



Dates

Conference: Jan 31 - Feb 2, 2008
Submission of Abstracts: Jan 10, 2008

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Graduate Education in Physics: Which Way Forward?

Organizing Committee:

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**Thursday January 31 – Saturday February 2, 2008
American Center for Physics, College Park, MD**

The American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers announce a conference to address the status and future of graduate education in Physics. Has your department recently made changes to its graduate curriculum or graduate program? Are aspects of your program working particularly well, or are you considering changes? Join Directors of Graduate Studies and faculty promoting change and innovative programs at large and small Ph.D.-granting Physics Departments. Share ideas and information with members of the physics community from industry, funding agencies and professional societies.

The conference will be held at the American Center for Physics in College Park, MD, from Thursday evening (January 31) to Saturday early afternoon (February 2). Keynote speakers include Cherry Murray, head of LLNL, and co-author of *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*; Ken Heller, Past President of AAPT; and Renee Diehl, co-author of the *APS/AAPT Joint Report on Graduate Education in Physics*.

Departments are encouraged to send two representatives with influence on the content of the graduate curriculum and on the graduate program as a whole: Directors of Graduate Studies, Chairs, and faculty leaders of innovative programs. Topics include the graduate curriculum, preparation for non-academic careers, communication skills and professional development, TA training, ethics, comprehensive exam, departmental climate, and advising. Participants are asked to submit a short abstract prior to the conference that describes their department's experiences, plans or interests, and to present these in a poster at the conference.

It is intended that the conference will be highly interactive. A poster session will start the conference, allowing participants to exchange ideas. Further discussion will occur in breakout sessions led by leaders of innovative programs.

Posters will be available electronically after the conference, as will any materials that participants wish to contribute (e.g. curriculum descriptions, specific course content, best practices documents, materials for TA training, materials for ethics discussions, *etc.*). This will be an excellent forum to disseminate your successful ventures and to obtain ideas and materials to improve your own program.

Detailed information is posted at

<http://www.aps.org/programs/education/conference.cfm>

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