UF PHYSICS UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING NEWSLETTER

COORDINATOR: YOONSEOK LEE (YOONSLEE@PHYS.UFL.EDU)

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MEET YOUR ADVISOR REGULARLY!

LIST OF ADVISORS AND OFFICE HOURS

http://www.phys.ufl.edu/academics/undergraduate/

OR SNED AN E-MAIL TO ADVISING@PHYS.UFL.EDU

E-MAIL LIST AND PHYSICS COMPUTER ACCOUNT

If you are a declared Physics major, then you are on the Physics major listsery: **PS-MAJORS@lists.ufl.edu**. This list is updated nightly to contain a current list of Physics majors. I will communicate with you mainly using this e-mail listsery. All physics majors may get a **computer account** in the Physics department. This will give you are e-mail address like yourname@phys.ufl.edu, Applicat, in forms for computer accounts may be obtained from Car's Scanlon in the Students Services office, NPB 1210.

SPS The Society of Physics Students

(http://www.phys.ufl.edu/~sps/) is an organization of undergraduate physics majors. They sponsor many fun events every semester such as movies, field trips, physics demonstrations, and GRE study sessions. If you are interested in joining SPS, you can contact them at sps@phys.ufl.edu. Their faculty advisor is Professor Amlan Biswas.

Welcome both new and returning students for the new academic year! You noticed that many of our physics courses are full and some of you had difficulties in getting a seat in those courses. It is a good news that more students are interested in physics. But we are aware of this problem and will try our best to accommodate the demand. As a first step, from this year, we are offering PHY4604 in both semesters. This will, hopefully reduce the Fall class size and make graduating seniors planning a bit easier.

Please see your advisor regularly and feel free to drop by my office if you have any concerns or issues. The Advising Newsletter will be sent to you by e-mail and will also be posted on our website. I encourage you to read each Newsletter.

PHYSICS COFFEE TIME IS BACK!
T. 3 PM, AND TH. 3:15 PM IN #2205

SENIORS! ALERT, ALERT!

If you intend to graduate this semester, you need to apply to graduate on ISIS by Friday, September 17. Information on graduation at http://www.advising.ufl.edu/gradhub.html. Additional information is located at http://www.advising.ufl.edu/faq/seniorgradfaq.html. After you apply, the Academic Advising Center will then make sure you have satisfied the requirements to graduate. Your transcript will be forwarded to the Physics department to make sure that you have satisfied all the Physics requirements to graduate. At that time I will make any remaining course substitutions, etc. so that the computer recognizes that you have completed all the requirements to graduate. This is, of course, assuming that you have met them. It is a good idea for all students - not just graduating seniors - to look at the degree requirements for Physics degrees at

http://www.phys.ufl.edu/undergrad_program/reqBS.html (BS) http://www.phys.ufl.edu/undergrad_program/reqBA.html (BA) http://www.phys.ufl.edu/undergrad_program/minor.html (Minor)

Need recommendation letters? Here are some guidelines to make the process go smoothly.

- **1.** First, you should choose a faculty member who knows you well and can write a good letter of recommendation: teacher or research advisor
- **2.** Ask the faculty member well in advance. A month is a good lead time, but even longer will be helpful to both you and the faculty member.
- **3.** Provide the faculty member with all the relevant information: your UF ID, a paper copy of your transcript, a personal statement, and some examples of your research or other work.
- **4.** Process as much of the recommendation as you can yourself. Many applications have forms. Type in the faculty member's name and address. If the application must be mailed, provide an addressed stamped envelope. It is also an excellent idea to provide a list of where you are applying and the relevant deadlines.

GRE Subject Test Dates: October 9 and November 13, 2010, and April 9, 2011.For more information visit http://www.ets.org/gre/subject/about/content/physics

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GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

2011 NSF Graduate Research Fellowships:

http://www.nsfgrfp.org/

Deadline: November 18, 2010. (application open now)

Hertz Foundation Fellowship Awards:

http://www.hertzfndn.org/dx/Fellowships/
Deadline: Not listed yet but it was October 30 last year
National Defense Since & Engineering Graduate

NDSEG Fellowship:

http://ndseg.asee.org/

Deadline: December 17, 2010 5 pm.

Fulbright Fellowship:

http://us.fulbrightonline.org/overview_timeline.html Deadline: October 18, 2010 (application open now)

Qualified students going to graduate school in any science or engineering discipline should consider applying for these awards. Most graduate students teach during their first year or two of graduate school. We had 1 NSF, 1 NDSEG, 1 Fulbright awardees, and 1 Hertz finalist last year. It could be YOU this year!

Did you know?

Physics majors have broad interests, physics bachelor's class of 2007.

Percent with a double major 31%

The most common second majors for those with a double major

 Mathematics
 Percent

 Astronomy
 25

 Engineering
 10

Other common second majors for those with a double major

Biology Geosciences

Chemistry History & Political Science

Computer & Information Sci. Music & Fine Arts

Economics Philosophy & Theology

Education & Teaching Cert.

http://www.aip.org/statistics

YOUR CAREER

Fall Career Showcase: September 21 – 22, 2010 9am – 3pm O'Connell Center

O Connen Center

http://www.crc.ufl.edu/students/careerfairs/ShowCase.aspx

If you are either looking for a job after graduation or an internship/co-op experience, this is the place to start.

For those planning to attend the career showcase, we offer the following advice:

- 1. You will need a *resume*, which lists your skills and job objectives. The Career Resource Center located on the second floor of the Reitz Union has people on hand to critique and help you with your resume after you have a printed version. Their web site is http://www.crc.ufl.edu.
- **2.** To do any on-campus interviewing *you must register* at the Career Resource Center with Gator CareerLink. This is easy to do and allows you to post your resume on-line so that employers can access it. You may register on-line from the CRC home page listed above.
- 3. Research the companies on the web by first going to the Career Resource Center website at www.crc.ufl.edu to see who is attending. Companies may not be specifically looking for Physics majors, but they will be looking for your skills.
- **4.** Go to the fair. The typical dress is a *conservative suit or dress*. If you do not have a suit, wear something nice. You will not have long to talk to individual employers so present yourself well. The top three traits employers say they are looking for are *motivation/attitude*,
- communication skills, and ability to work in groups. The recruiter is not going to care how well you can do contour integrals or find leaks in vacuum systems. Make sure to get a business card from the recruiter or a contact person.
- **5.** After the fair, do not wait to be called. *Be pro-active and contact the companies* you are interested in. Remember you only need one good job offer. It may take several tries before you get it.