Upcoming Events

**Monday, December 16**

4:00pm: Department of Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry Thomas A. Steitz Lecture. Wayne A. Hendrickson, Columbia University, "Allosteric Control of Hsp70 Chaperone Activity" in Bass 305. Host: Yong Ziong. Tea served at 3:45pm.

**Tuesday, December 17**

12:00pm: WIDG Seminar. Xinyi Chen, Yale University, "Reconstructing the BAO signal for cosmological analysis" in Wright Lab 216. RSVP for Lunch at 11:45am.

2:00pm: Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics Seminar. Prof. Ira Rothstein, Carnegie Mellon University, "The emergence of non-Fermi liquid behavior in fermionic systems near unitarity" in Sloane Physics Lab, 52. Host: Nir Navon

**Thursday, December 19**

9:00am: Dissertation Defense. Shantanu Mundhada, Yale University, "Hardware-efficient autonomous quantum error correction" in YQI Seminar Room. Thesis Advisor: Michel Devoret.

12:00pm: NPA Seminar. Salvatore Fazio, Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), "Status and Scientific Prospects of a Future U.S.-Based Electron-Ion Collider" in Wright Lab 216.
News

Brooke Russell defends graduate thesis “An Electron Neutrino Appearance Search in MicroBooNE with $5 \times 10^{19}$ POT”


Community

Climate and Diversity Committee

Its reference writing and reviewing season. While we try to write fair letters and select the best candidates, it is well established that our implicit biases [https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/implicit-bias/] can creep in if we are not careful. The Women’s Faculty Forum have a nice guide to help us avoid common pitfalls [https://wff.yale.edu/news/resources-avoiding-gender-bias-reference-letters].

If you are a reviewer, consider performing your reviews blinded. Last year Priya Natarajan led an initiative to double-blind reviews of Hubble proposals. As reported in this article [https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/12/hubble-space-telescope-gender-disparity/578545/] a significant change in acceptances was observed, female researchers now had a 8.9% success rate and male’s 8%. In contrast over the more than a dozen previous review cycles a small but consistent pattern had been observed where male Principle Investigators had higher approval rates. While its too early to declare success the results suggest that some biases, probably unintentional, where at play and that double-blind reviews might help to mitigate such effects.
If interested in joining the CDC, please contact Helen Caines, Chair of CDC. You may contact the whole committee at physics-cdc@mailman.yale.edu.