



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

ACCELERATING THE PACE OF DISCOVERY

The Department of Physics at UC San Diego is advancing scientific and practical knowledge through world-class research and transformative education. Our physicists collaborate on solutions for our shared future by engaging with the brightest minds in data science, medicine and quantum computing.

Department of Physics faculty are experts in the fields of condensed matter and material physics; biological and life sciences; and astronomy, astrophysics and high-energy physics. Partnerships across the academic landscape support our campus vision to address our modern era's most complex scientific challenges. With this interdisciplinary approach, department researchers are predicting optimal methods for energy storage, unraveling the physical principles of living systems to advance therapeutics, and exploring the far reaches of space.

The very first graduate students at UC San Diego were physicists. Graduate student researchers are at the heart of the department's work, approaching challenges in new ways, energizing connections, and developing greater understanding in the field of physics and consequently therapeutics and technological advances supporting the public good. Through personalized mentorship and research lab opportunities, we prepare all our students to lead in a rapidly evolving, data-driven world.

5TH IN THE NATION

For Physics of Living Systems
(*U.S. News & World Report*)

1:1

mentorship opportunities support undergraduate students and prepare them to become leaders in academia, industry and society.

55+

Award-winning faculty members mentor the next generation of scientific leaders.

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don't know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility. Together, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.

UC San Diego



PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

THE CHAIR'S CHALLENGE

Amplifying excellence in graduate student work, the Chair's Challenge allows gifts of any size to be matched 1:1, up to \$5,000 annually, to support experiences that enhance graduate student research, teaching and professional development. With academic mentorship at its core, funds are awarded to graduate students who receive referrals and financial support from their faculty advisor. Your gift to the Chair's Challenge supports the growth and development of graduate student awardees, nurturing curiosity through collective support.

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship gifts support graduate students who conduct original research in pursuit of solutions to today's most pressing challenges. These fellowships fuel research and learning opportunities by attracting, sustaining and empowering the world's brightest minds from all backgrounds. Your gift to fund graduate student fellowships builds a diverse pipeline of talented academics who are ready to blaze new trails to advance scientific understanding for the public good.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

We develop skilled problem-solvers by providing rigorous training in fundamental and applied physics, empowering undergraduate students to master the core principles of physics and encourage them to apply them across diverse fields — from biotechnology to health care to finance. Your support of research fellowships for undergraduate students enables them to conduct research alongside their classroom studies.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Educating analytical thinkers is central to our mission of creating the next generation of innovators and leaders. Undergraduate scholarships for students in the Department of Physics can ensure that learning is accessible and affordable to all. As our curriculum is focused on both theoretical foundations and hands-on experimental skills, your gift to support undergraduate scholarships supports the pipeline of students benefiting from a comprehensive educational experience.

Together, we can empower scientific discovery and accelerate innovation. With your philanthropic support, we can uplift critical thinkers who work in collaboration to solve the problems of tomorrow.

Learn more at physics.ucsd.edu/giving.

For more information on supporting the Department of Physics, please contact:

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