

UWiP

at UC San Diego

UWIP/MIIP April Newsletter

MIIP Mission Statement

Marginalized Identities in Physics is an organization dedicated to empowering women, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQIA+, neurodiverse, and (dis)abled groups in physics through an intersectional resource network, academic and professional development, and by creating an equitable and accessible community for all. We are committed to reducing the systemic barriers faced by marginalized students to foster diversity and inclusivity in physics.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates to Save for Spring '21:

Memorial Day Observance: Monday May 31

Instruction Ends: Friday June 4

Final Exams: Saturday, June 5 to Friday June 11

Commencement programs: Saturday June 12 to Sunday June 13

Summer Session 1 2021 Begins: Monday June 28

You can download the UCSD Academic Calendar at the bottom of this [page](#).

Big Changes with UWIP: MIIP (Marginalized Identities in Physics)

What's Happening to UWIP?

Since 2014, UWIP has been dedicated to supporting and promoting women and other underrepresented groups in physics. Though this remains central to our purpose, we must also acknowledge all marginalized communities that face systemic barriers in academia. These groups include, but are not limited to: Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQIA+ folks, neurodiverse, and (dis)abled people. We recognize that there are systems of oppression that must be undone so that all people regardless of identity are empowered to achieve their goals. Embracing the idea that intersectional identity is not additive, but fundamentally reconstitutive, charges us to shift our perspective in how

our organization fights against, and brings awareness to, the compounding systemic inequities that marginalized groups face. This evolution of UWIP to MIIP will be a better way forward in supporting diversity, equity and inclusion in our field, as well as throughout academia and society.

This Spring 2021 quarter will be our last quarter as UWIP and we will fully transition to MIIP in the Fall. For now, you will still be able to contact us via uwip.ucsd@gmail.com, uwip.ucsd.edu, uwip.ucsd on Instagram, and UWIP on Facebook. Feel free to let us know any thoughts or concerns about this transition in our [end of winter survey](#) (I know you have probably seen this survey a few times but we really want to hear your opinions so we can best support you :)!)

UWIP/MIIP 2021-2021 BOARD APPLICATIONS

What kind of new board members are we looking for you might ask, these are some qualities that make you the perfect candidate:

- loving physics and getting to know your physics community
- supports and allies with historically marginalized groups (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQIA+ folks, neurodiverse, and (dis)abled people)
- is driven to see UWIP/MIIP grow and succeed!

The UWIP/MIIP 2021-2021 Board application can be found [here](https://forms.gle/N6qHt5jQr3ZQh4mw6) (<https://forms.gle/N6qHt5jQr3ZQh4mw6>). Thanks to those who have already applied, we look forward to reading your application! Applications will close at the end of week 2, on the evening of Friday April 9th. At our first Spring GBM, we will be discussing the details of the application and will be answering any question about it. The UWIP/MIIP team would be honored to receive your board application!



Spring 2021 All Events Flyer

Here is our detailed Spring 2021 flyer with an exclusive look at some events you can expect in the coming weeks. As always, the details for each event will be on the UWIP website, emailed, and posted to our Instagram.

Join us to meet some new friends and professors and learn more about MIIP. Can't wait to see you there!

Member of the Month Shoutout

Board Member



of the Month!

Every month we will be doing a **"Member of the Month Shoutout"** based on participation at UWiP/MIIP events! We love having each and every one of you attend, and engage with our community. This is how we like to say thank you for all you do!

This month we have our board member, **Brendan Duong**! Brendan is always willing to lend a hand on projects and is a terrific team player! We are so grateful for his dedication to UWiP/MIIP. Get to know one of our fellow physics majors, Brendan, a little better!

Q: What class are you most looking forward to this quarter?

A: PSYC 172 : The Psychology of Human Sexuality! Sexuality is a sensitive topic, but I believe that it is worth the time to approach and understand, especially as a member of the LGBT+ community. No offense to PHYS 4E of course; quantum also seems really cool.

Q: If you could travel back in time, who is one scientist you would love to have lunch with?

A: Probably Carl Sagan because it would be interesting to talk about the popularization of science and the interaction between scientific thinking and the public perception of science.

Q: Where is the first place you would want to travel once possible?

A: I really want to head back to San Diego and hang out with friends again. It's unfortunate that over a year of our college experience is gone because of the current circumstances, but I'm looking forward to getting back to SD and socializing with friends once possible.

UWIP/MIIP SPRING EVENTS



Below you will find all the UWIP/MIIP events for and their details for the month of April! Keep up your studying but don't forget to take a break and get to know your UWIP/MIIP community and all our organization has to offer for our fellow peers interested in physics!

Get to know us!

Spring GBM 1

Join us for our first Spring General Board meeting where we will be talking about our transition to MIIP, plans for the

quarter, board applications, and listening to any comments or concerns from general members! The second half of the event will act as a de-stress game night, see you there!

Date: Monday, April 5
Time: 4:00-5:00pm
Zoom ID: 950 5763 3255



Learn about physics research at UCSD

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COFFEE & TEA I

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EVENT DETAILS

Date

Thursday, April 15

Time

1-2:30 PM

Meeting ID

944-3434-7165

PROFESSOR ALISON COIL

Professor Coil's research centers on using redshift surveys to study galaxy formation, evolution, and activity.

PROFESSOR ANEESH MANOHAR

Professor Manohar studies theoretical high energy physics and is currently teaching graduate level quantum mechanics (PHYS 212C).



Coffee & Tea with Professors I

You know the deal! We will be joined by two or more professors over Zoom and coffee for a casual discussion of their professional career!

