

**Department of Physics and  
Astronomy  
2023-2024 Committees  
Revised 9/12/2023 11:50PM**

**Astronomy Task Force  
Coordinator**

Tanmoy Laskar (Chair)

**Awards (Faculty/Staff)**

John Belz (Chair)

Valy Vardeny

Paolo Gondolo

Misha Raikh

Marcia Cook DeWolfe

**Awards (Students)**

Gail Zasowski (Chair)

Anil Seth

Gernot Laicher

Tony Pantziris

Jeremy Thomson

Oleg Starykh Naua

Uluave (Event  
coordination)

**Computing**

Wayne Springer (Chair)

Brad Hawks

Michael Vershinin

Andy Lee

**Development**

Dan Wik (Chair)

Ramón Barthelemy

Saveez Saffarian

Christoph Boehme

**Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

Tino Nyawelo (Chair)

Shanti Deemyad

Eric Montoya

Mengxing Ye

**Faculty Mentoring Program**

TBD

**Faculty Search Committee**

Christoph Boehme (Co-chair)

Vikram Deshpande (Co-chair)

Shanti Deemyad

Andrey Rogachev

Oleg Starykh

**Futures**

Yue Zhao (Chair)

Vikram Deshpande

Oleg Starykh

Saveez Saffarian

Dennis Soldin

Ramón Barthelemy

**Graduate Admissions**

**Coordination**

Dan Wik (Chair)

Pearl Sandick (DoGs)

Jordan Gerton

Yue Zhao

Tanmoy Laskar

Gustavo Marques Tavares

Audrey Rogachev

Dennis Soldin

**Graduate Comprehensive**

**Exam**

Doug Bergman (Chair)

Charlie Jui

Eugene Mishchenko

Pearl Sandick (DoGs)

Tugdual LeBohec

**Graduate Program,  
Curriculum, Recruitment**

Pearl Sandick (Chair)

Douglas Bergman

Oleg Starykh

Gail Zasowski

Kelsey Krause

**Introductory Physics Course  
Committee**

TBD

**LAOA**

Eugene Mishchenko (Chair)

Rhett Zollinger

Paolo Gondolo

**LA Department Coordinator**

Claudia De Grandi (Chair)

**LGBTQ+ Listserv**

Tanmoy Laskar

Yao-Yuan Mao

**New Building Student**

**Laboratories**

TBD

**Ombuds Liaison**

Gail Zasowski (Chair)

**PANDA Network Committee**

Gail Zasowski (Chair)

Jordan Gerton

Yao-Yuan Mao

Claudia De Grandi

Eric Montoya

**PASSAGE Advisor**

Mengxing Ye (Co-  
Advisor/Chair)

Pearl Sandick (Co-  
Advisor/Chair)

Kelsey Krause (Staff support)

**Postbac Program**

Ramón Barthelemy (Chair)

Anil Seth

**Postdoctoral Affairs**

John Belz (Chair)  
Tanmoy Laskar  
Zhengkang Zhang  
Christoph Boehme

**Public Education & Outreach**

Kevin Davenport (Chair)  
Adam Beehler  
Julie Callahan  
Paul Ricketts  
Tino Nyawelo  
Rhett Zollinger

**Public Presentations****(Thursday)**

Yao-Yuan Mao (Chair)  
John Belz  
Douglas Bergman  
Gustavo Marques-Tavares  
Kevin Zhang

**Public Presentations (Tuesday)**

Oleg Starykh (Chair)  
Shanti Deemyad  
Michael Vershinin  
Vikram Deshpande  
Mengxing Ye  
Audrey Rogachev

**REU & SURP Programs**

Tino Nyawelo (Chair)  
David Kieda  
Saveez Saffarian

**RPT (Retention,  
Promotion, and Tenure)****Chair**

Christoph Boehme

**Student Advisory Council (SAC)**

Christoph Boehme (Chair)

**Safety**

Charles Jui (Chair)  
Audrey Rogachev  
Gernot Laicher  
Zhiheng Liu  
Harold Simpson  
Paul Ricketts

**SPS Advisor**

Kelby Hahn (Chair)

**SRI Liaison**

Yao-Yuan Mao (Chair)

**Sustainability**

TBD

**TA (Teaching Assist)  
Committee**

Pearl Sandick (Chair)  
Kevin Davenport  
Jordan Gerton  
Zheng Zheng

**Teaching Excellence**

Claudia De Grandi (Chair)  
Orest Symko  
Jordan Gerton  
Kelby Hahn  
Kevin Davenport  
Rhett Zollinger

**Undergraduate Advising  
(Honors)**

Jordan Gerton (Chair)

**Undergraduate Program &  
Recruitment**

Anil Seth (Chair)  
Jeremy Thomson  
Jordan Gerton  
Tino Nyawelo  
Andrew Ve'e

## **Brief Description of the Committee Charges**

### **Astronomy Task Force Coordinator**

Coordinates meetings and communication within the Astronomy Task Force, which is open to all faculty interested in the astronomy program.

