

**Hampton University Physics Department Pegasus Trips  
Purdue University April 27-29, 2017 Report  
Prepared by: Paul Gueye**

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**General overview of the Pegasus Trips**

In the Fall 2016, the Physics Department of Hampton University established a new annual initiative labeled “*Pegasus Physics Trips*”, modeled after the 2014 precursor trip to the National Radio-Astronomy Observatory of the Physicists Inspiring the Next Generation ([www.nsbping.org](http://www.nsbping.org)) program. It is a series of one to two days long visits to four majority institutions (Yale University, Michigan State University, Brown University and Purdue University), two per semester, from 22 (undergraduate and graduate) students attending Physics and Engineering Departments at four Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Hampton University, Spelman College, Elizabeth City State University and Howard University. The participants also include faculty members and staff. The visit to Brown University was not possible due scheduling reason but there is plan to have it during the 2017-2018 academic year.

The primary goal for these visits is to provide an avenue for undergraduate students to attend graduate school, for MS students to consider pursuing a PhD degree and for PhD students to look for postdocs. They also provide an additional emphasis on the needed qualifications and attitude to apply and be successful in graduate school.

The name, affiliation and classification of the participants are listed in Appendix A. It consists of 22 students: 20 undergraduate students, three graduate students from which 11 are males and 11 are females. Not all the students attended each of these visits, primarily for academic constraints. Individual reports from all participants were requested along with responding to a post-visit survey.

**Purdue trip**

This short report focuses on the last visit that was held at Purdue University on April 27-29, 2017, following the one to Yale on November 10-11, 2016 and MSU on December 1-3, 2016. A copy of the schedule is listed in Appendix B. The post-survey form and results are also appended to this summary along with all individual responses as provided.

A total of ten participants (Figure 1) flew in from Hampton University, Spelman College and Washington DC on Thursday mid-morning. One student from Howard University was not able to attend at the last minute and one student was a highschool senior. Everyone arrived roughly around the same time (~5:00pm). The entire group attended the Thursday night dinner held at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel.

While the overall visit was extremely well appreciated (50% ranked it as excellent), the activity that was ranked the best overall was the tour of the Birck Nanotechnology Center (42.9% ranked as excellent). The Black Cultural Center visit had the highest ranking (100% as excellent), followed by John Finley’s welcome and presentation address (85.7% ranked as excellent) and the Friday night dinner (71.4% ranked as excellent). The latter provided a unique environment for

students and faculty to get together and network in a very informal setting. The Black Cultural Center provided a venue for all the students to belong and connect strongly with Purdue University, in addition to recognizing the commitment from the University to African Americans.



**Figure 1:** Participants to the Pegasus trip to Purdue University on April 27-29.

There were several outcomes from this visit:

- All participants were extremely surprised by what Purdue could offer: they did not know how large this University was and the extent of the academic disciplines and opportunities for research. While the engineering division was not included in the visit, they were all very satisfied beyond their expectations with the visit. Similar to the trips to MSU and Yale, all the students are now very confident in their ability to attend Research 1 institutions;
- The interaction with African American students from other disciplines and the existence of the Black Cultural Center were highlighted as being extremely beneficial for considering Purdue as an option for their education;
- The best agenda item was the visit of the Birck Nanotechnology Center. The availability of a fore-front facility within which students can be trained and operate (almost) any equipment on their own to conduct their research were captivating and exciting to say the least;
- The interactions with the graduate students from all three institutions (Yale, MSU and Purdue) have again proven to be a key factor in putting a positive perspective and attitude toward pursuing a graduate degree at these institutions; and
- The presentation by and discussions with Zenephia Evans were pointed out as extremely beneficial. As is an alum from Purdue, she was able to provide a honest and personal view of this institution from the inside as a Black woman scientist. The interaction was also “straight talk”, similar to Michelle Nearon (Yale) and Judi Brown-Clark (MSU) that was very well appreciated and received.
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## Appendix A: List of participants to the HU Physics Pegasus Trips

