

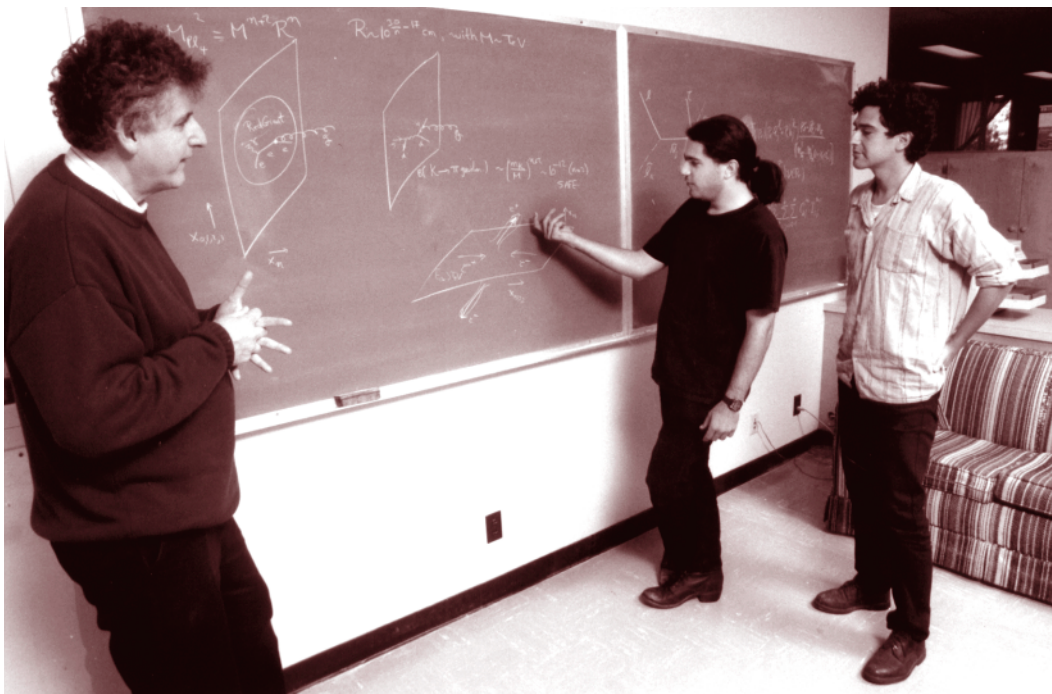
# GRADUATE STUDIES AT SLAC

SLAC, as a distinct department of Stanford, is directly tied to all academic aspects of the University. The faculty of SLAC presently number about thirty and their research is focused primarily in the areas of:

*experimental and theoretical elementary particle physics;*  
*experimental and theoretical accelerator and beam physics; and*  
*particle astrophysics and cosmology.*

Graduate students have the opportunity to work directly with members of the SLAC faculty and a large scientific staff on forefront research in all of these fields. The close and unique collaboration between experimental and theoretical groups provides an exciting and stimulating atmosphere for students doing their graduate study at the laboratory. A small number of faculty members from the Physics and the Applied Physics Departments hold joint appointments at SLAC and/or use the SLAC facility for their research.

SLAC faculty teach classes in the Physics and Applied Physics departments and serve as the principal academic advisors to about a quarter of all students admitted into the graduate program from those departments. The degree requirements for obtaining a Ph.D. are the same as for all students enrolled in the Physics or Applied Physics departments, however students conducting Ph.D. research with a SLAC faculty advisor obtain their tuition and financial support as Research Assistants directly from SLAC.



Professor Stan Brodsky Exchanging Ideas with Visiting Scientists.

## OBTAINING A PH.D. THROUGH GRADUATE RESEARCH AT SLAC

Students admitted to the Physics and Applied Physics departments for graduate study are strongly encouraged to explore opportunities for research at SLAC under the guidance of a member of the SLAC faculty.

During the Open House in Spring (prior to admission), and again during Orientation Week in the Fall, students will be given a chance to meet the SLAC faculty, and see firsthand what research opportunities are available. Students who have been offered admission and have accepted, should inquire with the SLAC Graduate Studies Office about opportunities to do research at SLAC in the summer prior to matriculation. SLAC offers a number of paid Summer Internships to incoming graduate students interested in our program.

Students entering Stanford may do research at SLAC as part of the “rotation program” during their first year. This provides a mechanism to explore the opportunities at SLAC as well as meeting the faculty, staff and students working at the lab. Students may rotate amongst the different research groups at SLAC during the first three quarters. Those interested in one or more aspects of SLAC’s program are encouraged to spend the first summer (following the Qualifying Exam) working at the lab. This will provide a first chance to spend an extended period of time at the lab without the heavy demands of coursework. Students often take advantage of this time to narrow down their choice of research interests and potential faculty advisors.

During their second year students are expected to select a faculty advisor and continue as a Research Assistant in the advisor’s research group. By the end of the second year when most required coursework is completed, students begin to spend full time doing research at SLAC.

By the fourth year, students along with their advisor will have selected a suitable dissertation topic and selected a Reading Committee. This final process begins with the student’s presentation of their dissertation topic proposal to the Reading Committee. When all other degree requirements are met this committee will evaluate the student’s Ph.D. dissertation and make a recommendation on the conferral of the Ph.D. degree. Students who do their research and dissertation at SLAC are required to reprint their thesis through the SLAC Publications Office.

## THE GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE AT SLAC

The Graduate Studies Office and the Faculty officer are available to help Stanford graduate students with placement in research groups, with financial aid issues, and to help them resolve academic questions, throughout their graduate career at SLAC.

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

The Graduate Studies Office at SLAC is the student’s entry point for determining research areas and finding academic advisors at SLAC. We recommend that students communicate with the staff at the Graduate Studies Office, and the current Faculty officer throughout the application and admissions process and during rotations in the first year of study.

### FINANCIAL AID

The Graduate Studies Office at SLAC is the resource and the starting point for students at SLAC receiving financial aid. Students are paid through SLAC payroll and their tuition is handled through SLAC’s Graduate Studies Office. Throughout the year, deadlines are set by the office for submitting paperwork and approvals. These deadlines often differ from those set in the student’s home department and must be met in order to stay on SLAC’s payroll without interruption and to receive tuition assistance.