

APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
2018

Committee

Education

Committee Charge

The membership of the Committee on Education consists of the Chair, Past-Chair and Chair-Elect from the Forum on Education and nine (9) persons selected by the Committee on Committees and appointed by the President-Elect to staggered three-year terms. The President-Elect appoints the Chair from among the members. The Committee is responsible for activities in the area of physics education designated to it by the Council. It reports periodically to the President and the Council on physics education. It may suggest and supervise studies and programs to improve the cooperation between the educational community and other parts of the physics community.

2018 Committee Members

Chair: **Laura Henriques**
California State University, Long Beach

Member: **Galen Pickett**
California State University, Long Beach

Member: **James Camparo**
The Aerospace Corporation

Member: **Nancy Ruzycki**
University of Florida

Member: **Daryl Hartley**
US Naval Academy

Member: **Peter Sheldon**
Randolph College

Member: **Mike Jackson**
Millersville University

FED Chair-Elect to COE: **Laurie McNeil**
University of North Carolina

Member: **Courtney Lannert**
Smith College

FED Chair to COE: **Larry Cain**
Davidson College

Member: **Karen Magee-Sauer**
Rowan University

FED Past Chair to COE: **John Stewart**
West Virginia University

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2018

The committee had 4 major areas of emphasis this year: Effective Practices for Physics Programs (EP3), position statement related to the use of Physics GRE in graduate admissions, role of graduate (and post-graduate) physics societies, and, indirectly, Educational Policy Committee (EPC).

Effective Practices for Physics: We continued to spend a great deal of time with the Effective Practices for Physics Programs (EP3) formerly known as Best Practices for Undergraduate Physics Programs (BPUPP). COE has the primary role of oversight for the care and well-being of the document once it is completed. The work to develop the EP3 is being carried out by the EP3 task force. Their work is supported by a large NSF grant. This year COE has been working in concert with EP3 to help map out the process by which the completed EP3 will be reviewed, revised and updated. Mike Jackson and Courtney Lannert are both on EP3 and COE and served as liaisons between the groups.

Physics GRE: A draft position statement about the use of the Physics GRE in graduate school admissions was sent to POPA for review in June 2018. The statement was returned to our P-GRE subcommittee with feedback for revisions. A revised version will be sent back to POPA for the February 2019 meeting.

Graduate (and Post-Grad) Student Physics Societies: A survey of existing graduate student physics societies was conducted. The subcommittee collected data from the top 50 programs about the presence and role of a graduate (post-grad) student physics society. It is anticipated that a draft white paper will be ready at the end of 2018 with a possible position statement to move to POPA in 2019.

Education Policy Committee: And finally, COE endorsed the priorities set forth by the Education Policy Committee. COE appoints two members to EPC in staggered two-year terms. The EPC met throughout the year. Major accomplishments of EPC are listed below.

The committee met twice online (January 30 and June 20) and twice in person (March 18 at APS headquarters and September 29 in Denver). Subcommittees met and conducted their work between meetings.

Additional work of the committee includes these actions:

- Selection of recipients of Award for Improving Undergraduate Physics Education (2019)
- Streamlining the awards process so that awardees are notified in a timely and professional manner.
- Review & selection of recipients of APS Prize for a Faculty Member for Research in an Undergraduate Institution (2019)

The Educational Policy Committee had these accomplishments:

- Approved Policy Priorities ([Link to policy priorities](#))
- Provided guidance on Quantum Information Systems Bill, which was ultimately incorporated

- Provided guidance on Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Strategic Plan to Jeff Weld, Senior Policy Advisor and Assistant Director, STEM Education
- Voted to support Statement on GRE

EPC membership is as follows:

COE members: COE Chair (Henriques), Eric Brewe - Drexel University, Andrew Heckler - The Ohio State University, Karen Magee-Sauer - Rowan University

GPER member: Paula Heron - University of Washington

FEEd member: Scott Franklin - Rochester Institute of Technology