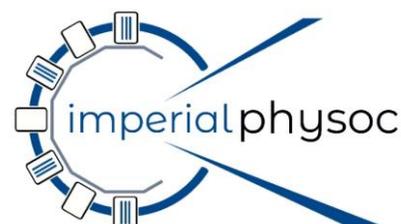




Lucidus

OCTOBER 2020 PHYSOC NEWSLETTER



Welcome to PhySoc!

The Imperial Physics Society (or PhySoc for short) is the official student society for the Department of Physics and currently represents over 1100 students, both undergraduate and graduate. All physics students are automatically a part of the society. Whether you're looking for socials, talks and conferences, careers events or competitions, PhySoc has it all!

RESEARCH FRONTIERS

One big advantage of studying Physics at Imperial is being surrounded by world class researchers. There is no better way to find out about their great work than with our Research Frontiers talks. The events are delivered by the greatest physicists in Blackett and you can watch them every fortnight on [Physics-Research Frontiers Team](#) on MS Teams! The first two events are:

5th October, Prof. Michelle Dougherty on The Cassini Spacecraft Mission at Saturn

8th October, Prof. Arash Mostofi on Theory and Simulation of Materials: Understanding and Designing Materials from the Atomic Scale Up
(See abstracts on page 3)

LIVE Q&A

6th October

12pm-1pm, 5pm-6pm

Join PhySoc in Join PhySoc in a Microsoft Teams event on 6th October. Ask us questions about the year, student and academic life and we will try to answer you at our best! The committee will be introducing the Society first. A Q&A session will follow along with opportunities to chat with the committee members. There will be two sessions, from 12:00 to 13:00 and from 17:00 to 18:00, so feel free to attend the one that suits your time zone best. You can find the [Physics Society Team](#) in your MS Teams app. Looking forward to seeing you there!

MUMS & DADS

“MEET AND GREET”

7th October

11am-1pm

“Meet and Greet” will be the first of many events which will aim to establish a connection and pastoral support between returning and incoming students. First years will be matched with their “parents”, and the families so created will be immediately thrown in a journey of mystery through the first (virtual) escape room PhySoc has ever organised! There will be also a prize of a £20 Amazon Voucher for each player in the family that is going to escape the fastest! The event is going to take place on the [Physics Society Team](#) in Microsoft Teams and will start at 11am. Do not miss out!

PUB QUIZ

13th October 7pm-9pm

On October 13th, get your physics family or a bunch of mates and join the Pub(less) Quiz organised by PhySoc! The event will run 19:00-21:00 and will involve questions on topics ranging from British Rock to insights about the Blackett Laboratory. Teams should be composed of a maximum of 6 people (families should join as a group). Compete against the other teams to win the first prize: £20 Amazon Voucher for each member of the winner team! The event will take place in the [Physics Society Team](#) on MS Teams. A sign-up link will be available in the next week. You can register either as a group or individually (we will pair you with other people).

BACK TO THE FURURE

16th October 5pm-7pm

“What’s next?” is a question that science, religion, and philosophy have long tried to answer. As a physics department society, we decided to give our contribution too. On 16th October from 17:00 to 19:00 four speakers will give a look at their experiences both as undergraduates and graduates to broaden our career perspective. The talk will be given as part of Fresher’s week events and will be hosted on Physics Society Microsoft Team. Join us in welcoming Leo Leung from the 2018 FoNS-MAD finalist team, Professor Joanna Haigh, Libby Jackson and Dr. Neel Savani for an exciting talk. We are looking forward to meeting you there!

Develop Your Skills

Inkscape Introduction Session

10th October 2pm-3pm

Want to get into vector graphic design? Inkscape could be your ticket! Inkscape is an open source graphics software that gives you a lot of freedom in drawing anything you want! Our introduction would be a crash course on the key features Inkscape offers to generate amazing posters and schematics. Graphics design is a useful skill to gain as a physicist to communicate your work effectively! Once you get the hang of it, Inkscape will be a wonderful tool to draw lab report diagrams and much more. Tune in on Saturday 10th October for our session on [Physics Society Team](#)!



