

# Minutes

of the Physics Department meeting

held on Friday, October 23, 2020 at 4:00 pm via Webex

<https://uww.webex.com/uww/j.php?MTID=mb7d0ab88aebeac1270a039672e49ab89>

Meeting password: pMMpHxjn373

Present: Bob Benjamin, Abdelkrim Boukahil, Juliana Constantinescu, Jalal Nawash, Steven Sahyun, Martin Tchernookov, Tom Hall

1. Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm
2. Old Business
  - a. Approval of minutes from October 9, 2020 Constantinescu/Benjamin
  - b. Update on Summer 2021 course offering update.
3. New Business
  - a. Information from the UW-Whitewater town hall on October 22 was discussed.
  - b. Discussion on responses to the student belonging and identity survey at:  
<https://forms.gle/1vfSMfNFHwAqvHkm9>
    - i. Please complete the survey by next meeting.
    - ii. Discussed the Physics performance gap table. It was suggested that a list of the URM status of students from specific courses in the table would be helpful. Institutional Research may be able to help us with this. We will research the issues and incorporate into our findings into the Department's annual assessment meeting.
    - iii. Highlighting the success of Physics graduate URM students was discussed. Sahyun will look through our department records to produce a list of our URM physics majors for discussion and methods for promotion at a future department meeting.
  - c. Curricular items: PHYSCS 141 and Math 151 or Math 152 pre-req will be worked on. PHYSCS 212, and PHYSCS 150 items still need to be refiled.
4. Announcements
  - a. Chair's Announcements:
    - i. On October 30, from 3-6 pm. FP&M is planning on providing campus tours of normally closed buildings (log cabin and one-room school). The plan is to have the observatory open and part of the tour. Sahyun will be at the observatory during this time. Therefore, no department meeting on 10/30.
  - b. Other Announcements
    - i. Tchernookov had a successful 4<sup>th</sup> year review on October 16 at 4:00 pm. Some pages still need consultation signatures from the committee members.

- ii. Tchernookov has had a paper titled “Two alternative proofs of the Grüss inequality” accepted for publication in the International Annals of Science.
- iii. Nawash –
  - 1. Virtual Undergraduate Research Day is on 11/11/2020
  - 2. UW-Whitewater will be hosting the virtual UW System Symposium on April 22, 2021.
  - 3. UW-Whitewater will be hosting the UW System Symposium is on April 22, 2022. This is currently planned to be in-person.
  - 4. NCUR will be Virtual: NCUR 2021 @Home, coming spring 2021.
- iv. Bob Benjamin prepared two astronomy outreach videos as part of the Wisconsin Science Festival (Oct 15-18). The first is a half hour talk on his personal reflections on the 30th anniversary of the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope. The second is an introduction on how to get involved in Citizen Science projects in astronomy.
  - 1. Hugging the Hubble:  
<https://streaming.uww.edu/sharevideo/a4fce8e5-4e80-45e7-a575-9a746f9813b8>
  - 2. Citizen Science: Exploring the Universe:  
<https://streaming.uww.edu/sharevideo/5d1f81c3-009a-421c-ba9a-6a30686a8c52>
- v. UW-Whitewater Rock County will be offering Engineering Dynamics, on-line as well as Statics, which will be offered HyFlex (remote, synchronous and asynchronous) for the Spring semester.

5. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm. Benjamin/Nawash

#### 2020-21 Department Meeting Topic List:

- i. 200918 Progress of, and support for, Physics majors.
- ii. 200925 Review of spring Proof
- iii. 201002 Student Welcome Event
- iv. 201009 Hyflex, Hybrid, and remote class tips and techniques share.
- v. 201016 Tchernookov Review
- vi. 201023 TEAM-UP and related items
- vii. 201030 No meeting - Observatory Tour (FP&M)
- viii. 201106 TEAM-UP
- ix. 201113 Meet with Transfer Coordinator (Lindsey Radloff)
- x. 201120
- xi. 201204 Assessments (MFT, Labs)

Additional topics ideas as time allows:

- ORSP
- xii. Physics Advisory Council (sub-committee, email)
- xiii. Course Evaluation Review and revision (sub-committee; email)
- xiv. Review and setting of Department Goals for the year.
- xv. Meet with Admissions
- xvi. Department Website
- xvii. Department Promo Lit
- xviii. Department Outreach
- xix. Scholarships / Internships

Submitted by Steven Sahyun, Secretary of the Day.