminars

*No seminars scheduled for November 20-24, 2017 due to the November Recess. Enjoy the break!*

**Monday, November 27** Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry Special Seminar. Kai Zhang, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, “Revealing an auto-inhibition and activation mechanism of complete human dynein-1”, Bass 305 at 11:00am. Host: Yong Zhong.

**Monday, November 27** Physics Club. Kathryn Zurek, LBL, “Broadening the Searchlight: New Ideas in Dark Matter Detection”, SPL 57 at 3:30pm. Host: Sarah Demers. Tea after the talk at 4:30 in Sloane Physics Lab 3rd Floor Lounge.

**Tuesday, November 28** Dissertation Defense. Anthony Lollo, Yale University, “Phase slips in isolated mesoscopic superconducting rings”, SPL 51 at 10:00am. Thesis Advisor: Jack Harris.

**Tuesday, November 28** Yale Center for Astronomy & Astrophysics Seminar. Anne Jaskot, University of Massachusetts, “How to Reionize the Universe – Clues from the Low-Redshift Green Pea Galaxies”, WTS A-51 at 2:30pm.

**Tuesday, November 28** Particle Theory Seminar. Claire Zukowski, Columbia, “Title TBA”, SPL 52 at 4:00pm.

**Wednesday, November 29** Solid State & Optics Seminar. Prof. James Williams, University of Maryland, “Josephson Junctions of Topological Crystalline Insulators”, Becton Seminar Room at 1:00pm. Host: Judy Cha

**Wednesday, November 29** Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology Seminar. Eric Folker, Boston College, “Mechanisms and functions of nuclear movement in muscle”, SCL 160 at 4:00pm. Host: Shirin Bahmanyar. Tea at 3:45pm.

**Wednesday, November 29** Geology & Geophysics Colloquium. Justin Strauss, Dartmouth University, “Title TBA”, KGL 123 at 4:00pm.

**Thursday, November 30** Condensed Matter Seminar. Israel Klich, University of Virginia, “A novel quantum phase transition from area law to massive entanglement”, SPL 52 at 1:00pm.

**Thursday, November 30** Astronomy Colloquium. Karin Öberg, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, “The chemical composition of planet forming disks”, WTS A-51 at 2:30pm.

**Friday, December 1** Yale Day of Data 2017. The Yale Day of Data is an annual, University-wide event for Yale faculty, students, and staff. The theme for Day of Data 2017 is “Data and Society” in Kroon Hall, 9:00am-3:00pm. [Registration](#) is required.

**Friday, December 1** Yale Quantum Institute Seminar. Arno Rauschenbeutel, Vienna Center for Quantum Science and Technology, "Title TBA", YQI Seminar Room at 12:00pm.

For more seminars see: <http://physics.yale.edu/calendar>

**Ethan Kyzivat** (YC'2015 Physics Major, Distinction in the Major) has received an AMS/NASA Earth Science Graduate Fellowship for 2017. With the fellowship, Kyzivat will pursue a M.S. in hydrology at Brown University.

The AMS Fellowship Program, now in its twenty-seventh year, is designed to attract promising young scientists to prepare for careers in the atmospheric or related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. The program recruits promising young people entering their first year of graduate study, from a wide range of interests: meteorology, physics, mathematics, hydrology, oceanography, marine science, computer science, and engineering. The graduate fellowship, which carries a nine-month \$25,000 stipend, is one of six awarded by the AMS in collaboration with industry and government agencies. [Click here](#) for further information about this fellowship.

For more news please see <http://physics.yale.edu/news>

#### [Announcements](#)

For further information on any of the items included here or if you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, send email to [Daphne Klemme](#).

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Please [click here](#) for updates on the Yale Science Building, including a new logistics plan. The project encompasses the construction of a new state of the art sciences laboratory at the approximate location of the demolished J.W. Gibbs building, a comprehensive renovation of the KBT Plaza, a lecture hall, and a common area at the south end of KBT Plaza.

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**Yale Health Center – Get your Flu shot!**

#### [Flu Shot Information](#)

Flu clinics are available on a walk-in basis for Yale Health members, Yale University employees, and Yale University students. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. No registration is necessary.

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**For your information!** The p-card billing cycle begins on the 16th of the month and ends on the 15th of the following month

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**Yale's Hazardous Weather Policy** - As a reminder during the winter weather season, communication between staff, managers, and work teams is imperative to ensure that work expectations, departmental needs, and staffing plans are clear to everyone. Now is the time to review roles before, during, and after major storms, and to clarify the internal communication plan. For support

and guidance with planning, please contact your Human Resources Generalist or Emergency Management.

For personnel performing critical functions: Because the University is a complex institution with a large residential population and clinical operations, it relies on many departments to perform critical functions. Staff performing critical functions – in departments that are responsible for life, health, safety and security of our staff, students or patients – must report to work. As previously noted, now is the time to review and clarify the staffing requirements and business continuity plans.

For personnel who do not work in a department providing critical functions: If severe weather conditions hinder safe travel, where possible, the University encourages supervisors to exercise flexibility and sensitivity to requests by their staff. If weather conditions are hazardous, supervisors may consider granting permission to staff to leave work early, remain at home, or, if operationally feasible, work from home that day. Staff members who choose to arrive late, leave early or stay at home and who do not perform critical functions, should consult a supervisor to see if they can use paid time off. All staff members facing weather challenges are expected to have regular communication with their supervisors throughout the event.

Please consult the policies and resources listed here for general guidance:

- [The University's Hazardous Weather Policy](#)
- [Guidelines on occasional telecommuting based on an episode of inclement weather for M&P employees](#)
- [Weather updates, campus closings, and information about being prepared at home](#)

In addition, for more information or assistance regarding any HR policy, please contact your department Business Office or Human Resources Generalist.

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**YSB Town Hall.** Please join the project team for the quarterly Yale Science Building Town Hall on **Monday, December 11th at 4pm in Sloane Physics Lab 59**. This project update meeting will include a review of upcoming work inside the [Kline Biology Tower lobby](#) over the winter break, and work adjacent to Kline Biology Tower moving in to the new year.

#### [Jobs](#)

**The Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of California, Riverside**, invites highly qualified individuals to apply for a tenure-track faculty position in the field of experimental Biophysics. The appointment will be made at the Assistant Professor level. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

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**The National Bioenergy Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory** is seeking a postdoctoral researcher - photochemist/biophysicist. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).