



FSPA UEC Update July 16th, 2021

Zachary Williams,
on behalf of the FSPA Officers



LGBTQ+ Pride Panel Happened!

- We hosted an **LGBTQ+** in Physics Panel for Pride Month on June 30th!
 - There were 4 panelists, and we had some great discussions about inclusion in physics and how the physics community has become more inclusive, as well as the work that still needs to be done.
 - Huge thank you again to all of the panelists that agreed to be on the panel!
- There were approximately ~30 attendees and the panel lasted a little longer than an hour.



Volunteers for Poster Judging

Zubair and Maria have volunteered to help in the judging of the poster session for the UM.

Anna and Ohana have volunteered as back-ups, if they're needed.



Upcoming Events:



- We have had a lot of setbacks for potential programming workshop, but are trying to make something work with the old outline that was submitted. If that doesn't pan out, we will shorten the workshop and see if we can't make a 1-2 day workshop happen instead.
- The Skills Series Idea hasn't been scrapped, but will likely not be a summer skills series anymore.
 - Still thinking about when to hold this with all of the conferences coming up so soon.

New Perspectives 2021

- We have approximately 20 people registered to attend now,
- We have only received two abstract submissions so far though... so we are sending out a reminder to collaboration spokespersons to remind their collaborations about the upcoming deadlines,
- **Abstract deadline: July 23rd, 2021,**
- **Registration deadline: Aug 2nd, 2021.**



Virtual conference

New Perspectives 2021
August 16-20
A conference for early career researchers





Concerns About Village Rent Increase

There are some points of clarification that we'd appreciate having answered:

- We don't understand the stated reason of matching local rent... what is meant by that?
- Why is this being done in general? Is it simply due to maintenance costs?

Our thoughts:

- The purpose of the village should not be to profit from the occupants like other places around. And rent on the suburbs is very expensive in comparison.
- Many graduate students can't afford rent in the surrounding area and are forced to turn to the village as the alternative. Increasing the rent feels very unfair to the people in that situation.



Summary

- The pride panel went great!
- We have some volunteer judges and back-ups!
- Upcoming events are being planned.
- New Perspectives is rapidly approaching!
- We'd really appreciate clarification on the points that we brought up about the rent increase in the village.