PLANCKS UK

To the keen theoretical physics students out there: Now's your time to shine! The International Association of Physics Students {iaps} is a theoretical physics competition for bachelor's and masters students, who can join in groups of 3-4. We are excited to support Imperial physics students who want to participate. The preliminary rounds will be held in the University of Kent and the three teams that are chosen to represent the UK will compete at the international finals in Portugal. Find out more [here](#).



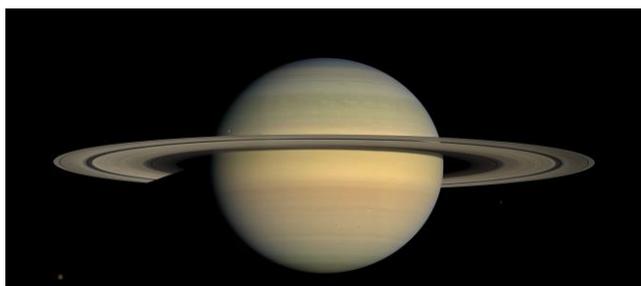
Research Frontiers

The Cassini Spacecraft Mission at Saturn

5th October 12pm-2pm

Prof. Michelle Dougherty

“In September 2017, the NASA/ESA Cassini-Huygens spacecraft mission ended its 20 years in space by burning up in Saturn’s atmosphere. The end of mission orbits was designed to better understand the interior of Saturn and its magnetic field. These end of mission results will be described as well as some of the other surprising discoveries made during the orbital tour at Saturn, including water vapour plumes at the small moon Enceladus and implications this has for potential habitability.”



Research Frontiers

Theory and Simulation of Materials: Understanding and Designing Materials from the Atomic Scale Up

8th October 12pm-2pm

Prof. Arash Mostofi

“Computational science now sits firmly alongside pure theory and experiment as one of the key pillars of scientific investigation. The challenges in physics, chemistry, biology and materials research that researchers are tackling in order to help address some of the most interesting technological (and societal) problems of both today and tomorrow are often of such complexity that it is impossible to make progress without a computational approach. I will focus on my principal area of expertise in theory and simulation of materials at the nanoscale using quantum mechanical simulations. I will largely avoid the underlying philosophical difficulties with quantum theory and instead highlight the development and practical application of quantum mechanics for understanding and predicting the behavior of materials using specific examples of work from my research group.”

EVENTS SUMMARY

YOUR ROUND UP



A Message from Our Sponsor

Dear Imperial Physics students,

Greetings from Optiver in Amsterdam. We would like to wish you a warm welcome to the new academic year. We hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.



Optiver is an international proprietary trading firm with offices in Amsterdam, Chicago, Sydney and Shanghai and we are proud to provide sponsorship to the Imperial Physics society again!

We look forward to getting to know you all a bit more during your time at Imperial College. If you would like to know more about us, you can catch us at your University Career fairs and also at our [company presentation](#) on the 26th October!

Whether this is your first semester at university or if you are a returning student, this academic year will be very different than previous and we would like to wish you a great first semester.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Optiver



One More Thing

Citadel Virtual Datathon

Hosted by Citadel LLC and Citadel Securities in partnership with Correlation One, the Data Open is launching the season for Imperial College London with Europe Regional Datathon, which will take place virtually this Fall!

The Data Open challenges students from the world's best universities to tackle real-world social challenges in topics such as urban traffic, renewable energy, and education.

Taking place between October 19 - 26, teams will have a week to work on their submissions, with the flexibility to showcase their skills on their own schedule. Top performing students across Europe have the opportunity to win \$25,000 in cash prizes, exclusive recruiting opportunities with Citadel, and global recognition.

When: October 19 - 26

Where: Virtual

Prizes: \$25,000 + Exclusive recruiting opportunities with Citadel LLC and Citadel Securities

Here's the link to [sign up!](#)

Admissions are made on a rolling basis, so I encourage you to apply now! Last day to apply is Sunday, October 11th.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about the event, contact mert@correlation-one.com. We look forward to receiving your application.



Follow us on Facebook:
Imperial College PhySoc



Follow us on Instagram:
[physoc.imperial](https://www.instagram.com/physoc.imperial)