

# IOWA

## PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY AWARDS COLLOQUIUM

April 25, 2023

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### Schedule

Recognition of Graduates  
Recognition of Award Recipients  
Student Presentations

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### 2022-2023 Graduating Seniors

(Graduating Spring 2023 unless noted)

<b>Alex Apple</b>	B.S. Applied Physics <i>Electronic Warfare Engineer, SRC Inc., Syracuse, NY</i>
<b>Thom Bruner</b>	B.A. Physics B.A. Philosophy
<b>Susanne Byrd</b>	B.S. Physics B.S. Astronomy
<b>Olivia Catlette</b>	B.S. Physics B.S. Astronomy
<b>Daniel Funke</b>	B.A. Physics
<b>Will Golay</b>	B.S. Astronomy (University Honors, Honors in the Department) B.S. Physics (University Honors) <i>Pursuing a Ph.D. in Astronomy &amp; Astrophysics, Harvard University</i>
<b>Hank Hammer</b>	B.S. Physics (Highest Distinction, Honors in the Department) B.S. Mathematics (Highest Distinction) <i>Pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics (Condensed Matter), University of Iowa</i>
<b>John Horne</b>	B.S. Physics (Distinction) B.S. Astronomy (Distinction) B.S. Mathematics (Distinction) <i>Pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics, Utah State University</i>
<b>Kyle Junkunc</b>	B.S. Astronomy B.S. Physics Minor in Communication Studies <i>Pursuing a Data Analysis position</i>
<b>Evan Knipper</b>	B.S. Physics Minor in Computer Science Minor in Mathematics

<b>Tristan McMillan</b>	B.S. Physics B.A. Chemistry
<b>Siddharth Nandanwar</b>	B.S. Physics (High Distinction, Honors in the Department) Minor in Mathematics <i>Pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics (Condensed Matter), Boston College</i>
<b>Mel Peters</b>	B.S. Physics B.S. Mathematics <i>Working in Electrical Design (R&amp;D)</i>
<b>Nathan Torvik</b>	B.S. Physics
<b>Zach Vig</b> <i>(Fall 2022)</i>	B.S. Physics (Highest Distinction, University Honors) B.S. Geoscience (Highest Distinction, University Honors, Honors in the Department) <i>Pursuing a Ph.D. in Planetary Geology, University of Maryland</i>

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## 2022-2023 Advanced Degrees

(Graduating Spring 2023 unless noted)

<b>Zoe Bellis</b>	M.S. Astronomy
<b>Sarah Conley</b>	Ph.D. Physics <i>NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton University</i>
<b>Connor Feltman</b> <i>(Fall 2022)</i>	M.S. Physics <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>
<b>Jaya Joseph</b>	M.S. Astronomy <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>
<b>Robert Q.L. Maxton</b>	M.S. Physics <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>
<b>Jacob McLaughlin</b>	M.S. Physics <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>
<b>David Montealegre</b> <i>(Fall 2022)</i>	Ph.D. Physics <i>Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>
<b>Raaman Nair</b> <i>(Fall 2022)</i>	M.S. Astronomy <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>
<b>Daniel Robert Simons</b>	Ph.D. Physics
<b>Joseph Sink</b> <i>(Fall 2022)</i>	Ph.D. Physics <i>Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Iowa</i>
<b>Riley Troyer</b>	Ph.D. Physics <i>Researcher, Space Dynamics Laboratory, Albuquerque, New Mexico</i>
<b>Vitaliy Zhuravlyov</b>	M.S. Physics <i>Pursuing a Ph.D., University of Iowa</i>

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## 2022-2023 Undergraduate Awards

Brian D. Strayer and Richard L. Rairden Scholarship in Physics

Recipient: **Arissa Khan**

Renewal: **Andrew Milne**

James A. Van Allen Award

Recipients: **Hank Hammer, Zach Vig, Siddharth Nandanwar**

Barry Goldwater Scholar

Recipient: **Jeff Leiberton**

Myrtle K. Maier Scholarship

Recipient: **Emerson Peters**

Distinguished Achievement Award

Recipient: **Mel Peters**

Distinguished Service Award

Recipients: **Will Golay, Jeff Leiberton**

Undergraduate Scholar Award

Recipients: **Susanne Byrd, Will Golay, John Horne**

Van Allen Research Grant

Recipient: **Stephon Berry, Susanne Byrd, Will Meiners, Aditya Venkatesh**

Shoemaker-Strickler Scholarship

Recipient: **Will Parker**

Iowa Space Grant Consortium Research Scholarship

Recipients: **Susanne Byrd, Will Golay, Jason Homann, Jeff Leiberton, Christian O'Brien, Jonathan Percy**

