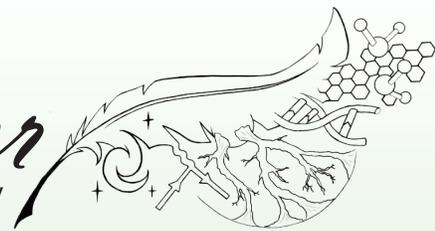


June

Newsletter

UCI Department of Physics and Astronomy



This will be the last newsletter until the Fall Quarter. Keep an eye out for an email in the Fall; we want to hear all about any conferences, workshops and research that people in the department attended over the summer.

Research

- Using data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, UCI astronomers David Buote and Aaron Barth have found an unusually high concentration of dark matter in the isolated elliptical galaxy Markarian 1216. This new measurement of the dark matter based on the X-ray observation of radiation from hot interstellar plasma, when combined with previous measurements in visible and infrared light of highly concentrated and very old stars, prove this galaxy stopped growing around 10 billion years ago and establish Markarian 1216 as a true relic galaxy of the ancient universe. The results, recently published in the *Astrophysical Journal*, are described in a Chandra X-ray Observatory [press release](#). David Buote also wrote an entry on the [Chandra Blog](#) describing the work. Read a statement from Aaron Barth [here](#).

Events

- Congratulations to all students and faculty who won awards at last week's awards ceremony.
- Professor Tajima is organizing a workshop at the end of June on Beam Accelerators in Crystals and Nanostructures at Fermilab, near Chicago. Read more about the workshop [here](#).
- Congratulations to the first year students who just finished their first year of graduate school!

Have a great summer!

Student Spotlight

Scott Locke is a 5th year graduate student studying particle physics who organized the departmental IM sports teams. He has always enjoyed sports and found that to get graduate students to do something, the less they have to do on their own the more likely they are to participate, so he decided to create teams and get students out to play. Last quarter, Scott organized a soccer and basketball team, and this quarter he organized a flag football team as well as joining the Mathletes for a softball team. He hopes that in the fall there will be enough people for a volleyball team, and is encouraging more women to become involved in the teams as well. To read the full post, click [here](#).

Department News

- Chris Barty was nominated for UCI Entrepreneur of the Year.
- A big presence of UCI particle theorists at the 27th [International Conference on Supersymmetry and Unification of Fundamental Interactions \(SUSY2019\)](#) and the Pre-SUSY School in May at Corpus Christi. In attendance were graduate students Mo Abdullah, William Shepherd, and Volodymyr Takhistov, former postdocs Jason Kumar and Luis Strigari, sabbatical faculty visitors Kang-Sin Choi and Alakabha Datta, current postdoc Julian Heeck, future postdoc Christopher Verhaaren, and faculty Mu-Chun Chen, Jonathan Feng, and Michael Ratz.

