

Bio:

Jairo Velasco Jr. is an Associate Professor of Physics at the University of California Santa Cruz. His research interests include the study of electron waves in atomically thin materials such as graphene. Originally from Queens New York City, he attended high school in Elizabeth New Jersey and decided to pursue Physics after learning about standing sound waves hosted by musical instruments. He received a Bachelor of Science in physics in 2005 from Syracuse University, and then continued on to a PhD program in physics at the University of California Riverside from 2006-2012. Upon graduation he was awarded the Robert T. Poe Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding PhD Graduate. Professor Velasco was then a University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Physics at UC Berkeley from 2012-2015. After this appointment he started as an Assistant Professor at UC Santa Cruz in 2015 and was then promoted with tenure in 2021. Professor Velasco is also a recipient of the National Science Foundation's early CAREER award.