Last	First	Classification	Gender	Institution	Major
Gueye	Paul	Department, Chair	Male	Hampton University	Physics
Pretlow	Monica	Administrative Assistant	Female	Hampton University	Physics
Freeman	Jessica	Graduate Student	Female	Hampton University	Physics
Guererro	Juan	Graduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Physics
Fernando	Ishara	Graduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Physics
Andrews	Bria	Undergraduate Student	Female	Hampton University	Physics
Burney	Kyle	Undergraduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Physics
Roots	Maurice	Undergraduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Physics
Miller	Matthew	Undergraduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Engineering
Johnson	Camara	Undergraduate Student	Female	Hampton University	Engineering
Mabulu	Katiso	Undergraduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Engineering
Matthews	Breyah	Undergraduate Student	Female	Hampton University	Engineering
Cole	Maya	Undergraduate Student	Female	Hampton University	Engineering
Rucker	Basseemah	Undergraduate Student	Male	Hampton University	Engineering
Wofford	Alia	Undergraduate Student	Female	Elizabeth City State University	Physics/Biology
Thomas	Brianna	Undergraduate Student	Male	Howard University	Physics
Smith	Sergio	Undergraduate Student	Male	Howard University	Physics
Blake	Ameer	Undergraduate Student	Male	Howard University	Physics
Hunt-Stone	Keenan	Undergraduate Student	Male	Howard University	Physics
Floyd	Hanna	Undergraduate Student	Female	Spelman College	Physics
Gordon	Ashlee	Undergraduate Student	Female	Spelman College	Physics
McCray	Mayla	Undergraduate Student	Female	Spelman College	Physics
Pruitt	Kimara	Undergraduate Student	Female	Spelman College	Physics
Walker	Lakirah	Undergraduate Student	Female	Spelman College	Physics
Thompson	Kaleela	Highschool Student	Female	Kecoughtan Highschool (Hampton)	N/A

## Appendix B: Purdue University Visit Schedule



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

### Agenda for: Hampton/Howard/Spelman Visit

<b>Arrival: 4/27/17</b> <b>Indy Airport</b> <b>Lafayette Limo</b>	<b>Hotel: Marriott Courtyard 150</b> <b>Fairington Ave Lafayette,</b> <b>IN 47905 (765) 449-4800</b>
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<b>Thursday April 27, 2017</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>6:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Greetings</b>	<b>Marriott Courtyard Grand Ballroom C</b>
<b>7:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Dinner Matt Lister (Astro)</b>	<b>Marriott Courtyard Grand Ballroom C</b>

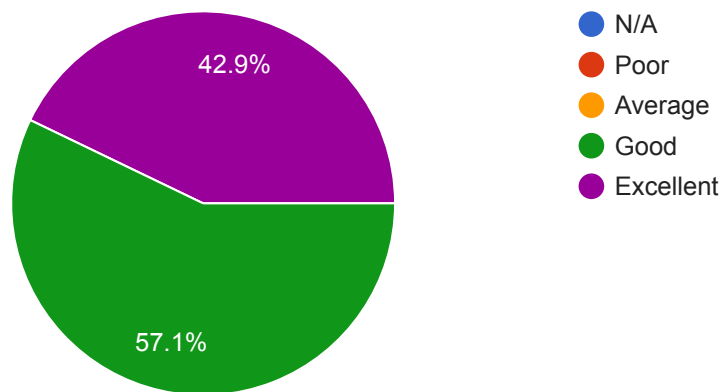
<b>Friday April 28, 2017</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>7:15 A.M.</b>	<b>EAC Shuttle arrives – departs 7:30 A.M.</b>	<b>Marriott Courtyard</b>
<b>8:00 A.M.</b>	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>Welcome and Department Overview – John</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>9:00 A.M.</b>	<b>Lab Tour – Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics)</b>	<b>PHYS B10</b>
<b>9:30 A.M.</b>	<b>Lab Tour – Yong Chen (CM/AMO)</b>	<b>PHYS 74</b>
<b>10:00 A.M.</b>	<b>Lab Tour – Chen-Lung Hung (AMO)</b>	<b>PHYS 266</b>
<b>10:30 A.M.</b>	<b>Lab Tour – Rafael Lang (Direct DM)</b>	<b>PHYS 340</b>
<b>11:00 A.M.</b>	<b>Lab Tour – Andreas Jung (HEP)</b>	<b>PHYS 347</b>
<b>11:45 A.M.</b>	<b>Bus departs for BCC</b>	<b>Front of PHYS</b>
<b>12:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Lunch and Tour (as desired)</b>	<b>BCC</b>
<b>1:45 P.M.</b>	<b>Bus departs for Birck</b>	<b>BCC</b>
<b>2:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Tour of Birck Nanotechnology Center – Mike</b>	<b>BRCK Lobby</b>
<b>3:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Bus departs for PHYS</b>	<b>BRCK Lobby</b>
<b>3:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Coffee and Snacks with P&amp;A grads</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>4:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Closing Remarks Prof. Finley</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>4:45 P.M.</b>	<b>Diversity Office remarks Zenephia Evans</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>5:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Walking Tour/Downtime</b>	<b>PHYS 242</b>
<b>6:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Stacked Pickle</b>
<b>8:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Bus departs for Marriott Courtyard</b>	<b>Stacked Pickle</b>

