

# Intersectional Identities of Physicists

2023 RHIC/AGS Annual User's Meeting

Xandria R. Quichocho

Texas State University, SIP, ISNBS





#### **Physics Education Research Group**

Faculty:

Daniel Barringer
Eleanor Close
Hunter Close
David Donnelly
Brandon Lunk
Alice Olmstead

Postdocs:

Jiwoo An

Brianne Gutmann

Mollee Schultz

Amreen Thompson

Mavreen Tuvilla

Current students:

**Emily Cappello** 

Hannah Castro

Jessica Conn

**Anthony Gobernatz** 

Shahrzad Hesaaraki

Austin McCauley

Xandria Quichocho

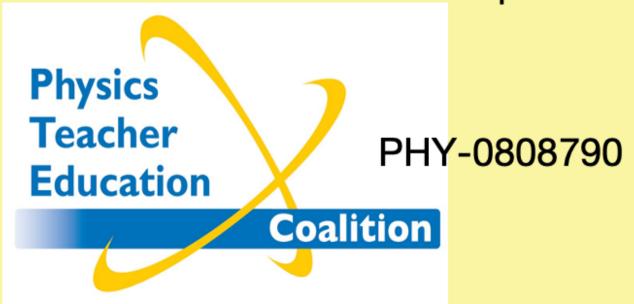
Kaleigh Salty

Erin Schipull

Alexander Vasquez



DUE-1557405 DUE-1557276 DUE-1928596 DUE-1928696



Past students:

Cody Blakeney

**Daniel Chonis** 

**Aaron Collins** 

Chase Gammon

Kayley Green-Tooney

Gabrielle Harmon

Joseph Hook

Sara Hull

Nichole Libby

Jean-Michel

Mailloux-Huberdeau

Audiel Maldonado

Rebel Nicholson

Egla Ochoa-Madrid

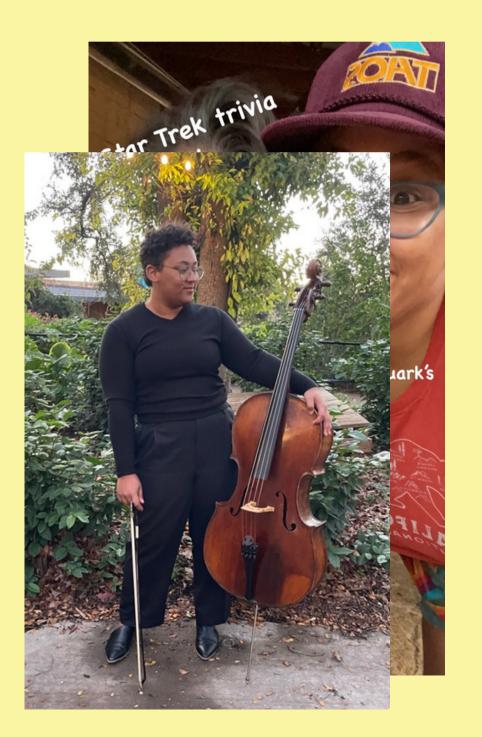
Korley Roesler

Sean Tarter

Lauren Trombley

Ryan Zamora

## PENSU MSU





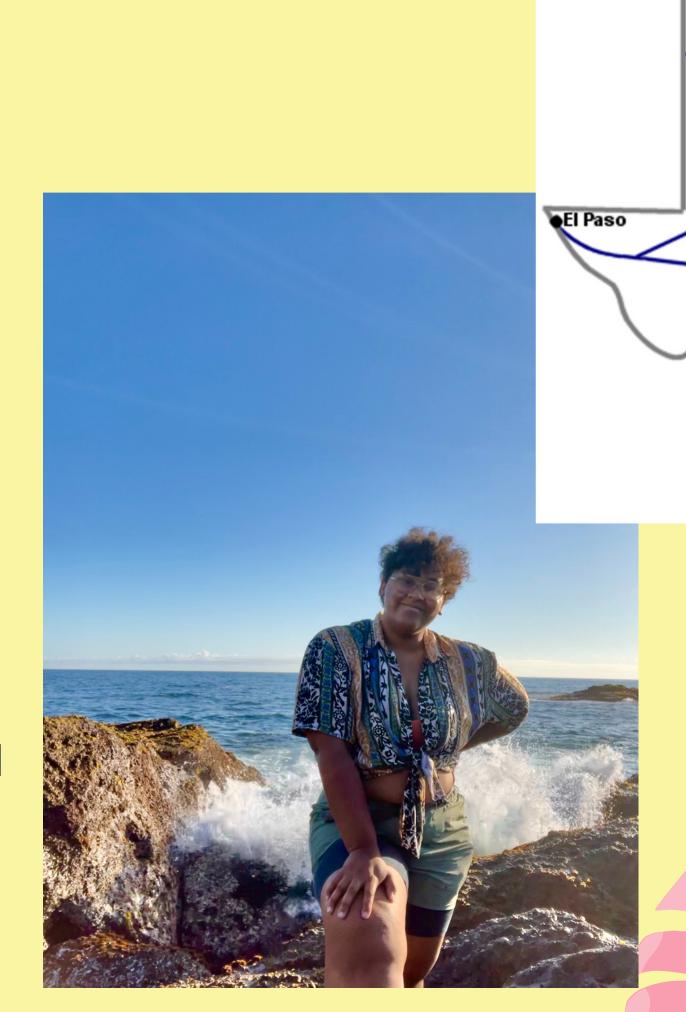


#### XANDRIA R. QUICHOCHO

Texas State University

they/them

Residing (primarily) on Tankawa,
Apache, Maikan-Garza Band, and
Coahuiltecan Land
(settler name: San Marcos, TX)



