



Director's Matters

Dear Colleagues,

AIP is a nonprofit (501(c)(3)) membership corporation of 10 physical science and astronomy societies, with an annual budget exceeding \$74M and serving a combined membership of more than 125,000 scientists, engineers and students. Besides serving Member Societies, we offer a broad variety of physics resources to the scientific community and general public. This work is largely enabled by the income from our journals and publishing services. To guide our diverse and complex organization, we rely on the advice and support of our peers from the wider scientific and professional community. While advisory committees help each business unit advance our mission and offer advice on how to improve and expand our services, liaison committees enable us to share information on analogous activities within Member Societies. The volunteers on both types of committees are often peers from the Member Societies or similar organizations, who have both the necessary expertise and an interest in a particular committee.

In April, AIP's Publishing Center devoted considerable effort to host and prepare for the Publishing Services Advisory Committee chaired by Dr. Jeffery Giacomini on April 19, 2007, and the Publishing Policy Advisory Committee chaired by Dr. Michael Duncan on April 23-24, 2007. I congratulate the staff of the Publishing Center for the excellent grades they received from these two committees. Both groups were impressed by the productivity of the Center and the quality of its customer services.

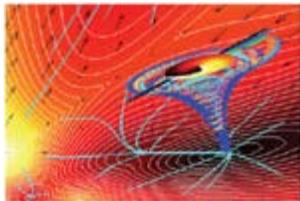
Either as a staff member or as a volunteer member of one of AIP's advisory or liaison committees, you may have questioned the effort invested by both parties in these labor-intensive meetings. I can tell you from direct experience on *both* sides of the table that when (1) AIP staff clearly presents the status and issues to such committees, *and* (2) committee members are experienced, engaged, and proactive, the process is extremely valuable for both parties.

One of my goals is to review our entire suite of advisory and liaison committees with the help of both AIP and Member Societies' leadership. I want to make sure that we are using these committees to their fullest to generate the advice we need and that our committee members feel their time is valued. For a listing of current committees, see <http://www.aip.org/aip/Committees.doc>.

Sincerely yours,

Fred

Publishing Matters



Making the cover

We have recently enhanced the cover designs of the [journals owned and published by AIP](#), to feature author-supplied artwork that changes with each published issue. Following in the footsteps of Editor Nghi Lam of [Applied Physics Letters](#) (APL), the other AIP Editors have chosen to incorporate author-supplied artwork into routine procedures for both printed and online issues. Visit the [APL](#) and [Review of Scientific Instruments](#) websites to see how the cover art is highlighted.

Biomicrofluidics makes a splash

AIP's newest journal, [Biomicrofluidics](#) (BMF), recently co-sponsored a successful symposium at the [2007 MRS Spring Meeting](#), held in San Francisco. This well-attended group of sessions, entitled "[Materials and strategies for lab-on-a-chip-Biological analysis, microfactories, and fluidic assembly of nanostructures](#)," was co-chaired by BMF's editorial board member Orlin Velev of North Carolina State University. The gathering was an opportunity to distribute a call for papers for BMF, the first in our new series of *AIP*



Physics Resource Center Matters

AIP at CLEO

AIP will join the Optical Society of America (OSA) at [The Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics \(CLEO/QELS\)](#) in Baltimore, May 6-11, 2007. The conference will spotlight the latest optics and photonics research and showcase innovative new developments for the industry. Over 1,500 talks are planned.

AIP's Media Relations has worked with OSA to provide media services for the conference, reviewing abstracts, interviewing presenters, writing news releases on papers and presentations, and inviting reporters to attend. AIP and OSA will hold a press luncheon at the conference to promote targeted presentations.

Likewise, AIP's Industrial Outreach is teaming up with OSA Corporate Associates to host a breakfast briefing entitled "[Planning Solutions for Tomorrow's Talent Needs](#)" this Thursday, featuring speakers from GE, Schlumberger, and Zygo. The event is a unique opportunity for companies to share best practices on cultivating desirable skills in sciences, math, and engineering, including community outreach programs, partnerships with local universities, internships/fellowships, and corporate universities.

PT Editor speaks at DC journalism conference

Physics Today editor Jim Dawson spoke on the nature of science journalism at a conference held April 12-17, 2007 at American University in Washington, DC. Entitled "The Future of Global Media and Public Knowledge," the conference was part of the Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists. Jim served on a panel alongside Nils Bruzelius, science editor at *The Washington Post*, and Brenda Wilson, science correspondent for National Public Radio. Panel questions focused on how to determine if "scientific studies" are really scientific, cope with government censorship, and address complex global public health issues. For more information, visit <http://www.american.edu/sis/ic/docs/ICglobalMediaConferenceApril12-17%20brochure.pdf>.

Around AIP

Cash it or stash it?

Take a moment to think about the real purpose of your retirement money. It is money that you have set aside to enjoy your golden years. If you spend the balance in your plan when you leave a job, you could be jeopardizing your future financial security. Liberal rollover laws allow for easy transfers between your former employer's retirement plan and your new employer's retirement plan. By taking advantage of this feature, you can consolidate your hard-earned retirement money in one place and allow it to continue to grow. Contact [Laura Cannillo](#) or [Donna Jones](#) to learn how you can continue to build that retirement nest egg by participating in AIP's 403(b) Supplemental Retirement Annuity (SRA) plan with TIAA-CREF.

Member Society Spotlight



American Physical Society

Founded in the waning years of the nineteenth century by a small group of physicists meeting at Columbia University, the American Physical Society (APS) now has more than 46,000 members, about 20% of whom are international. APS publishes the well-known journals *Physical Review A-E*, *Physical Review Letters*, and *Reviews of Modern Physics*, whose authors and subscribers are distributed worldwide. In addition, APS has two online-only open access journals, focusing on accelerators and beams and physics education research.

The APS divisions and topical groups cover all areas of physics research. There are more than 20 APS meetings a year, including two large general meetings in March and April. APS celebrated its centennial in 1999 with a combined March/April meeting in Atlanta that was the largest and most diverse physics meeting ever held. APS actively pursues programs of general benefit to the physics community, in education, outreach, and public affairs, and works to increase the participation of

women and minorities in physics. As a registered lobbying organization in Washington, APS advocates for increased support for science and science education, and weighs in on scientific policy issues. APS is proud to have been one of the original four societies that banded together to establish AIP in 1931.

We invite your feedback to this newsletter via email to aipmatters@aip.org.