

APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
2016



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: Kathleen McCormick
US Dept. of Homeland Security

Member: Scott Davis
Vescent Photonics Inc.

Member: Pavel Kornilovich
Hewlett-Packard Co.

Member: Rainer Kunz
Cold Quanta, Inc.

Member: Minhua Lu
IBM TJ Watson Research Center

Member: Scott McDermott
Goldman Sachs

Member: Stefan Zollner
New Mexico State University

Member: Wolfgang Windl
Ohio State University Columbus

Ex Officio Members:

FIAP Representative
Todd Brintlinger

FGSA Representative
Anashe Bandari

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2016:

- Winter 2016 Teleconference – Friday, January 22
- Spring 2016 Meeting – Friday, May 13 (College Park, MD)
- Summer 2016 Teleconference – Friday, July 22
- Fall 2016 Meeting – Friday, November 4 (San Jose, CA)

CCPD continued its administration of the Distinguished Lectureship on the Applications of Physics (DLAP) Award. The 2015 award recipient, James Wynne, concluded his lectureship at the APS March 2016 Meeting, having given talks at several department colloquia and APS Section meetings throughout Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. The 2016 recipient, Raymond Beausoleil, began his Lectureship by delivering a talk at the FIAP Prize Session at the March 2016 Meeting and has continued to give presentations through Fall 2016. The Selection Committee, which consists of two members appointed by CCPD and two by FIAP, met in July 2016 to review candidates and make a recommendation to CCPD for the 2017 award cycle (which CCPD approved). The 2017 awardee, Rudolf Tromp, will begin the next Distinguished Lectureship on September 1, 2017. CCPD and the Selection Committee will oversee the lecture series.

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 149 members in each location. Twenty-four events (seven of which were hosted by companies) with an average of 30 attendees have taken place. Local Links in Chicago, Los Angeles, and the Research Triangle are currently getting underway.

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, Research and Development in the Private Sector, and Sales and Marketing careers. Several more are under development.

Professional development workshops or talks were held at the Oregon State University CUWiP conference, the Division of Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics (DAMOP) Meeting, the Division of Plasma Physics (DPP) Meeting, Far West Section Meeting, March and April Annual Meetings, and at six departmental colloquia.

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. This new partnership has resulted in improved awareness of APS Career activities within APS Graduate Student membership. It has also allowed CCPD to receive feedback about activities which would benefit early career physicists, such as a webinar on Industrial Postdocs (featuring the 2016 Distinguished Lectureship winner, Ray Beausoleil from HP Enterprises) that took place in September 2016.

CCPD began a project to facilitate closer links between academic faculty and industry partners by matching faculty to matching sabbatical opportunities offered by private sector companies. An article was published in APS News in August 2016 soliciting responses from academics interested in pursuing a sabbatical in industry during the academic year 2017. These responses were collected and shared with companies who responded to an earlier survey indicating that they were interested in employing academics on sabbatical. The companies will be responsible for negotiating sabbatical contracts directly with the academic respondents – APS is not liable for those contracts.