

July 12-19, 2019

Before joining the faculty at Yale, Alison Sweeney was associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Pennsylvania. Alison's group focuses on the mechanisms by which novel materials arise in natural evolution, and the mechanisms by which evolution finds novel routes to self-assembly. She was a postdoctoral scholar and research scientist in the group of Dan Morse at the University of California, Santa Barbara, focusing on

marine biophotonic materials. Sonke Johnsen at Duke University advised her Ph.D. work on the evolution of squid optics.

Research Program

The Sweeney group focuses on biological soft matter and its evolution. They are particularly interested in the evolutionary mechanisms underlying episodes in which the evolutionary process discovers a novel mode of self-assembly. Recent examples of this include their work on self-assembly of gradient-index lenses in squids, and micron-scale surface textures in pollen. A recent Science Friday short film on their work provides a nice introduction to her program:

<https://www.sciencefriday.com/videos/a-squids-eye-view/>



Congratulations to **James Ingoldby** on the successful defense of his dissertation “EFTs for Nearly Conformal Gauge Theories”! His thesis advisor was Thomas Appelquist.



Congratulations to **Susan Pratt** on the successful defense of her dissertation “Development and implementation of a reversibly-interacting TRAP-peptide pair as a live-cell imaging strategy”! Her thesis advisor was Simon Mochrie.

New Director of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Graduate Studies for 2019-2020

Simon Mochrie and Bonnie Fleming have been appointed as the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) and Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) for this coming academic year. Please join me in thanking them for taking on this important responsibility in the department.

Announcements

[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.

Yale Finance

To: Yale Purchasing Card Holders

Yale strongly encourages PCard holders to enroll in J.P Morgan’s fraud alert program. Signing up to receive the PCard holder fraud alerts is a simple way to strengthen protections against cyber thieves and fraud. Cardholder alerts notify individuals of suspicious activity on their account and allow them to quickly

reply to validate transactions without having to call customer service.

Enrolling in Fraud Alerts

The [PCard Fraud Alerts page](#) provides instructions to enroll. *Only* use the link to the J.P. Morgan enrollment site provided on the PCard Fraud Alerts page, which requires CAS authentication. Yale information security policy discourages providing links to external sites in email messages.

For further details, [see the attached FAQs](#) (note: links have been disabled for security reasons) or call the number on the back of your card for help with enrollment.

or questions, contact purchasing.card@yale.edu.

Kathy Chambers
Administrator of PCard and SUA Programs