<b>Saturday April 29, 2017</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>9:20 A.M.</b>	<b>Lafayette Limo to Indy Airport</b>	<b>Marriott Courtyard</b>

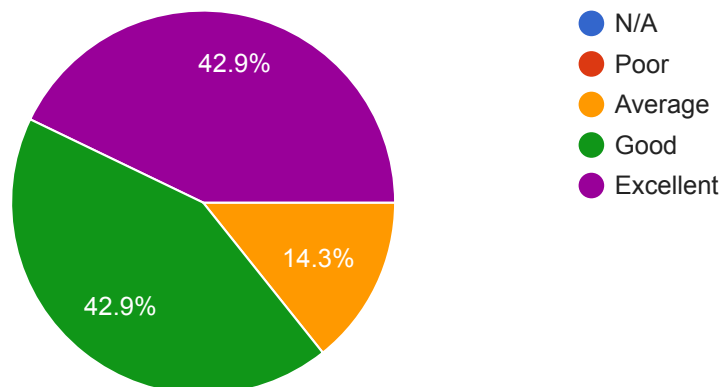
# Physics Pegasus Trip - Purdue April 27-29, 2017

7 responses

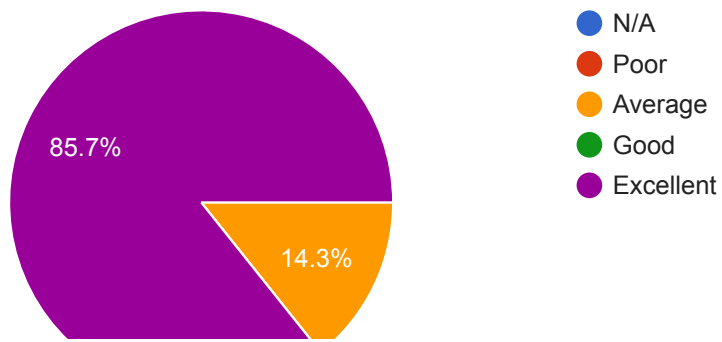
## Thursday Night Dinner (7 responses)



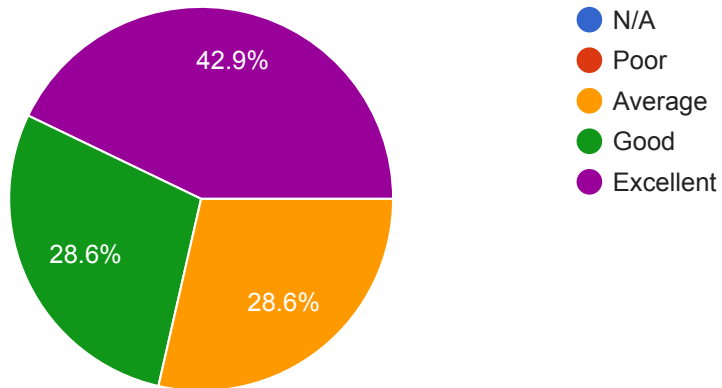
## Matt Lister Presentation on Thursday night (7 responses)



