

Graduate Student Panel

Paul L Tipton, Professor of Physics, Chair of Physics Department, Yale University



Paul L. Tipton received a BS in physics from SUNY Binghamton in 1979. After spending two academic years teaching High School in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Paul returned to the U.S. where began graduate studies in Physics at The University of Rochester, specializing in High Energy Physics. After a postdoctoral fellowship with Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Paul became a Wilson Fellow at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab), continuing work he began with the CDF Collaboration, searching for the partner to the b-quark call the top quark. In 1991 he joined the faculty of The University of Rochester. It was there in 1994 that he helped lead a team that played a key role in the discovery of the top quark using data from CDF. In 2006 Paul joined Yale's faculty where he enjoys teaching at the undergraduate and graduate level. In 2012 he became Chair of the Physics

Department. Paul's current research is focused on studies of the Higgs Boson as a member of the ATLAS experiment on the LHC at CERN.

Camille Avestruz, Yale University

Camille Avestruz received her undergraduate degree in physics, mathematics, and dance from Barnard College in 2009. Currently, she is an NSF graduate research fellow in the physics department of Yale University. With the Yale computational cosmology group, she has led the development and implementation of active black holes in simulated clusters of galaxies. With synthetic observations, she has also performed numerical studies of galaxy cluster outskirts a rapidly developing area of research with applications to both astrophysics and cosmology. Camille is also interested in outreach and education, and is an instructor with Software Carpentry.



Lucie Tvrznikova, Yale University



Lucie Tvrznikova is a second year physics PhD student at Yale University. She does her research in direct dark matter detection on LUX and LZ experiments and she currently works on high voltage systems and electric field simulations. Lucie is from Prague, Czech Republic where she went to a French high school. She did her undergraduate studies at University of St Andrews in Scotland where she received her Master of Physics degree. Lucie also spent her junior year abroad at University of California, Santa Barbara, where she worked in neutrino physics. Outside of physics Lucie is a member of the Graduate Student Assembly at Yale, she helped organize this conference and is very excited to participate on the panel, and in her spare time she enjoys doing sports and spending time outdoors.



Julia Salevan, Yale University

Julia Salevan is a 3rd year Ph.D. student in Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science at Yale. She graduated from the University of Maryland in 2012 with a B.S. in Physics, where she completed an honors thesis on triboelectricity in shaken grains. For her Ph.D., she is conducting experimental studies of the erosion of granular media by shear flows and is co-advised by Profs. Nicholas Ouellette and Corey O'Hern. She also has been involved with diversity groups as a board member of Women in Science at Yale and an organizer of the national group LGBT+Physicists.

Rachel Kurchin, MIT

Rachel Kurchin is a first year graduate student in Materials Science at MIT working on developing new semiconductor materials for photovoltaic devices (aka solar cells). She studied physics at Yale as an undergraduate and spent a year doing research at Cambridge University before starting her PhD work. She helped organize NCUWP 2012 as a junior at Yale and is beyond thrilled to be back and serving on this panel! Her hobbies include knitting, cooking, and a rotating cast of endurance sports currently dominated by running.

