Forum on Graduate Student Affairs

The Forum on Graduate Student Affairs (FGSA) was established in 2001 to expand graduate students’ involvement in the APS and in the scientific community at large. FGSA enhances the ability of APS to meet the needs of graduate students. FGSA offers support services and encourages participation in activities and decision-making in the physics community. MISSION: 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.

Current Activities

- Arranging SESSIONS AT APS MEETINGS designed to be of interest to graduate students or others interested in physics graduate student education.
- CONDUCTING RESEARCH on various educational topics of interest to graduate students, and physics departments across the country. FGSA is currently surveying graduate students to gauge their satisfaction with the amount of training they received for teaching assistantships.
- MAINTAINING AN UP-TO-DATE WEB PAGE (www.aps.org/units/fgsa) to provide comprehensive information on graduate student education, career development, public policy, and more.
- Providing an EXCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ON FACEBOOK for sharing jobs and internships, upcoming events, physics news, and networking opportunities with other FGSA members. www.facebook.com/groups/apsfgsa/
- Compiling lists of existing STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDY opportunities, and seeking additional funding for student travel to APS meetings.
- Nominating students to SERVE ON KEY APS COMMITTEES that address such issues as increasing the number of women and minorities in physics, careers, international affairs, education, and membership.
- Promoting STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN LOBBYING Congress, grassroots advocacy, and campaigning for improved science funding.
- Hosting STUDENT EVENTS at APS March and April meetings.
- Organizing the CANADIAN-AMERICAN-MEXICAN GRADUATE STUDENT PHYSICS CONFERENCE. The CAM conference is a biannual meeting cosponsored by the American Physical Society, the Canadian Association of Physicists, and the Sociedad Mexicana de Física that is organized for and by graduate students. The conference seeks to promote international networking and career development for young scientists.
- Working with APS divisions to COORDINATE GRANTS for student conference travel and fellowships for student projects.

Join APS/FGSA

- MEMBERSHIP IN FGSA is open to all APS members. Anyone interested in graduate student education is welcome to join. APS members may sign up online at www.aps.org/membership/units/join-unit.cfm or contact the APS Membership Department at membership@aps.org.
- Students who have never been a member of APS before may be eligible for a FREE ONE-YEAR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP. For more information, visit www.aps.org/membership/student.cfm.
- EARLY CAREER MEMBERSHIP is available for recent graduates at a reduced rate of $79.00. This category is designed to help physicists in the period immediately following receipt of their final degree or the termination of their full-time student status. To qualify for Early Career dues, you must have received your final degree within the last 12 months. An Early Career member may remain in this category for a maximum of five years. After this five-year period, the Early Career member will automatically be billed as an APS Regular member.

www.aps.org/units/fgsa
Questions

For more information about APS, FGSA, and membership options, please visit www.aps.org.