

Parallel Session Descriptions

2017 Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

LGBTQ+ Roundtable

Leaders: Robin Bjorkquist and Dr. Monica Plisch

This will be a discussion session focused on LGBTQ+ issues in physics. We will discuss our experiences as LGBTQ+ people in physics, resources and opportunities for students, as well as changes we would like to see at our universities and in the field as a whole. Everyone is welcome to attend the session, including allies!

Scientific Presentation

Leaders: Prof. Rachael Lancor and Prof. Kim Palladino

Our research isn't complete until we communicate our results: to other scientists, funding agencies, and the public. In this session, we'll discuss crafting presentations for different audiences, touching upon content, narrative flow, visual style, and oral skills.

How Do I Enter the Workforce with a Bachelor's in Physics/Engineering?

Leader: Maureen Muldoon

Communicating your skills effectively to employers is key in getting noticed in the job market today. In this session, you will explore how your values, interests, and experiences fit with the common skills you learn and use in physics and engineering; this is the first step to preparing yourself for the job search. By identifying your skills, you will be able to effectively communicate in writing resumes and cover letters, in interviews, and more!

Applying to Graduate Schools and Fellowships

Leaders: Dr. Audra Hernandez and Maya Holtzman

Applying to graduate school can be complicated and overwhelming. In this session, we will be presenting various tips and timelines for approaching the graduate school and fellowship application process. In the first half of the seminar, we discuss the necessary steps for applying: enhancing your academic credentials for optimizing your chances of being accepted and organizing your graduate program search. In the second half, we will discuss how to navigate your fellowship applications and how to develop a research plan. We will also discuss general tips on application statements and obtaining letters of recommendation. This seminar will be useful for any individual who is thinking of applying to graduate school.

Building Support Networks

Leader: Creanna Cote

Feeling energized? Want to take this momentum back to campus? Hear from student leaders from several campuses on student organizations and initiatives focusing on providing support, resources, and working for equity for all in physics and STEM. We will talk about initiatives on our campuses, and provide tips and suggestions on action items and community building related to equity in STEM.

Increasing Research Self-Efficacy

Leaders: Dr. Monica Plisch and Dr. Amber Smith

Self-efficacy is the perceived confidence people have in their ability to perform a given task or skill. Increasing your research self-efficacy can increase the likelihood that you will successfully perform research tasks, pursue a research career, and make important contributions to your research team. This interactive workshop will introduce the concept of self-efficacy and its four sources and help you to identify strategies that will help to increase your self-efficacy in research.

Activating Your Best Self for Student Success

Leader: Dr. Hazel Symonette

There are voices from the future and they are calling your name! Who is your highest and best future self summoning you to be and become? In what ways are you today paving the way? How ready are you to StepUP, StepIN, and engage dynamically diverse 21st century challenges? How do you know?