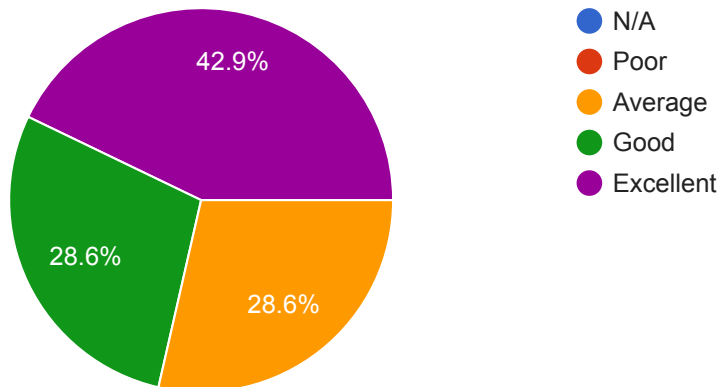
## John Finley Welcome and Overview (7 responses)



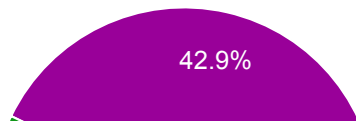
### Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics) Lab Tour (7 responses)



### Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour (7 responses)

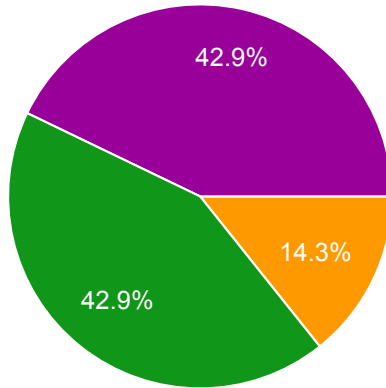


### Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour (7 responses)



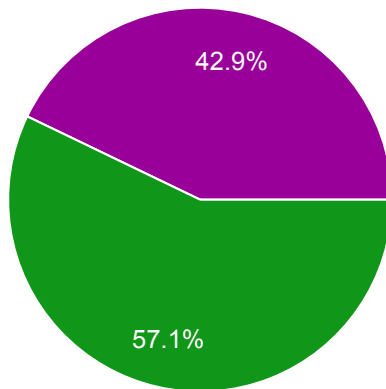
- N/A
- Poor
- Average

### Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour (7 responses)



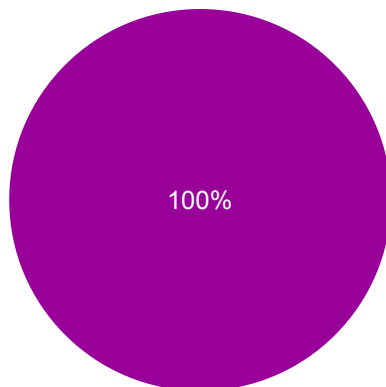
- N/A
- Poor
- Average
- Good
- Excellent

### Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour (7 responses)



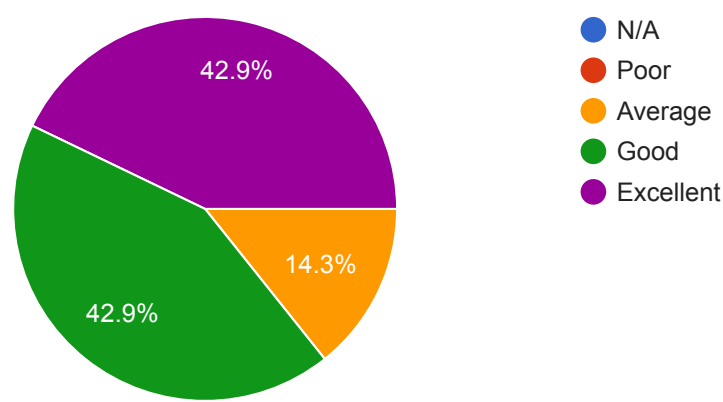
- N/A
- Poor
- Average
- Good
- Excellent

### Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) (7 responses)

