

APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
2015



COMMITTEE:

CAREERS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CCPD)

COMMITTEE CHARGE:

The membership of the Committee on Careers and Professional Development consists of 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 coordinating affairs within the Society concerned with career and professional development in physics and advising the Society on courses of action.

*CCPD has 8 members in 2015 because 4 people rotated off the committee in 2014.

CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chair: Janet Tate

Oregon State University

Member: Calvin K. Chan

Sandia National Laboratory

Member: Scott Davis

Vescent Photonics

Member: Rainer Kunz

Cold Quanta, Inc.

Member: Minhua Lu

IBM TJ Watson Res Center

Member: Kathleen R. McCormick

US Department of Homeland Security

Member: Mohsen S. Yeganeh

Exxon Corp Strategic Research

Member: Stefan Zollner

New Mexico State University

Ex Officio Member:

FGSA Representative

Jerome Mlack

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2015:

- Winter 2015 Teleconference – Friday, January 30
- Spring 2015 Meeting – Friday, May 29 (College Park, MD)
- Summer 2015 Teleconference – Thursday, July 31
- Fall 2015 Meeting – Friday, November 13 (Albuquerque, NM)

CCPD and FIAP previously established the “Distinguished Lectureship Award on the Applications of Physics.” The 2015 winner, James Wynne, gave a series of lectures at APS national meetings, regional meetings, and universities. CCPD members continue to serve on the awards committee. The 2016 awardee is APS Fellow Ray Beausoleil of HP Labs, who will commence his lectureship in Fall 2016.

The “Local Links” program that connects students to industrial scientists in the same geographic area is growing and thriving. There are seven sites, with an average of 129 members in each location. Thirty-three events with an average of 25 attendees have taken place. Three more Local Links Sites are being established.

The Careers web page generates about 6% of the traffic to the APS website. CCPD continuously improves the [careers website](#), most recently by upgrading the professional development guide and adding profiles for career paths for physicists with B.S. degrees. Several more are under development. Analytics indicate that the guide use has doubled and the new profiles are being read.

CCPD develops and successfully executes several activities designed to serve its student and early career members. These include professional development workshops or talks which were held at the Rutgers CUWiP conference, the Bridge/Mentoring Conference, two APS Division Meetings and six Physics departments in 2015.

CCPD has established the infrastructure for a “Careers-Friendly Departments” web page, to highlight the careers-focused mentoring activities in physics departments. This page allows departments to describe career-centered activities for students, including networking opportunities and career mentorship. The first entries are in place, and will increase in early 2016. <http://www.aps.org/careers/advisors/assessment/index.cfm>

The CCPD/FGSA partnership has been re-invigorated with a document that clarifies communication lines the role and expectations of the FGSA ex-officio member. The 2016 member was chosen from a strong slate of candidates.

CCPD is exploring how APS can facilitate closer links between academic faculty and industry partners by matching faculty to matching sabbatical opportunities offered by private sector companies. Initial industry response is positive and a pilot project for 2016 is underway.