Dallas

Houston

#### Society of Indigenous Physicists

- Contracted work with SIP to build community between Indigenous physicists world-wide
- Planning the first gathering of Indigenous physicists in 2024
- Give workshops on incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing into the classroom and research





#### **APS Committee on Minorities**

- Work to brainstorm and build official structures to support minoritized and marginalized physicists with the American Physical Society
- Committee performs Site Visits for physics departments to evaluate equity & inclusion practices

## International Society of Non-Binary Scientists

 Attended an international round-table to discuss how to safely and ethically collect demographic data on LGBTQIA+ scientists

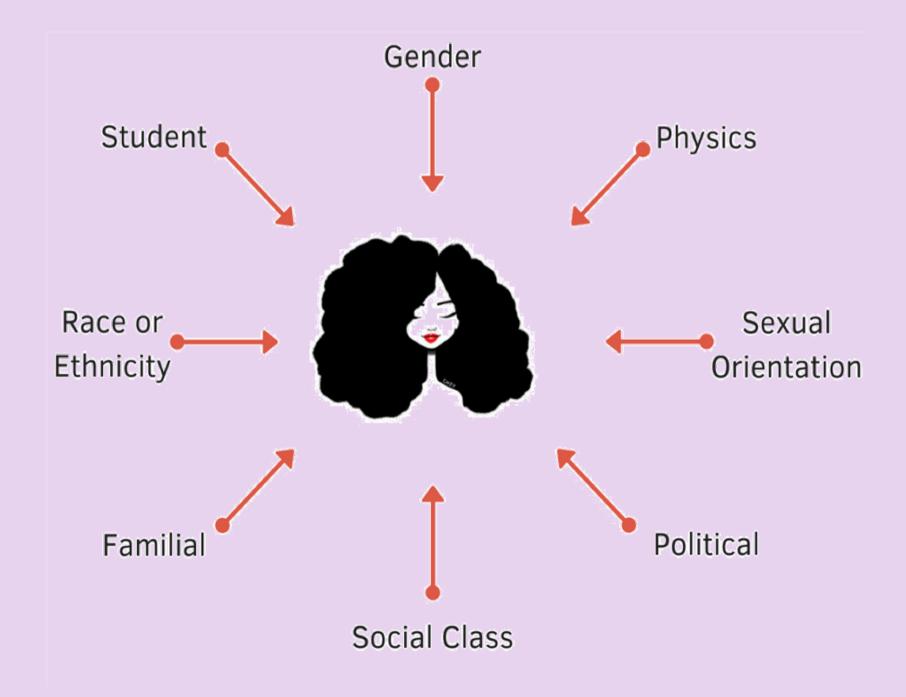
## In what ways do GMPOC\* and LGBTQ+` physicists develop their physics identities?

\*Gender Minority People of Color
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, plus
\*\*We want to note the inclusion of transgender participants,
transgender women, in particular.

## Physics Identity

#### If one identifies as a physicist or physics person

Introduced by Carlone and Johnson [1] and operationalizes by Hazari et al. [2]



Understanding how people do or do not identify with the practice allows us to examine the systemic & structural practices that are necessary to create more equitable and inclusive environments

### Goals of study



We want to find out more about what support marginalized folks need to remain in the field

What does equity & inclusion mean for transgender and non-binary folks in laboratory and group settings?

What does it look like?

#### What does it mean?

- LGBT+ physicists have faced uneven protection and support from legislation and policies.
- In many physics environments, social norms establish expectations of closeted behavior.
- **Isolation** was a common theme for many LGBT+ physicists.
- A significant fraction of LGBT+ physicists have experienced or observed **exclusionary behavior**.



#### What does it mean?

- LGBT+ physicists with additional marginalized identities faced greater levels of discrimination.
- Many LGBT+ physicists were at risk for leaving their workplace or school.
- LGBT+ physicists reported **trouble identifying allies** to help mitigate isolation, exclusion, or marginalization

#### What does it mean?

Transgender and gender-nonconforming physicists encountered the most hostile environments.

A sense of belonging is essential for people, especially marginalized people, to remain connected to, and a part of, the practice

#### What can we do?

- Create safe spaces for transgender & non-binary scientists
- Establish a clear code of conduct that includes procedures for reporting violations
- Promote the use of inclusive language in the lab/classroom/workspace
  - More than just respecting people's pronouns. It means sharing your own if you are cisgender, avoiding the use of "male/female" equipment, etc

#### What can we do?

- Develop (or find) efforts that are currently supporting LGBTQIA+ people and scientists! Look beyond the sciences and start relationships
- Attend a series of workshops that center creating more inclusive and safe spaces for marginalized scientists. One conference workshop is just the start!

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#### Thank you for being here today!



https://www.aps.org/programs/lgbt/ Recommended resources! Please feel free to reach out! email: xandriaraeq@gmail.com twitter: @quarkchocho



