Student Groups, Activities, and Committees

Yale Physics Orientation 2022
Student Groups, Activities, and Committees

- **GSA** - Graduate Student Assembly
- **GSAC** - Graduate Student Advisory Committee
- **APS-IDEA** - American Physical Society Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Alliance
- **CDC** - Climate and Diversity Committee
- **GSI** - Girls Science Investigation
- **YPPDO** - Yale Physics Professional Development Organization
- **QuARK** - QUeer-Affiliated fRiends of physiKs
- **Women+ in Physics**
- **WIQI:** Women in Quantum Information
- **Department Happy Hour**
Representation
We are democratically elected Physics graduate students that represent your interests in the GSAS student government and give you a direct line of communication to university leadership.

Advocacy
We regularly meet with GSAS Deans, the Provost’s Office, and the University President to advocate on behalf of all graduate students.

Support
We provide services for all graduate students such as Tax Facts, Ask-a-Lawyer, and The Compass: A Guidebook to Life as a Graduate Student at Yale (now VIRTUAL! gsa.yale.edu/compass).

Get Involved!
Reach out to us if you’re interested in university administration or advocacy! GSA General Assembly Meetings are open to the public (first meeting is Sept 7, 6pm on zoom) and elections are held in March/April.
Physics Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC)

Representation
The composition of the committee includes at least one representative from each cohort, with a primary goal of representing inclusive and diverse sets of interests.

Year 1  – Xiaowei Ou
Year 2  – Caitlin Gish, Sophia Hollick, Iris Ponce
Year 3  – Samantha Pagan, Joseph Shomar, Benjamin Siegel
Year 4  – Hannah Bossi, Aniket Maiti
Year 5+ – Sumita Ghosh

Point of Communication
Serves as a point of communication between graduate students and the administration of the department.

Advocacy
GSAC meets with the Chair and DGS at least once a month to advise them and advocate on behalf of graduate students within the department.

Events
GSAC members help organize annually scheduled department events, such as Open House.

Leadership
If you have any questions or concerns about the department, do not hesitate to reach out to one of us (via Slack, email, etc.)!

Interested?
NOMINATIONS EVERY JANUARY

Meetings, Minutes, and Information:
https://physics.yale.edu/academic/graduate-studies/GSAC

Physics-GSAC@mailman.yale.edu
APS Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Alliance (APS IDEA)

Shared effort across universities and national labs

2-3 conference per year focusing on the mechanics of institutional change and social justice in physics communities

Network support of change efforts through smaller learning communities and network leadership

Contact: Rona Ramos (rona.ramos@yale.edu)
Aniket Maiti (aniket.maiti@yale.edu)

https://www.aps.org/programs/innovation/fund/idea.cfm
Climate and Diversity Committee (CDC)

https://physics.yale.edu/about/climate-and-diversity-committee
Girls’ Science Investigations

Empowering and inspiring girls to pursue careers in science and engineering

GSI invites middle school girls to explore science through fun projects. The projects are themed around concepts in physics, chemistry, and engineering.

The program relies on volunteers, primarily from Yale and local high schools. Anyone can volunteer if they want to make a better environment for women and girls in STEM!

Contact: laurensaunders@yale.edu

Visit https://gsi.yale.edu
The Poorvu Center is a resource for teaching and writing at all levels! The CTL offers:

- Workshops about the fundamentals of teaching and more advanced teaching topics
- Peer teaching observations
- Teaching and writing resources
- Writing workshops and consultations
- Grants for independent teaching projects
- Certificate of College Teaching Preparation (CCTP)

The Poorvu Center has full-time staff, and also recruits graduate & professional student McDougal Teaching Fellows and McDougal Writing Fellows each spring!
Our goal

Expose physics PhD students and postdocs to a wide range of career opportunities, mostly non-academic, and provide professionalization resources.

For more information visit https://yppdo.yale.edu/

What we do

- Host speakers, mostly physics PhDs, to talk about their career paths after physics
- Organize workshops on academic and non-academic professionalization topics
- Provide information on the resources already offered by Yale, such as events organized by Office of Career Strategy and other student organizations
QUeer-Affiliated fRiends of physiKs

QuArk

We’re here,
We might be queer,

Come and have some bagels.

To join the mailing list, email sumita.ghosh@yale.edu or caitie.beatie@yale.edu
Who are we? WIP+ is focused on fostering a supportive environment for underrepresented genders in the Physics, Applied Physics, and Astronomy departments. We coordinate mentoring and social events for graduate students, post-docs, research scientists, and faculty. The group and many events are open to all allies in the department, from whom we welcome support for our initiatives.

What do we do?
- Monthly Coffee Chats
- Monthly Lunches with the Allies
- Special Events: Apple Picking, Ice Cream, Brunch, Graduating Student Farewell
- Advocacy: Initiatives within the department, Women in Physics Families with the Undergrad WIP group

WIP+ Board: Feel free to reach out to any of us!
Twitter: @yale_wip
Chairs: Samantha Pagan, Hannah Bossi, Ava Polzin, Rachel Cooper, Caitlin Gish, Iris Ponce
Faculty Advisor: Simon Mochrie
Mailing Lists
WiP+: physics-wip@mailman.yale.edu
WiP+ Allies: physics-wip-allies@mailman.yale.edu
More info contact: samantha.pagan@yale.edu or hannah.bossi@yale.edu
Women in Quantum Information

Group objectives:

- Advocate for an increased representation of women in condensed matter/quantum-information groups at Yale
- Create a opportunity for self-identified women in QI to discuss research and present challenges navigated in climbing the academic ladder
- Voice requests for more women invited speakers in Yale quantum information colloquia

Activities in the past year:

- Monthly lunches open to self-identifying women students, postdocs, faculty in quantum information, condensed matter
- Lab tours open to all students led by WIQI members
- Title IX Workshops open to all members of YQI/Becton
- Research discussions and presentations among WIQI members

Contact:
florian.carle@yale.edu
racquel.miller@yale.edu
jaya.venkat@yale.edu
Physics Happy Hour

• Social gathering on the last Friday of every month.
• Within current COVID regulations, we plan to have in person gathering with free snacks and drinks.

Current Happy Hour Crew
Charles Lomba  charles.lomba@yale.edu
Kirsty Scott   kirsty.scott@yale.edu
Andrew Ton    andrew.ton@yale.edu
Other Groups and Activities

Informal Groups

- Running group
- Book clubs
- Anti-racist reading group
- Gaming groups (DND)
- Ask around!

Clubs and Groups throughout the graduate school and university!