

Journal Club Synopsis

The main activities of the journal club consist of two meetings per month to discuss a scientific article, or review, whose topic is pertinent to the scientific program carried out at JLab. During the calendar year the club meetings will be divided into three blocks each of which are four months. At the beginning of each block, the advisors of the club, which would consist of two or three senior researchers of the lab, would propose a set of six to ten articles.

The inaugural block meeting will be primarily focused on assessing the relative interest of the selected articles and providing a general description of the clubs purpose as well as the desired format of the sessions. The three articles of primary interest will be selected as the articles which will be reviewed during the block. Three review groups will then be formed whose size will depend on the number of participants. After the groups have been formed, a schedule will be formulated such that there is one article assigned each month within the block.

The bi-monthly sessions of each block will be held consecutively for two weeks so as to maintain the continuity of the discussion, since both sessions will revolve around the same article. Each participating group will be responsible for preparing a two-part presentation that is primarily focused at generating discussion within the journal club setting.

Journal Club Executive Summary

Jefferson Lab is host to a significant number of undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-docs. Its research program in nuclear physics attracts the talent of both domestic and international young scientists. As such, it provides the required environment to learn skills that form the basic toolkit of research in fundamental science. In addition, it is desirable that other primary skills for their career development are nourished.

Regardless of whether their career path leads them to academia or the private sector, communication and presentation skills are some of the most valuable and transferable abilities a young scientist can acquire. We propose organizing a bi-monthly journal club open to the most junior members of the lab. Each session will focus on a single article, selected according to the interest of the club members. The available set of articles will be chosen by senior researchers in order to ensure scientific quality of the topics discussed and to maintain their relevance towards the scientific mission of JLab.

Much attention will be given to the advertising process before the inaugural session which is aimed to be held in late January 2020. A poster will be fabricated to advertise the club around the lab. This advertisement will also be disseminated electronically e.g. the JLab weekly newsletter, collaboration mailing lists, as well as the

CUGA mailing list. As a second resource to advertise the journal club, we will provide a more detailed description on the graduate students and post docs association (GSPDA) wiki webpage. The list of articles for review will also be listed on the website well, in advance of the first meeting. In addition, the website will provide examples of the architecture of journal clubs at other institutions, as well as the presentations associated with their meetings.

Journal Club Evaluation Plan

In order to have a quantitative performance evaluation, we will have an assistance list every session. Independent of that, we will invite the advisors to join as often as time permits, but at least twice each block, to provide feedback, and have a form of qualitative and scientific evaluation. Finally, during each block we will have an open space online where members can provide feedback, and that would especially encouraged to be filled at least towards the end of each block.

Journal Club Budget Justification

The budget will be used to provide refreshments and snacks to the participants. Our estimation is to spend \$170 in the session where a new article is introduced where pizza will be provided. For the second session for a given article, we would expect to spend \$30 where a more frugal refreshment will be provided so that attendance will be encouraged primarily by the discussion of the topic presented in the first session. These numbers assume that we will have an attendance of 20-30 young scientists.