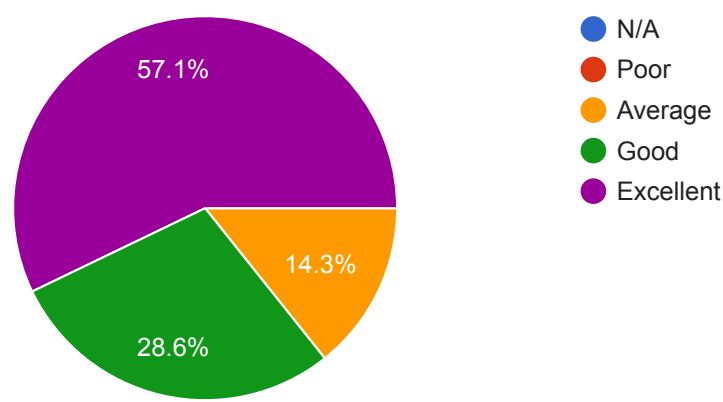


- N/A
- Poor
- Average
- Good
- Excellent

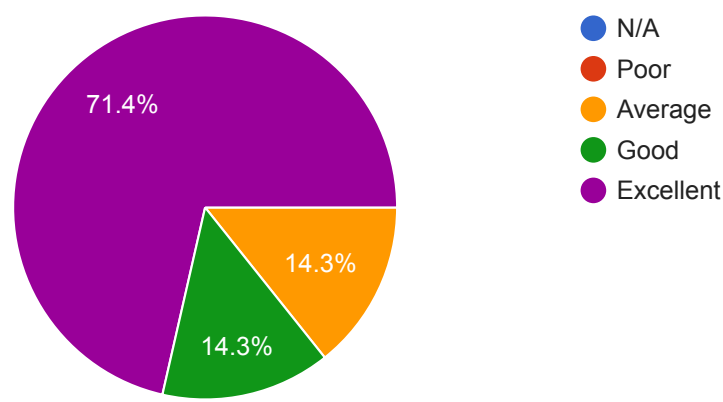
Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour (7 responses)



Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) (7 responses)

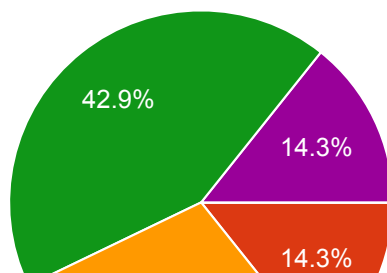


Friday night dinner (7 responses)



Best Agenda Item (7 responses)

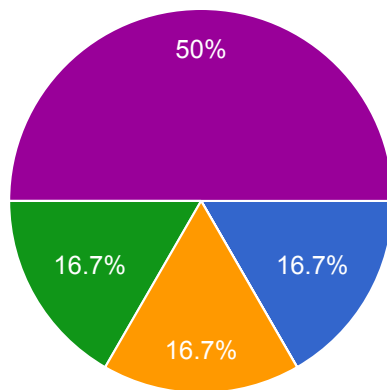




- Thursday night dinner
- Presentations (M. Lister, S. Iyer-Biswas, Y. Chen, C. L....)
- Black Cultural Center Lunch and Tour
- Birck Nanotechnology Center (M. Manfra)

Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

(6 responses)



- N/A
- Poor
- Average
- Good
- Excellent

**John Finley** (4 responses)

Very welcoming and set the tone for the entire trip

Mr. Finley was very kind and funny. He was also very helpful and made Purdue an enjoyable environment to be comfortable in.

briefing

Great host really welcoming, just wish there was more catering to the engineers on the tour. The physics was cool but I couldn't really connect with it how I wanted because it wasn't my field

**Zenephia Evans** (4 responses)

Dr. Evans was a wonderful host and was able to communicate cultural information necessary to live black life in a PWI

Ms. Evans was very kind and I enjoyed talking to her. She gave lots of excellent advice that I will always carry with me.

inclusion

Had great one on one conversations with students and really attempted to connect with us on a deeper level

Purdue Faculty (4 responses)

Exciting, knowledgeable and welcoming

The Purdue Faculty made me feel a part of their community.

helpfulness

They were okay, seemed to know a lot in their respective field as well as had good insight on how things were ran at Purdue

Purdue Graduate Students (4 responses)

