

# FNAL GSA Update

Joel Mousseau  
on Behalf of the Fermilab  
Graduate Student Association  
University of Florida  
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# Who We Are and What We Do



*Clockwise from the left:*

- Joel Mousseau, University of Florida, MINERvA
- Joe Grange, University of Florida, MiniBooNE
- Ritoban Basu Thakur, UIUC, CDMS
- Zeynep Isvan, University of Pittsburgh, MINOS
- Tim Linden, UC Santa Cruz, Dark Matter Theory

A diverse group of students whose work reflects the future physics program of the lab



# The Mission of the GSA

- Continue the education of the graduate student population.
- Disseminate information on employment opportunities.
- Encourage interaction among graduate students from different experiments.
- Help with outreach and educational programs.
- Encourage graduate students to take a more active role at FNAL.
- Offer some entertainment for students.
- *Advocates for the graduate student population of the lab.*



# GSA Guide to Life

- Famous GSA guide to life has been ported to a wiki format.
- Students new to the lab now have a one-stop point to gather information about living at the lab.
- Wiki allows some de-centralization of maintenance, students will be able to make edits as information becomes outdated.
- Anyone with a fnal email address can sign up to be an editor!
- Check it out: <http://gsawiki.fnal.gov/> !



# Quality of Life

- Conducted a survey this winter to gauge the usage of the on-site taxi.
  - Found that many students would utilize extended taxi hours.
  - Worked with the FNAL directorate and UEC to set up an off-site taxi company to offer complimentary rides to FNAL users when the regular taxi is not running.
  - Pilot program for this to begin this summer!
- Representing graduate students on Fermilab's traffic safety committee.
- Working with the International Services Department to address the needs of students moving to the lab, adjusting to life in Illinois.



# DC Visit

The GSA attended the UEC's annual visit to Washington DC.

Spoke with members of congress and their staffers on the importance of investing in HEP.

Important to the future of our field and the lab.



*Yours truly  
was there in  
spirit.*



# Graduate Student Lecture Series

- New program where students give 10 to 20 minute seminars on their research.
- Talks are attended by other students.
- Fosters much discussion and learning among students.
- Recent talks have focused on:
  - Accelerator technology
  - Indirect dark matter detection.
  - Nuclear physics.
- Talks at Noon on Thurs, usually in Curia II.



# New Perspectives 2011

- Conference for young physicists (undergraduates, graduate students and post-docs) organized by the GSA.



*Slides and abstracts are available at  
<https://indico.fnal.gov/event/NP2011>*

- Held yesterday in One West.
- Hosted 29 speakers who covered topics from Higgs searches to Dark Matter detection.
- Half of the conference devoted to topics at the cosmology and intensity frontier.



# Social Events



- Pub nights for students to relax and have a drink.
- Pizza nights at the UC during the dead of winter.
- Triathlon this summer (start training!)
- Halloween party / BBQ every year.



# Halloween Party



*The GSA is proud to  
continue this great  
FNAL tradition!*



# Summary

- This year's GSA comes from many different fields of physics.
- Our expertise reflects the changing direction of Fermilab's physics program.
- Together, we are working on improving the life and careers of young physicists.
- We'd like to thank the Fermilab directorate, UEC and User's Office staff for all of their support throughout the year!