

# Yale Department of Physics

Yale Physics Newsletter

June 8, 2018

## News

Congratulations to **Charles Brown** (Graduate Student with Jack Harris) upon winning a 2018 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship!

From the Ford Foundation Website, "The following outstanding scholars have been awarded fellowships in the 2018 Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs, which is administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The programs seek to increase the diversity of the nation's college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students." [Ford Foundation Fellowships Scholar Award List - 2018](#)

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Congratulations to **Fangzhou Zhu** on the successful defense of his thesis topic "Information Mining in the Large Scale Structure of the universe"! His thesis advisor was Nikhil Padmanabhan.

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Belated congratulations to **Elena Gramellini** (Graduate Student with Bonnie Fleming) on being awarded a 2017 Dean's Emerging Scholars Research Award!

From Michelle Nearon, Associate Dean for Graduate Student Development and Diversity, "Congratulations on behalf of the Office of the Provost and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences for having been selected to receive one of the "2017 Dean's Emerging Scholars Research Awards". This one-time award may only be used to cover academic and/or research-related expenses (e.g. a laptop; books; relevant equipment to aid in research; conference registration, travel, and accommodations)." [Dean's Emerging Scholars Initiative](#)

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## Summer Research in Physics!

**Samuel Day-Weiss** (YC'2020 Physics (Intensive) Major):

I am working in Laura Newburgh's Lab this summer and am currently testing sensors meant to monitor the temperature of the cryostat on the new Simon's Observatory telescope. The cryostat temperature must be monitored very closely so that the actual detectors on the telescope (placed within the cryostat) can

## Save the Date

Summer Sessions for 2018 run as follows: Session A – May 28-June 29 and Session B – July 2-August 3.

## Seminars

**Wednesday, June 13** Solid State & Optics Seminar. Prof. Linda Young, Argonne National Laboratory/The University of Chicago, "Harnessing ultra-intense x-rays for dynamic imaging", Becton Seminar Room at 1:00pm. Host: Prof. Hui Cao

**Wednesday, June 13** Atomic Physics Seminar. Thomas Langin, Rice University, "Laser Cooled Neutral Plasmas: A Laboratory for the Study of Strongly Coupled Systems", SPL 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lounge at 2:00pm. Host: David DeMille.

**Friday, June 15** Dissertation Defense. Elena Gramellini, Yale University, "Elena Gramellini, Yale University, "Measurement of ( $\pi^-$ -Ar) and ( $K^+$ -Ar) total hadronic cross sections at the LArIAT experiment", WL 216 at 11:00am.

**Sunday, June 17-Saturday, June 30** Wright Lab Event 2018 National Nuclear Physics Summer School at Yale. Yale's Wright Lab has been chosen by the Institute for Nuclear Theory to host the 2018 National Nuclear Physics Summer School at Yale, to be held from June 17-30, 2018. [Click here for Summer School Web Site.](#)

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

operate under conditions that maximize their sensitivity.

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**Richard Casten** (Professor Emeritus of Physics):

I am studying a new model, called Proxy- SU(3), that allows one to make predictions of the shapes of atomic nuclei using nothing more than a hand calculator. These predictions seem comparable to those from hours of supercomputer calculations. I and my colleague, Burcu Cakirli (former student, now at Istanbul University) are studying how the model works for certain deexcitation processes in nuclei that are ellipsoidal in shape. I will also be working on a new method to predict probabilities of certain nuclear reactions of interest to astrophysics and the r-process.

My travels for research or conferences in the next few months will take me to Santa Fe New Mexico, Tokyo, Shanghai, Paris, Michigan State University (twice), Bodrum Turkey, Istanbul Turkey, Hawaii, and Bucharest.

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**Gianantonio Pezzullo** (Postdoctoral Associate) will be working with Sarah Demers Mu2e group at the Fermi National Laboratory.

**Claudia De Grandi** (Helmsley Associate Research Scientist) will be leaving Yale soon to move to Salt Lake City. She will start as an Assistant Professor of Educational Practice in the [Physics & Astronomy Department at the University of Utah](#). Good luck with your future endeavors!

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](#).

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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#### **Parking Announcement – Pierson Sage Parking Garage**

In order to do repairs at the roof level entry/exit both lanes will need to be closed for two weeks. This closure began on Friday, June 1, 2018. Once the deck work is complete, a good portion of the traffic disruption will also disappear. The major structural project will continue into the fall.

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**Science Hill CHW Pipe Installation** - Starting May 29th, the walkway and surrounding area from Sloane/KBT to Sachem St. will be closed for the summer due to the installation of chilled water lines. On the picture below, the blue line represents the closed area and the green dotted lines show alternative walkways. [Click here for a presentation given regarding the closure.](#)

