

MRSEC Virtual Engagement

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Pivoted to the virtual world for MRSEC community engagement for September 2020 – May 2021:

- Weekly MRSEC Research Seminar
- Monthly Professional Development Seminars
- Education and Outreach Team’s Monthly Meeting

Using virtual platforms such as Zoom™ and Gather.town™ hosted MRSEC seminars, which allowed for broader participation that included external MRSEC partners University of Pitt and University of Michigan and PREM Cal State LA and North Carolina Central University faculty and students to participate in MRSEC sponsored events.

Continued the tradition of a MRSEC student invited speaker Marko Lončar and MRSEC-students initiated and organized career panel as part of Penn State’s Material Days. Established new MRSEC virtual community and science communication event “Bake or Make Your Research” (as inspired by University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign MRSEC). Recognizing “zoom fatigue” and partnering with Penn State’s College of Engineering: Multicultural Engineering Graduate Association (MEGA) and Computation Materials Education and Training (CoMET, NSF-funded) we offered a Professional Development Workshop series, “Expand Your Network” with the keynote speaker being Alaina Levine, the author of *Networking for Nerds*.

