

APRIL 2023

DEPARTMENT NEWS

[Nate Hill : PhD](#)

Nate Hill successfully defended his PhD dissertation on April 17.

[Akshay Khadse : Fall 2023 Grad School Dissertation Fellowship](#)

Akshay Khadse was selected for a Fall 2023 Graduate School Fellowship. Students in the final stages of the PhD are eligible.

[Sumeet Kulkarni : 1st Place GSC Symposium Creative Achievement](#)

Sumeet Kulkarni won first place in the Graduate Student Council Symposium Creative Achievement Category for his [video](#) on light pollution.

[Lorena Magaña Zertuche : Student Representative of the APS DGRAV](#)

Lorena Magaña Zertuche was elected as Student Representative of the American Physical Society Division of Gravitational Physics.

[Anil Panta : Position at Jefferson National Lab](#)

Anil Panta will soon start a Physics Data Scientist position at Jefferson National Lab where he will work in high energy physics computing.



Other News

- Dr. Leo Stein was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the American Physical Society Division of Gravitational Physics.
- Dr. Jake Bennett's STEM Outreach in Northern Mississippi was selected for the Community Engagement Partnership Development Award.

Events

- Dr. Anuradha Gupta organized an Astronomy Art Contest 03/36 which was very well attended. Artwork can be viewed [here](#).
- The Women in Physics met for dinner on April 09. The event was organized by Kaitlyn Thurmond, UMWiP president.
- April 15 was Mississippi Day and Jake Bennett, Joel Mobley, Bin Xiao, Ray Siedlecki, Bryce Barrett, Harrison Roth, Matthew Mestayer, Cooper Crawley, Bella Armstrong, Elizabeth Goreth, and Quinn Campagna set up demos including the rotating platform (always a hit), Van de Graff generator, and laminar flow demo. Of course, liquid nitrogen fruit smash as well as frozen marshmallows were involved. Photo above.
- Many of our graduate students participated in Nepal Night on April 15 at the Ford Center. It was a night filled with fun, food and discovery.
- Upcoming: Vacuum and Space demo show on Sunday, April 30th at 8:00 pm in Lewis 101. Learn about the physics of our universe.