Andrew Nelson Undergraduate Poster Prize

Recipients: **Jacob Andrews, Aden Hageman**

Charles A. Wert Scholarship

Recipient: **Aditya Desai, Owen Fiedorowicz, Kyle Junkunc, Alexander Kay, Jeff Leiberton, Jonathan Percy**

Phi Beta Kappa

Members: **Aditya Desai, John Horne, Philippe Jay, Jeff Leiberton, Siddarth Nandanwar, Brandon Stephanie**

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## 2022-2023 Graduate Student Awards

G. William Pfeiffer and Marilyn M. Maltby Scholarship

Recipient: **Jared Termini**

Renewal: **Cecilia Fasano**

Goertz/Nicholson Memorial Scholarship

Recipient: **Sanjay Chepuri**

John and Stacey Wall Scholarship

Recipient: **David Fehr**

Pfeiffer Family Scholarship

Renewal: **Sarah Henderson**

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

Recipient: **Sean Gunderson**

Iowa Space Grant Consortium Graduate Fellowships

Recipients: **Kenny Buffo, David Fehr, Kenton Greene, Sarah Henderson, Kristie Nault**

M. Hildred Blewett Fellowship

Recipient: **Kristie Nault**

Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship

Recipients: **Daniel Robert Simons, Dustin Swarm**

NASA Space Technology Graduate Research Opportunity

Recipient: **Jared Termini**

Pierazzo International Student Travel Award

Recipient: **Sarah Henderson**

NASA/JPL Astrophysics Design School

Recipient: **Jacob Payne**

CLAS Dissertation Writing Fellowship

Recipient: **Sean Gunderson**

Honorable Mention, AAS High Energy Astrophysics Best Student Poster Presentation

Recipient: **Kenny Buffo**

Top Downloaded Paper, Wiley Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics

Recipient: **Riley Troyer**

Top Paper and Editor's Pick, Physics of Plasmas

Recipient: **Sarah Conley**

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### 2022-2023 Staff Awards

Mary Louise Kelley Professional Development Award

Recipient: **Dale Stille**

Staff Council Members

**Brad Carson**

CLAS Organization Representative  
CLAS Staff Council (*UI Staff Council Liason*)  
UI Staff Council (*Communications Committee*)

**Richard Dvorsky**

Engineering, Architecture and Facilities Management Function Representative  
UI Staff Council (*Awards Committee, HR Committee*)

**Zachary Girazian**

Research, Scientific Services Function Representative  
UI Staff Council (*Community Outreach Committee*)

**Darelle Wilkinson**

Research, Scientific Services Function Representative  
UI Staff Council (*DEI Committee, Education Committee*)

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### 2022-2023 Postdoc Awards

D.C. Priestersbach Dissertation Prize

Recipient: **Stephen McMillan, Ph.D.**

International Travel Award

Recipient: **David Hartley, Ph.D.**

Top Downloaded Paper, Wiley Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics

Recipient: **Arya Afshari, Ph.D.**

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### 2022-2023 Faculty Awards

CLAS Collegiate Scholar Award

Recipient: **Professor Jasper Halekas**

CLAS Dean's Scholar Award

Recipient: **Professor Allison Jaynes**

Harriet and Harold Brady Chair in Laser Physics

Recipient: **Professor Frederick Skiff**

American Physical Society Fellow

Recipient: **Professor Craig Kletzing**

Iowa Innovators of the Year

Recipients: **Professor John Prineas & Professor Fatima Toor** Lev D. Landau and Lyman

Spitzer Jr. Award

Recipient: **Professor Gregory Howes**

OVPR Early Career Scholars Award

Recipient: **Professor Ravitej Uppu**

Outstanding Referee, APS Physical Review Journals

Recipient: **Professor Mary Hall Reno**

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## 2022-2023 Faculty Promotions

**David Miles**

Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure

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## Student Presentations

**Will Golay**

*"The Iowa Robotic Observatory and the MACRO Consortium"*

Faculty Mentor: **Robert Mutel, professor emeritus**

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**Hank Hammer**

*"Effect of Core Geometry on Spatial-encoded Quantum Information Transfer via a Multimode Fiber"*

Faculty Mentor: **Professor Ravitej Uppu**

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**Siddharth Nandanwar**

*"Low-temperature infrared characterization of anisotropic van der Waals heterostructures"*

Faculty Mentor: **Professor Thomas Folland**

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Physics and Astronomy