



## **Membership Policy (2021-05-20)**

The Institute for Theory and Computation (ITC) conducts and promotes research in theoretical astrophysics at the Center for Astrophysics (CfA).

### **Members of the ITC**

The ITC members include Senior Members, Senior Advisory Members, post-doctoral research fellows, and students. In addition, the ITC hosts collaborators and visitors.

Senior Members are generally current or former Harvard faculty or Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO) researchers with permanent or indefinite appointments. Their research includes theoretical astrophysics, and they regularly participate in the activities of the ITC, for example committees, meetings, seminars and colloquia, and events. Senior Members have voting privileges at the bi-annual ITC Senior Faculty meeting.

Senior Advisory Members offer advice from an external perspective at the bi-annual ITC Senior Faculty meeting and within other forums as appropriate. Senior Advisory members are interested in the ITC but need not be involved in its day-to-day activities or in research in theoretical astrophysics.

ITC post-docs and students are each affiliated with a Senior Member and are members of the ITC, including those whose primary affiliation is outside the CfA, for example with another Harvard department or another university.

ITC visitors and collaborators may have access to various ITC resources, for example financial or computational, but are not members of the ITC.

### **Requirements for Membership**

The guidelines for ITC membership reconcile two goals, group identity and openness to new members. None of the senior members are employed by the ITC. This allows the ITC to be an open community because membership is not financially restricted. To preserve the ITC's identity there are guidelines.

Senior Membership will be reviewed every 3 years on the basis of:

- 1) Research in theoretical astrophysics
- 2) Work with other ITC members including post-docs and students
- 3) ITC committee service
- 4) Other ITC activities, for example, seminar organization, visitor hosting, etc.
- 5) Attendance at ITC events including seminars and colloquia.



Senior membership, including that of new members, will be reviewed and approved at the bi-annual ITC Senior Faculty meeting. New Senior Members are nominated by current Senior Members. The ITC may ask members who are under review, including new members, for a summary of recent ITC participation.

Senior Advisory Members will also be reviewed every 3 years and approved at the bi-annual meeting. Membership is based on the expectation of useful advice. New Senior Advisory Members are also nominated by Senior Members.

ITC post-doctoral research fellows and students, including those with external funding, are approved on the basis of affiliation with a Senior Member. Tenure is limited by a change in status, for example expiration of a fellowship or graduation. The ITC director may extend ITC membership to enable a post-doc or student to transition to a new appointment.

These guidelines are not exclusionary. Exceptions may be approved by the Senior Members.

Any membership can be terminated at any time by vote of the Senior Members.