

# THE APS BRIDGE PROGRAM

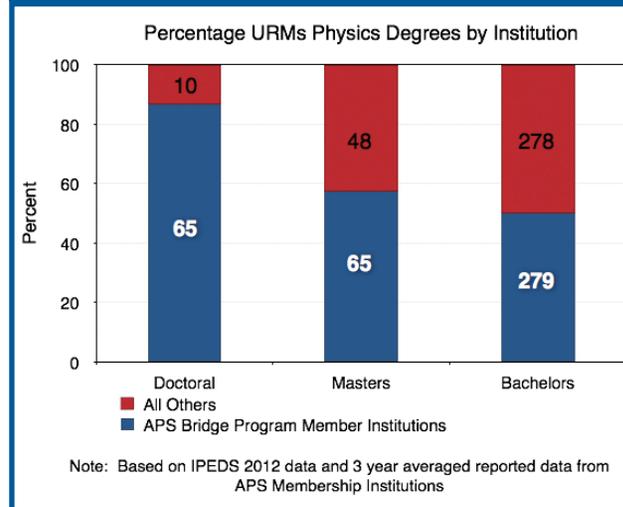
Physics ranks at the bottom of science disciplines in educating the growing US population of African-, Hispanic-, and Native-Americans. The percentage of PhDs in physics awarded to underrepresented minorities (URM) among US citizens has remained essentially constant at 5-6% over the past decade. The American Physical Society's (APS) Bridge Program is an NSF- and APS-funded effort to address this issue and increase the number of URM students who receive PhDs in physics to 10%, the percentage that currently receive physics Bachelor's degrees. The project has established four bridge sites in Ohio, Florida, and California that provide coursework, research experiences, and substantial mentoring for students who either did not apply to graduate school, or were not admitted through traditional graduate school admissions. These program enable students to successfully gain acceptance and make progress toward doctoral degrees.

## APS BRIDGE PROGRAM STUDENT PLACEMENT SUCCESS



In physics, the addition of about 30 PhD degrees each year will bring the percentage of URM students receiving PhDs up to the same percentage of those students who receive Bachelor's degrees. The Program has surpassed its expectations.

## MEMBERSHIP INSTITUTION GROWTH SINCE PROJECT INCEPTION



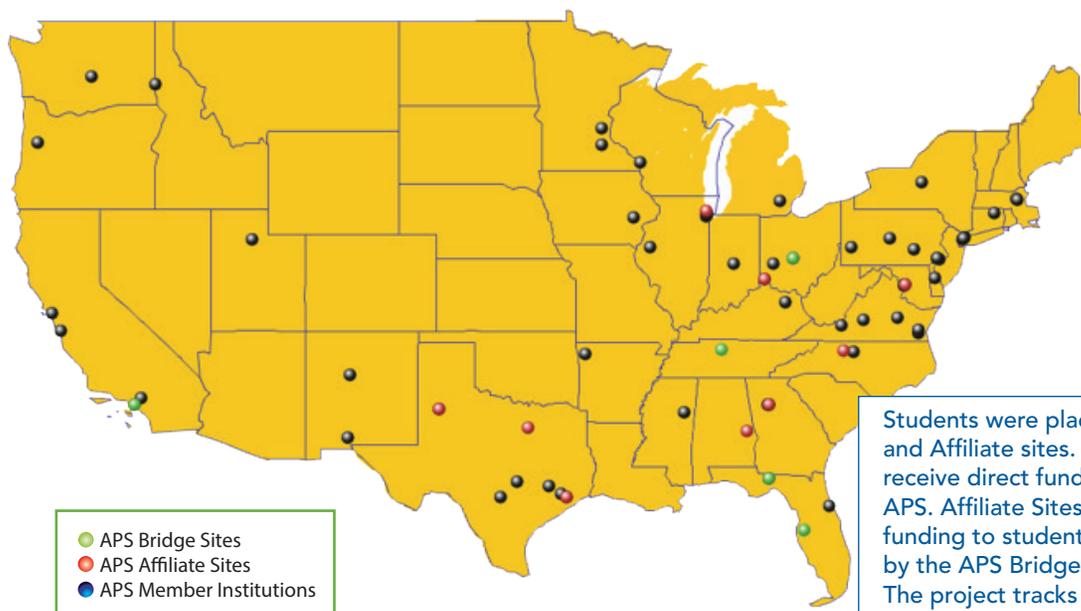
87% of all URM physics PhDs are granted by APS Bridge Program membership institutions.

## SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

APS provides project oversight and centralized activities to build recognition, and to act collectively in ways that benefit the entire physics community. The APS Bridge Program is currently involved in:

- providing a common application for students
- organizing recruiting/relationship-building visits to minority serving institutions
- establishing additional institution-independent mentoring for students
- acting as student advocate to help mediate solutions to problems
- facilitating common data collection, analysis, and research to demonstrate effectiveness of these methods
- providing workshops for students and faculty mentors
- raising awareness within the physics community on issues faced by URM students
- disseminating results and best practices through the Society's publications

## PARTICIPATING BRIDGE PROGRAM INSTITUTIONS



Students were placed at Bridge and Affiliate sites. Bridge sites receive direct funding from APS. Affiliate Sites provided funding to students recruited by the APS Bridge Program. The project tracks progress of students at all sites.

## APS BRIDGE SITES

Bridge sites provide an intellectual and cultural transition, early interventions, and progress monitoring for students who have potential for success in doctoral education. Upon entering the bridge program, students engage in graduate level research and advanced coursework, and receive mentoring and advice in preparing their application for doctoral programs.

## MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

The APS Bridge Program offers free membership to colleges, universities, national labs, non-profits, and educational organizations committed to improving diversity in the physics community. Membership Institutions do not receive direct funding, but receive a number of benefits. Learn more about Member Institutions at [www.APSBridgeProgram.org/institutions/member](http://www.APSBridgeProgram.org/institutions/member).

## PARTNERSHIP INSTITUTIONS

The APS Bridge Program is developing a national network of doctoral granting Partnership institutions where bridge and other students, if admitted, will receive mentoring and assistance in making the transition into a doctoral program. These institutions make a commitment to ensuring these conditions are established, working with diverse students, and supporting them as graduate scholars. Learn more about Partnership Institutions at [www.APSBridgeProgram.org/institutions/partnership](http://www.APSBridgeProgram.org/institutions/partnership).



**CONTACT:**  
**Brian Beckford**  
American Physical Society  
One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740  
phone: (301) 209 3398  
[beckford@aps.org](mailto:beckford@aps.org)



## GET INVOLVED!

### Faculty

Join as a Member or Partnership Institution, attend the annual program meeting, and learn more about student recruiting.

### Students

Apply online by March 20:

[www.APSBridgeProgram.org/about/students.cfm](http://www.APSBridgeProgram.org/about/students.cfm)

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Southern University

Cherry Murray, Chair  
Harvard University

## MANAGEMENT

Brian Beckford  
APS-BP Project Manager

Theodore Hodapp  
APS Director of Education and Diversity

Bushraa Khatib  
APS-BP Project Coordinator

Arlene Modeste Knowles  
APS Career and Diversity Programs Administrator

Monica Plisch  
APS Associate Director of Education and Diversity



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**in Physics Graduate Education**

[www.APSBridgeProgram.org](http://www.APSBridgeProgram.org)

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