

Here is an alphabetical list of grad students who are happy to be contacts for anyone wanting to ask questions about the department and life as a grad student at UC Davis:

Matt Bellardini (3rd year): mbellardini@ucdavis.edu

- Astrophysics (evolution of galactic disks; simulations)
- Advisor: Andrew Wetzel
- Boulderer enthusiast, craft beer connoisseur, avid runner

Patty Bolan [She/Her/Hers] (2nd year): pmbolan@ucdavis.edu

- Astrophysics (high-redshift galaxy spectroscopy; lyman-alpha emitters)
- Advisor: Marusa Bradac
- Co-organiser of Astronomy on Tap, Davis (astronomy themed science cafe) along with Pratik Gandhi and other astro grad students
- Outdoor anything (rock climbing, backpacking, showshoeing), playing traditional Irish music, public outreach

Sean Colin-Ellerin [He/Him/His] (3rd year): scolinellerin@ucdavis.edu

- Fields, Strings, and Gravity (quantum gravity, AdS/CFT)
- Advisor: Mukund Rangamani
- Tennis, hiking, snowboarding

Pratik Gandhi [He/Him/His] (2nd year; international student): pjgandhi@ucdavis.edu

- Astrophysics (galaxy evolution; dark matter distributions; observation+simulation)
- Advisors: Marusa Bradac & Andrew Wetzel
- Member of GradOPS (physics grad student organisation) and DIP (Diversity and Inclusion in Physics)
- Co-organiser of Astronomy on Tap, Davis (astronomy themed science cafe) along with Patty Bolan and other astro grad students
- Loves cycling, Star Trek (ask me about the UC Davis cycling team or Star Trek club!)

David Gier [He/Him/His] (4th year): dgier@ucdavis.edu

- Complexity (Quantum Information Processing Systems & *side project* Climate Change Belief Dynamics)
- Advisor: Jim Crutchfield
- External Affairs Officer of GradOPS
- Head Steward in Graduate Student-Workers Union, UAW 2865, which represents all TAs, readers, and paid tutors
- Tennis, running, camping, union organizing, Nintendo Switch gaming

Grace Haza (3rd year): gmhaza@ucdavis.edu

- High energy experiment (CMS)
- Advisor: Maxwell Chertok

Adam Kunesh (3rd year): apkunesh@ucdavis.edu, 7049561382

- Complexity (Time series and chaotic behavior of dynamical systems)
- Advisor: Jim Crutchfield
- Davis Smash Melee competitor, half-time gym rat

Daniel Polin (3rd Year): polin@ucdavis.edu

- Astrophysics Instrumentation (Rubin Observatory LSST Camera, dark matter detection)
- Advisor: Anthony Tyson
- Member of GradOPS (physics grad student organization) and DIP (Diversity and Inclusion in Physics)
- Woodworking, skiing, rock climbing, criticizing various forms of media, sheltering in place

Mac Robertson [He/Him/His] (3rd year): mjrobertson@ucdavis.edu

- Condensed Matter Experiment (Nanomagnetism)
- Advisors: Kai Liu & Yayoi Takamura
- Member of GradOPS (physics grad student organisation)
- Plays on Davis Ultimate Frisbee team, also do bouldering
- I do art, shameless insta plug: @attack.on.macc

Ben Schlitzer (6th year): bschlitzer@ucdavis.edu

- Dark Matter (direct detection, liquid argon, simulation+hardware+analysis)
- Advisor: Emilija Pantic
- Near graduation, moving towards teaching full time at college level (ask me about what people do after graduation!)
- Musician, bouldering enthusiast, currently getting into doomsday prepping as a hobby ;(

Morgan Walker [She/Her/Hers] (3rd year): mawwalker@ucdavis.edu

- Condensed Matter Experiment (STM, Quantum Materials)
- Advisor: Eduardo Da Silva Neto
- Member of GradOPS (physics grad student organization) and DIP (Diversity and Inclusion in Physics)
- Rock climbing, skiing, softball

Yuxi Zhang (4th year): zyxzhang@ucdavis.edu

- Condensed Matter theory (computational; many body physics)
- Advisor: Richard Scalettar
- Loves climbing

Azalee Bostroem [she/her/hers] (6th year): kabostroem@ucdavis.edu

- Observational astronomy: Specifically learning about the last phases of a stars life from supernova observations
- Advisor: Stefano Valenti

- I have been a member of DIP since its inception and founded a group in my second year to discuss and learn about code
- I will be graduating this year and moving onto a post-doc position
- I am a non-traditional student: my undergrad major was math and education (only 1 year intro physics - no research) at a small liberal arts college, I got my masters in astro from a CSU, and then worked for 5 years as a data analyst for the Hubble Space Telescope
- I have a strong interest in how we teach scientists best practices of coding and volunteer as a code instructor and lesson developer for the Carpentries (carpentries.org)

Muhammad Zaki (4th Year): zjawaid@ucdavis.edu

- Computational Biophysics (Membrane Curvature)
- Advisor: Daniel Cox
- I'm an international student, so ask me about things related to settling down in Davis, or research, or whatever.

Greg Wimsatt [he/him/his] (6th year): gwwimsatt@ucdavis.edu

- Non-equilibrium Thermodynamics, Fluctuation Theorems, and Stochastic Processes
- Advisor: Jim Crutchfield
- Programs in Python, likes math, Beethoven, Bernie

Karthik Prabhu (2nd year): kprabhu@ucdavis.edu

- Theoretical Cosmology (CMB physics)
- Advisor: Lloyd Knox
- Indian classical music, volleyball, running

Julie He (2nd year): juhe@ucdavis.edu

- Neutrino Physics (HEP-Ex): I am working on the neutrino experiments ANNIE and WATCHMAN, and a DUNE-related experiment called ARTIE
- Advisor: Robert Svoboda
- I actually did my undergrad here at UC Davis and used a few gap years to work and figure out what I want to be when I grow up ;)
- I enjoy beating people up (or maybe it's actually the other way around) in boxing, Brazilian jiu-jitsu, and hapkido