



## APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2016

### COMMITTEE:

#### **MEMBERSHIP (CoMem)**

### COMMITTEE CHARGE

The membership of the Committee on Membership shall consist of the Executive Officer and nine members appointed by the President to staggered three-year terms. The President shall appoint the Chairperson from among these nine members. The Committee shall suggest to Council means for improving the relationship between the Society and its members, member services the Society provides including on-membership APS publications, and other membership activities as delegated to it by the Council.

### CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chair: **Joshua Grossman**  
St. Mary's College of MD

Member: **Mandy Rominsky**  
Fermilab

Member: **Cynthia Aku-Leh**  
ISciences

Member: **Jeremy Scott**  
Univ of South Alabama

Member: **Jiming Bao**  
Univ of Houston

Member: **Mohammad Soltanieh-Ha**  
Infor

Member: **David Giltner**  
Zolo Technologies

Member: **Sam Zeller**  
Fermilab

Member: **Ivy Jones**  
LLNL

Student Member: **Valerie Gray**  
William & Mary College

### SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2016

In 2016, CoMem conducted a survey of ~2,600 lapsed regular members who let their membership lapse in 2015. The email request was sent asking for feedback regarding what APS could be doing differently to keep members engaged throughout their career. There was a 4% response and the reasons for non-renewal were spread almost evenly among the choices provided, with the perceived value of benefits compared to dues paid

cited most often. The encouraging statistics was that 88% of responding lapsed members said they would still recommend APS to a colleague.

Three members of CoMem worked with a small group of members who were interested in starting a new forum for early career members. A petition was sent out to APS early career and student members and almost 1,000 members expressed support. A proposal for the Forum for Early Career Scientists went to APS Council in November and was approved. This brings the number of APS units to 47 as of the end of the year.

All CoMem members were again asked to hold a social event at their institution or in conjunction with another local meeting. These events are used to gain feedback from both prospective and current APS members on society services and programs. There were a variety of events including some joint meetings with the Colorado Photonics Industry Association and the annual Fermilab Users Meeting with over 400 attendees. The Fermilab event held by Rominsky and Zeller at Fermilab was very well received and it is something that APS is interested in continuing even if there is no representation on CoMem. Committee members are reimbursed for any fees incurred with the activities.

Josh Grossman, 2016 CoMem Chair  
Trish Lettieri, APS Director of Membership