Message from the Editor

Maria Longobardi

Dear All,

Forum on Graduate Students Affairs (FGSA) welcomes you to the APS March meeting 2014 in Denver, Colorado. In this special edition of our newsletter you can find special events and sessions designed specifically for graduate students and young researchers. Don't forget to attend the FGSA activities, especially the Student Reception on Tuesday, March 4.

We hope that you will enjoy the March Meeting 2014 and that your interaction with your researchers from different communities will stimulate a creative exchange of ideas.

See you in Denver!

Maria Longobardi
Newsletter Editor and International Student Affair Officer
APS Forum on Graduate Student Affairs
Département de Physique de la Matière Condensée
Université de Genève
24, quai E.-Ansermet
1211 Genève 4 – Switzerland
Phone : +41 22 379 3442
Email : maria.longobardi@unige.ch

Join us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/groups/apsfgsa

The APS Forum on Graduate Student Affairs encourages a free exchange of ideas among graduate students and the greater scientific community by providing opportunities for meetings, electronic discussion, and access to a permanent archive of member ideas and programs.

The articles in this issue represent the views of the Forum on Graduate Student Affairs (FGSA) and are not necessarily those of individual FGSA members or the APS.
FGSA has several activities at the March Meetings in 2014. There will be the ever-popular student reception on Tuesday evening, and on Wednesday we will be sponsoring a panel discussion entitled ‘Postdocs and the Application Process’. It will feature several panelists, including current and former recipients of postdocs and fellowships as well as at least one member of a fellowship selection committee. Each panelist will speak briefly, followed by an open panel discussion in which you can ask any question you might have. The panelists will include a current AAAS science policy fellow, a former Fulbright fellow, and a representative of the Humboldt fellowship. We hope to see you at one (or all) of these sessions.

FGSA ACTIVITIES AT MARCH MEETING 2014

GRAD STUDENT LUNCH WITH EXPERTS:
Tuesday, March 4 • 12:30pm–2:00pm
Convention Center Four Seasons Ballroom 2-3

Graduate students and post doc may sign up to enjoy a complimentary box-lunch while participating in an informal discussion with an expert on a topic of interest to them.

STUDENT RECEPTION:
Tuesday, March 4 • 5:15pm–6:30pm
Sheraton Denver Downtown Plaza Ballroom AB

Students are invited to relax, mingle, and enjoy light refreshments while learning about programs and resources offered by APS and the Forum on Graduate Student Affairs (FGSA).

FGSA SESSION: POSTDOCS AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS
Wednesday, March 5 • 11:15am–12:30pm
Convention Center Room 706
Chair: David A. Anderson, University of Michigan

Panel Discussion on Postdocs
Wednesday, March 5 • 11:15am–11:51am
Invited Speaker: Ronny Thomale

Participation in Panel Discussion
Wednesday, March 5 • 11:51am–12:27pm
Invited Speakers: Candace Pfefferkorn, Lauren Gaydosh

OTHER ACTIVITIES AT MARCH MEETING 2014

WELCOME RECEPTION
Monday, March 3 • 6:45pm–8:15pm
Convention Center Four Seasons Ballroom

Join colleagues and other meeting attendees to network and mingle. Light refreshments will be provided.

The Welcome Reception immediately follows the APS Prizes & Awards Ceremonial Session.

APS PRIZES & AWARDS CEREMONIAL SESSION
Monday, March 3 • 5:45pm–6:45pm
Convention Center Room 301-303

Prizes and awards will be bestowed on several individuals for outstanding contributions to physics.
Please plan on attending the Awards Program and join us in honoring these individuals. The names of the awards and awardees will be included in the Meeting Program (Preamble). You may get a print version at the Meeting or view it online in February.

**APS MARCH MEETING JOB EXPO**

*Convention Center Exhibit Hall F*

Monday, March 3–Tuesday, March 4
10:00am–5:00pm

Wednesday, March 5
10:00am–4:00pm

This year, the APS March Job Expo will be held in conjunction with the regular Exhibit, and will be administered through our online Job Board. You can find out information about the event—including how to register and coordinate with potential employers—below.

**BUILDING YOUR UNDERGRADUATE PHYSICS CAREER: AN INTERACTIVE SEMINAR**

*UNDERGRAD CAREER SEMINAR*

Monday, March 3 • 6:00pm–8:00pm

*Sheraton Denver Downtown Plaza Ballroom E*

In this interactive event for undergraduates, students will learn important lessons about career preparation, including skill building, networking, and developing “soft skills.” Our expert panel of working physicists will be on hand to answer questions, offer advice, and share their stories. Light refreshments will be served.

**SPS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SESSIONS**

Sponsor: Society of Physics Students (SPS)

At APS sessions for undergraduates, judges will evaluate the presentations and provide feedback for students. Winning poster and oral presentations will be recognized at the Student Reception and Award Ceremony on Tuesday evening.

Monday, March 3 • 8:00am–2:45pm

*Convention Center Room 107*

- SPS Undergraduate Sessions I
- SPS Undergraduate Sessions II
- SPS Undergraduate Sessions III

Tuesday, March 4 • 8:00am–10:24am

*Convention Center Room 107*

- SPS Undergraduate Sessions IV

**UNDERGRADUATE AWARD CEREMONY & CLUB PHYSICS**

Tuesday, March 4 • 6:30pm–9:00pm

*Convention Center Four Seasons Ballroom 2-3*

**Undergraduate Awards Ceremony**

6:30pm–7:30pm

In the first part of this event, SPS will award winning undergraduate students for outstanding oral and poster presentations.

**Club Physics: Gettin Higgy With It Dance Party**

7:30pm–9:00pm

*New this year!* Join us for a fun dance party after the awards ceremony featuring a live DJ and nacho bar.
MEET YOUR FUTURE: INDUSTRIAL CAREERS FOR PHYSICISTS
Sponsored by Forum on Industrial & Applied Physics (FIAP)

Wednesday, March 5 • 12:30pm–2:00pm
Convention Center Room 203

For Graduate students, postdocs, early career physicists, and those interested in learning about careers in industry.

In this special lunchtime session, representatives from industry will provide information about physics careers in the private sector. Topics will include research opportunities for physicists in industry, strategies for successfully pursuing industrial jobs, and advice on how to thrive in this exciting and challenging work environment.

2013 FGSA Executive Committee

Laura Boon
Chair
(01/13–12/13)
Purdue University

Eric Sorte
Councillor
(01/12–12/15)
Washington University

Brock Russell
Chair-Elect
(01/13–12/13)
University of Maryland–College Park

Hamilton Carter
Member-at-Large
(01/12–12/13)
New Mexico State University

Renee Horton
Past Chair
(01/13–12/13)
Marshall Space Flight Center, NASA

Vikram Singh Prasher
Member-at-Large
(01/12–12/13)
University of Massachusetts–Lowell

David Anderson
Treasurer
(01/12–12/14)
University of Michigan–Ann Arbor

Alexis Knaub
Member-at-Large
(01/13–12/14)
Boston University

Katherine Davis
Secretary
(01/13–12/14)
Purdue University

Renee Horton
Past Chair
(01/13–12/13)
Marshall Space Flight Center, NASA

Vikram Singh Prasher
Member-at-Large
(01/12–12/13)
University of Massachusetts–Lowell

Kelly Reidy
Member-at-Large
(01/13–12/14)
Kent State University–Kent

Visit us online: www.aps.org/units/fgsa
For more information about APS, FGSA, and membership options, please visit www.aps.org. Forum on Graduate Student Affairs, American Physical Society One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740