Date: Thursday, April 15
Time: 1:00-2:30pm
Zoom ID: 944 3434 7165

Coffee & Tea with Professors II

Planning to bring coffee to Coffee & Tea I? Then why not try tea this second time? Our Coffee & Tea II is happening the following Tuesday from the first. Don't miss out!

Date: Tuesday, April 20
Time: 1:00-2:30pm
Zoom ID: 942 2918 0001



COFFEE & TEA II

EVENT DETAILS

Date Thursday, April 20
Time 1-2:30 PM
Meeting ID 942-2918-0001



PROFESSOR ANDREW MEYERTHOLEN

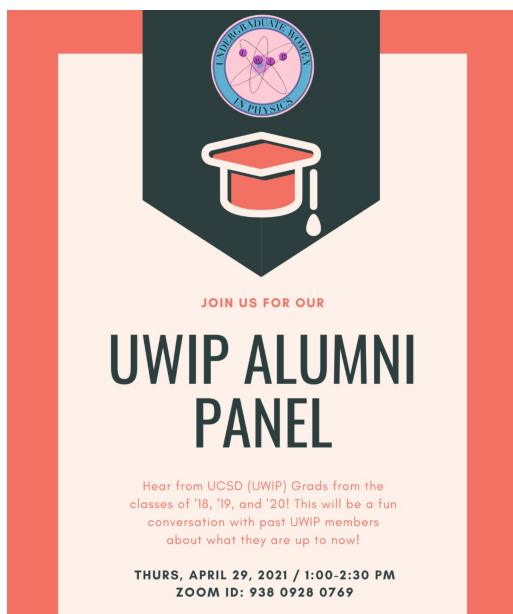
Professor Meyertholen is a condensed matter physicist and is currently teaching upper-division quantum mechanics (PHYS 130A).



PROFESSOR ELIZABETH SIMMONS

Professor Simmons focuses on particle physics beyond the Standard Model, studying possible changes to the masses of fundamental particles.

Where are our alumni now?



UWIP Alumni Panel

Join us in conversation with UWIP Alumni who have recently graduated from UCSD in the '18, '19, and '20 Cohorts!

Date: Thursday, April 29
Time: 1:00-2:30p
Zoom ID: 938 0928 0769

PHYSICS AT UCSD

New Month, New Exciting Opportunities!

Welcome back to the grind, physicists! A new quarter is underway, and if you

need a fresh boost of guidance or inspiration we can point you towards the resources you're looking for. Spring is a season of growth and renewal, so embrace the energy and make this your best term yet!

Explore Your Resources!

Physics Department calendar with up-to-date schedule of events, opportunities, and deadlines.

Events and Opportunities

A complete collection of fliers and info sheets for a variety of opportunities for Physics undergraduates can be found here!

Opportunities Folder

The most current information about Physics Department seminars and colloquia can be found here on the Physics Seminars calendar.

Physics Seminars

For quick answers to your questions, be sure to check the Physics Department Handbook. This amazing resource is updated regularly!

Department Handbook

Featured Seminars

Joint Plasma Physics-Astrophysics Seminar: "Magnetic Fields in Accretion Disks"

Prof. Ethan T. Vishniac, Johns Hopkins University & American Astronomical Society

- Tue 4/6 at 4pm
- Abstract available [here](#)
- Zoom link: <https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/96193389467>

Astrophysics Seminar: "The Smallest and Faintest Galaxies: Clues to the Nature of Dark Matter and Galaxy Formation"

Dr. Burcin Mutlu-Pakdil, NSF & KICP Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Chicago

- Wed 4/14 at 3:30pm
- Abstract available [here](#)
- Zoom link: TBA [here](#)

Stay Inspired, Tritons!

Women in Physics News

Dr. Jami Miller's

Inspiring Story

Up until 2006, John Hopkins University, one of the most prestigious institutions on the east coast, had not granted a physics PhD to a Black woman. This was not until Jami Valentin Miller became the first Black woman to do so and has been the only one ever since.



Now, 15 years later, Dr. Miller recounts her time, her struggles, and what she learned in the academically challenging (and at times, egotistical) environment that was the physics department at Hopkins.

As the only Black woman in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Miller recalls feeling isolated and seeking comfort with other graduate students of color in STEM fields. More specifically however, it still did not help with the fact that in her classes and lab, she had no peers who she could directly relate to. Moreover, there was an elitism that permeated the field of physics, "a level of ego", as she put in an interview with *The John Hopkins News-Letter*, which made it difficult for students to feel fully comfortable in their work.

Miller then decided she would keep track of how many Black women she met at physics/astronomy conferences. She kept track of names in an Excel spreadsheet which began with some 20 names and eventually grew to about 200 people who she had met. This list of names became the foundation for an organization for which Miller is now the CEO of, **African American Women in Physics, Inc. (AAWIP)**. This organization connects Black women in physics and other related fields, so that the sense of isolation which is commonly felt, could be diminished, and allow for Black women to find a sense of community in physics!

Miller's advocacy for inclusion and diversity started out like most of ours, by simply being enrolled as a physics student of color, or of another historically underrepresented group. In pursuing her higher education, she realized she could play a bigger role in promoting DEI principles in the field. Not only is she the CEO of AAWIP, but she also works with the American Physical Society's Committee on Minorities in Physics, the Orlando Math Circle, and as a patent officer for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Dr. Miller's work is inspiring to all of us, applauding the fact that most of what she has done is centered around supporting others!

Source credit: <https://www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2021/03/barrier-breaking-physics-alum-reflects-on-her-journey>

Thank you for checking out our newsletter and we hope you enjoyed it. We love hearing from our general members, so don't hesitate to reach out! If you have any suggestions, questions, or would like to contribute to our newsletter team just send us an email at uwip.ucsd@gmail.com.

VISIT UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN IN PHYSICS (UWiP):

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