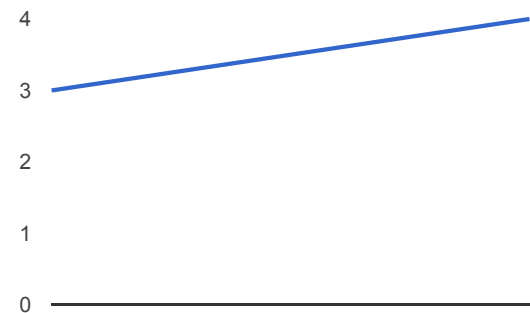
Down to earth, knowledgeable, nice, and helpful.

The Purdue Graduate Students were very helpful as they gave me lots of details and experience about college life and how it developed them into who they are today.

personal outlook

No complaints

Number of daily responses



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# Physics Pegasus Trip - Purdue April 27-29, 2017

Survey from the two-day physics visit to Purdue University on April 27-29, 2017

## Thursday Night Dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Matt Lister Presentation on Thursday night \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## John Finley Welcome and Overview \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Birck Nanotechnology Center (M. Manfra) ▼

Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

N/A



John Finley

Very welcoming and set the tone for the entire trip

Zenephia Evans

Dr. Evans was a wonderful host and was able to communicate cultural information necessary to live black life in a PWI

Purdue Faculty

Exciting, knowledgeable and welcoming

Purdue Graduate Students

Down to earth, knowledgeable, nice, and helpful.

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Excellent ▼

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Excellent ▼

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Excellent ▼

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Excellent ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

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Excellent ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼



# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Friday night dinner



Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Excellent ▼

## John Finley

Mr. Finley was very kind and funny. He was also very helpful and made Purdue an enjoyable environment to be comfortable in.

## Zenephia Evans

Ms. Evans was very kind and I enjoyed talking to her. She gave lots of excellent advice that I will always carry with me.

## Purdue Faculty

The Purdue Faculty made me feel a part of their community.

## Purdue Graduate Students

The Purdue Graduate Students were very helpful as they gave me lots of details and experience about college life and how it developed them into who they are today.

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## Thursday Night Dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Matt Lister Presentation on Thursday night \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## John Finley Welcome and Overview \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour \*

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## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Presentations (M. Lister, S. Iyer-Biswas, Y. Chen, C. L. Hung, R. Lang, A. Jung) ▼

Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Choose ▼

John Finley

.....

Zenephia Evans

.....

Purdue Faculty

.....

Purdue Graduate Students

.....



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Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

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## Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

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Excellent ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼



# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Birck Nanotechnology Center (M. Manfra)



Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Excellent ▼

John Finley

briefing

Zenephia Evans

inclusion

Purdue Faculty

helpfulness

Purdue Graduate Students

personal outlook



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Good ▼

## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Black Cultural Center Lunch and Tour



Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Good



John Finley

Great host really welcoming, just wish there was more catering to the engineers on the tour. The physics was cool but I couldn't really connect with it how I wanted because it wasn't my field

Zenephia Evans

Had great one on one conversations with students and really attempted to connect with us on a deeper level

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They were okay, seemed to know a lot in their respective field as well as had good insight on how things were ran at Purdue

Purdue Graduate Students

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## John Finley Welcome and Overview \*

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## Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼



# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Black Cultural Center Lunch and Tour



Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Excellent ▼

John Finley

.....

Zenephia Evans

.....

Purdue Faculty

.....

Purdue Graduate Students

.....



Responses cannot be edited

# Physics Pegasus Trip - Purdue April 27-29, 2017

Survey from the two-day physics visit to Purdue University on April 27-29, 2017

## Thursday Night Dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Matt Lister Presentation on Thursday night \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## John Finley Welcome and Overview \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Sri Iyer-Biswas (Biophysics) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Yong Chen (CM/AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

## Chen-Lung Hung (AMO) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Rafael Lang (Direct DM) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Andreas Jung (HEP) Lab Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Black Cultural Center (Lunch and Tour) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Excellent ▼

## Birck Nanotechnology Center (Mike Manfra) Tour \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Closing Remarks (John Finley and Zenephia Evans) \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Good ▼

## Friday night dinner \*

Your opinion about the information provided and its usefulness to your future aspiration

Average ▼

# Best Agenda Item \*

Your opinion about what you liked the most during your visit

Birck Nanotechnology Center (M. Manfra)



Please indicate how globally (below) and how each of the following (next questions, short answers) added to your experience

Average ▼

John Finley

.....