### **Awards (Faculty/Staff)**

Manages internal and external award nominations and recommendations for faculty.

### **Awards (Students)**

Solicits and selects student/postdoc recipients of awards and scholarships. Work with CoS (College of Science) advancement staff and Development Committee to identify giving priorities.

### **Computing**

Guides the management of department computing & IT services. and writes the annual student/faculty computing proposals.

### **Development**

Assesses and defines department development priorities and coordinates departmental development efforts with the CoS and University development efforts.

### **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

Develops concrete proposals for events, activities, or policies that further P&A's EDI goals as agreed upon with the Department Chair. Manages EDI web presence; advises faculty search committees on inclusive search practices; interfaces with Public Education & Outreach Committee on inclusive outreach practice; promotes a sense of belonging in our P&A community, with a focus on students. Coordinates with the Undergraduate EDI aspects of undergraduate recruitment.

### **Futures**

Assesses future research directions and faculty hiring for the department.

### **Graduate Admissions Coordination**

Runs the graduate admissions process, including training faculty to perform holistic reviews and implementing the reviews process; conducting interviews; summarizing the process and making recommendations for future improvements.

### **Graduate Comprehensive Exam**

Creates, administers, grades the comprehensive exam, per Graduate Handbook.

### **Graduate Program, Curriculum, Recruitment**

Oversees the execution of the graduate program policies and procedures, as well as graduate recruitment.

### **Introductory Physics Course Committee**

Assesses our new undergraduate program through polling of students and assessment of course data.

### **LA Department Coordinator**

Coordinates LA assignments, oversees LA instructions and training, quality control of LA work.

### **LAOA**

Coordinates the departments learning analytics and outcome assessments.

### **LGBTQ+ Listserv**

Coordinates the departments learning analytics and outcome assessments.

### **Ombuds Liaison**

Supports department members in connecting with external conflict resolution and other resources.

### **PANDA Network Committee**

Oversees the Physics and Astronomy (PANDA) peer mentoring program.

### **PASSAGE Advisor**

Advisor for the Physics and Astronomy Society for Support and Advocacy for Gender Equity.

### **Postbac Program**

Oversees the execution of the Postbac program and its alignment to the overall graduate program.

### **Postdoctoral Affairs**

Responsible for professional development and community building for postdoctoral researchers. Oversee annual reviews.

### **Public Education & Outreach**

Committee that oversees and coordinates the departmental outreach effort and maintains the department's web presence on outreach activities.

### **Public Presentations (Thursday)**

Soliciting and vetting speakers for both the regular seminars and the occasional colloquia. Collaborating with administrative staff to arrange travel and advertise events to colleagues and the entire department. Hosting speakers and ensuring their needs are met during their visits. Drafting and maintaining templates for speaker invitations, hosting duties, and other relevant documents.

### **Public Presentations (Tuesday)**

Soliciting and vetting speakers for both the regular seminars and the occasional colloquia. Collaborating with administrative staff to arrange travel and advertise events to colleagues and the entire department. Hosting speakers and ensuring their needs are met during their visits. Drafting and maintaining templates for speaker invitations, hosting duties, and other relevant documents.

### **RPT (Retention, Promotion, and Tenure) Chair**

Chair the RPT Committee and the process of the subcommittee report preparation process.

### **REU & SURP Programs**

Undergraduate Research Programs where students work closely with a faculty mentor and their research group on an individual project.

### **SAC Advisor (Advisor for the departmental)**

USAC and GSAC (should be tenure-line faculty). Responsible for ensuring USAC and GSAC carry out their responsibilities regarding RPT; supports social and other programming pursued by SACs.

### **Safety**

Oversees lab, field-site, office, and general safety policies, procedures, including training; responsible for Emergency Management Plan; organizes the annual department safety day; coordinates with College of Science Safety Committee.

### **SPS Advisor**

Advises the departmental Society for Physics Students chapter and represents the department to this sponsored student group.

### **SRI Liaison**

Coordinates Physics & Astronomy SRI streams with the College of Science SRI program.

### **TA Committee**

Assigns TAs (Teaching Assist) to courses, conducts TA training, monitors quality of TA work.

### **Teaching Excellence**

Supports effective instructional practices across the department.

### **Undergraduate Advising (Honors)**

Advisor to honors students, faculty liaison to the Honors College.

### **Undergraduate Program & Recruitment**

Oversees operation of the undergraduate program and recruitment. Maintains the department's undergraduate web pages.