

APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT  
2014



**COMMITTEE:**

**CAREERS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CCPD)**

**COMMITTEE CHARGE:**

The membership of the Committee on Careers and Professional Development shall consist of nine members appointed by the President-Elect to staggered three-year terms. The President-Elect shall appoint the Chairperson from among the members. The Committee shall be responsible for coordinating affairs within the Society concerned with career and professional development in physics and advising the Society on courses of action.

**CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**Chair:** Janet Tate

Oregon State University

**Member:** Richard L Berger

Lawrence Livermore Natl Lab

**Member:** Calvin K Chan

Sandia Natl Labs

**Member:** Mark W Holtz

Texas Tech Univ

**Member:** Rainer Kunz

Cold Quanta, Inc.

**Member:** Joel Lash

Sandia Natl Labs

**Member:** Kathleen McCormick

US Dept. of Homeland Security

**Member:** Mohsen Yeganeh

Exxon-Mobil Corp.

**Member:** Sufi Zafar

IBM T J Watson Res Ctr

**Ex Officio Members:**

FIAP Representative

Matt Kim

FGSA Representative

Jerome Mlack

**SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2014:**

- Winter 2014 Teleconference – Friday, January 24
- Spring 2014 Meeting – Friday, May 9 (College Park, MD)
- Summer 2014 Teleconference – Thursday, August 7
- Fall 2014 Meeting – Friday, November 14 (Boulder, CO)

CCPD continued its administration of the Distinguished Lectureship on the Applications of Physics (DLAP) Award. The 2014 award recipient, Paul Grant, presented at the APS March Meeting and gave talks at several department colloquia and four APS Section meetings. Many of these sites provided very positive feedback regarding Dr. Grant's presentation. The Selection Committee, which consists of two members appointed by CCPD and two by FIAP, met in October 2014 to review candidates and make a recommendation to CCPD for the 2015 award cycle. CCPD will give final approval of the award at its 2014 Fall Meeting, and the awardee will begin the next Distinguished Lectureship on September 1, 2015. CCPD and the Selection Committee will oversee the lecture series.

CCPD has engaged with the newly appointed APS Industrial Physics Fellow on activities designed to support APS's commitment to physicists in industry. As a result we have seen increased industrial participation in career related meeting events, online resources (such as the physicist profile library and job prospects pages), and strategic planning for new efforts such as the APS Local Links program. APS Local Links are information networking groups designed to bring together students, postdocs, and physicists in industry, academia, and national labs, in order to build mutually beneficial relationships. For more information on APS Local Links, visit: <http://www.aps.org/membership/locallinks/index.cfm>

CCPD also supported a conference held at the American Center for Physics focusing on Physics Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) education in undergraduate physics curricula. The goal of the conference was to highlight the elements of successful programs which incorporate entrepreneurial ideas (e.g. understanding funding sources, intellectual property, commercialization, etc.) or provide opportunities to engage and innovate using real-world technologies, in order to prepare our graduates for future careers as innovators and entrepreneurs and transform the physics discipline. The conference was attended by representatives from over 50 physics departments; important outcomes include new sessions at the AAPT and the APS March Meeting focusing on innovation and entrepreneurship education, as well as partnerships with organizations such as NCIIA which could potentially lead to NSF-funded nationwide programs supporting PIE education in physics curricula. For more information about the conference, please visit <http://www.aps.org/programs/education/conferences/innovation.cfm>

CCPD worked very closely with the Division of Plasma Physics to promote a more robust focus on industrial careers at the DPP 2014 Meeting in New Orleans. As a result, several industrial representatives participated in a career panel sponsored by the DPP Committee on the Concerns of Junior Scientists. The APS DPP 2014 Job Fair was also a success, with more than double the number of jobs posted compared to previous years. CCPD also helped coordinate the popular Resume Help Desk, in which volunteers provided resume and CV writing advice for students and early career physicists attending the meeting.

CCPD develops and very successfully executes several activities designed to serve its student and early career members. These include: Career Workshops, Graduate School Fairs, APS Webinars, and Physics InSight. CCPD continues its work on developing and maintaining the APS Careers Website and has developed a new online Professional Guidebook which highlights existing resources and addresses topics such as career planning, network building, effective resume writing, and interviewing and negotiation skills.

CCPD continues its relationship with the Undergraduate Women's Conferences. CCPD anticipates opportunities to connect and work with the organizers to provide more careers and professional-development related resources. CCPD hopes to continue exploring ways to contribute to the Undergraduate Women's Conferences in 2015 and beyond.