Zenephia Evans

.....

Purdue Faculty

.....

Purdue Graduate Students

.....



Ishara Fernando  
PhD Candidate  
Department of Physics  
Hampton University  
Hampton, VA 23668  
USA

May 1, 2017

Dr. Paul Gueye  
Assistant Professor of Physics  
Department of Physics  
Hampton University  
Hampton, VA 23668  
USA

Dear Dr. Paul,

First of all, I would like to thank you for organizing such a great visit for us to see the opportunities at Purdue University (PU). We were basically a group of ten individuals (my self as a graduate student, eight undergraduate students and Dr. Paul). Purdue University has arranged our flights, ground transportation lodging with great hospitality.

On Thursday April 27th evening we were warmly welcomed by Dr. John Finley (the Physics department chair of PU), followed by the talk on their Astrophysics program at PU by Dr. Matthew Lister at the welcome dinner held in the Courtyard Marriott Hotel. Then, on Friday April 28th we had a well organized schedule of lab visits and meetings with Faculty and Graduate students.

I had the opportunity to talk to Dr. John Finley, Dr. Zenephia E. Evans as well as one of the theoretical nuclear physics faculty, Dr. Martin Kruczenski in person regarding prospective post-doc position openings. At the moment they haven't had new openings, but they encouraged me to stay tuned on their website and Academicjobsonline.org website for postings. I met several graduate students at PU and I would like to give my special thanks to Ms. Mridula Damodaran (graduate student) for having a very nice discussion about industry positions after a PhD in theoretical physics.

I was so amazed by the Birck Nanotechnology Center (BNC) facility because I got the opportunity to see the instruments which can perform Molecular Beam Epitaxy (MBE) technique to grow Quantum Dots. Since my undergraduate project was calculating the strain distribution of a pyramidal semiconductor quantum dots, it was nice to see how the real experiments are done using these advanced instruments. Also, I would like to recommend PU for undergraduate students those who have an aim to proceed in nano science. Also Dr. Paul and I noticed that there is a possibility of having an opportunity for undergraduates to do a summer credit course at BNC facility. We would look forward to make the bridge between HU and PU to give some great experience for our HU undergrads.

Our undergraduate students were actively asking questions through out the program and their enthusiasm lead to receive some kind of a "special attention" of the faculty members at PU.

Thank you.  
Sincerely,

Ishara Fernando



## Purdue University Visit

I for one had a fantastic time visiting Purdue University. I came to Indiana not expecting to find even half the insensitive that I came across on tours. The visit to Purdue was in my overall opinion a success. The goal was to visit the university and have those who came put Purdue on their "radar" for Graduate School.

My experience of the trip was very informative of the graduate education that one can receive in Purdue's Physics Department. I loved all the facilities and labs that Purdue has to offer. My favorite part of the entire trip was that Berk Nanotechnology Center. I was extremely excited to visit this center and when we took the tour all my expectations were exceeded.

For the entire trip from start to finish, including travel, my expectations were greatly exceeded. All that transpired during this visit has surely secured a spot for Purdue University on my list of Graduate Schools to consider.

Written by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. E. D. Roots", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Maurice E. D. Roots

I enjoyed the visit to Purdue University and the city-college it had to offer. Everything you need is around the campus and since it is so large there are things seems to always be something to do on campus. Based on the physics and astrophysics labs we visited there is some very interesting research going on. One in particle was the lab working with a lab in Italy that is working on detecting Dark Matter using a metal canister buried under the ground filled with xenon gas. Xenon is used because it is not dangerous and if Dark matter reacts with it, the atoms will coil. Although we didn't have time to go to any engineering labs Purdue has peaked my interest enough to come back next semester in the fall to see the engineering labs. Overall I really enjoyed my time and Purdue and will definitely consider it when I apply to grad school.