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Yale *Physics*



Upcoming Events

There are no events scheduled for the week of April 27-May 1, 2020.

[More events](#)

News

Wright Lab's Paula Farnsworth helps Yale go round

Wright Lab administrative support staff member Paula Farnsworth was featured in a Yale Daily News (YDN) article by Rose Horowitch, entitled Paula Farnsworth: Helping Yale go round. The feature is part of a series of articles in the YDN called "Our Community during the Coronavirus: A Profile Series".



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Welcome to our 2020 Incoming Class of Graduate Students!

We are pleased to welcome 32 new graduate students to our department and are looking forward to welcoming them to campus in the fall.

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Margaret Burbidge 1919-2020

by Meg Urry

Margaret Burbidge, one of the greatest astrophysicists of the 20th century, died early on Sunday morning, at age 100. For those who knew her, and those who didn't, many tributes and histories are available online; here is a nice article from Sky & Telescope last summer, which had some stories I hadn't heard before: <https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/happy-birthday-margaret-burbidge/> (be sure to see the reproduction of a page from her notes taken at the telescope during WWII bombing of London). Her accomplishments and honors are many, so I'll mention just two here: her famous 1957 paper on the "Synthesis of the Elements in Stars" (<https://journals.aps.org/rmp/abstract/10.1103/RevModPhys.29.547>, with co-authors Geoff Burbidge, Willie Fowler and Fred Hoyle) and her incredible work figuring out quasars. She was an inspiration to many and will be much missed and I wanted to honor her with this email blast to all of you. If you didn't know her, prepare to be inspired.

Meg

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COVID-19 Update – presidential committees on contingency planning

As the spring semester nears its conclusion, the university has begun to engage in contingency planning for next academic year. To help guide this process, the president and provost have appointed [six committees](#) composed of faculty and staff from across the university to address, respectively, issues of academic continuity; research continuity; creative and artistic practice continuity; operations continuity; public health; and emergency policy. You can find a description of their charges and a list of their members [here](#).

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Community



Climate and Diversity Committee

As we all stay in doors and maintain social distancing, the number of “Zoom” meetings we are all attending has exploded, both for work and as we try and to maintain some “social” interactions. If you are finding it exhausting you are not alone and this article which some possible explanations as to why:

[Why Zoom Vido Chats are so Exhausting](#)

Turning your camera off or to the side might help to alleviate “Zoom fatigue”; you can concentrate on what’s being said and not about being on display. Also, try to build in transitions periods between meetings - get a drink, do some stretching - especially if switching from work to social meetings. Creating buffers allows us to move between work and private personas.

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



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For further information, or to contribute to the newsletter, please send email to [Daphne Klemme](#).

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