

# AIP | Matters

A weekly publication of the American Institute of Physics

March 16, 2015

## Director's Matters

Guest column by Philip "Bo" Hammer, Associate Vice President, Physics Resources



### San Antonio Rose - Reflections on the 2015 APS March Meeting



Texas is home to a culture all its own—with *sayings and songs* that capture a spirit that is equal parts charming and in-your-face at the same time. Texas even has its own electric power grid that is independent from the rest of the United States. Perhaps no place better represents Texas than San Antonio, and so it was fitting that APS held its annual March Meeting there, which started on Texas Independence Day (March 2) and ended on the day the Alamo fell (March 6).

Don't be deceived by Texas weather and think you could escape winter by going to San Antonio for the March Meeting, however. Mess though the travel was for many meeting attendees, 22 AIP staff descended on the Henry Gonzalez Convention Center for five days of physics. With over 9,100 physicists in attendance, this March Meeting provided plenty of opportunity for AIP to collaborate with APS on this showcase of physics, from the most basic of research, to applications that will one day benefit humanity. Texas was indeed the Mecca of physics this first week of March, and APS staff was prepared for an onslaught by Sunday afternoon.



[Read more.](#)

## Physics Resources Matters

### Exhibiting at APS March



AIP supported APS's March Meeting Exhibit with 60 feet of consecutive booth space, promoting AIP Programs, Society of Physics Students, GradSchoolShopper, and *Computing in Science and Engineering* magazine. Our staff was very pleased to work closely with APS staff to design the AIP Programs booth, where visitors learned about additional benefits available to APS members

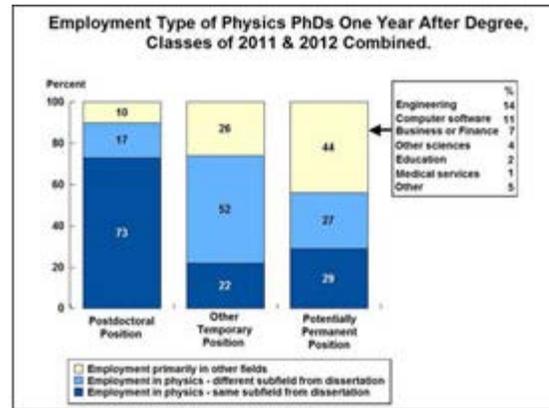
through AIP, and dozens were directed to the APS membership desk to claim prizes that they had won from spinning AIP's "prize wheel." *Physics Today* hosted an Exhibitor Lounge that benefitted all exhibitors with free refreshments throughout the duration of the exhibition.

[Read more.](#)

## Physics doctorates initial employment

Almost all of the recipients of PhDs in physics who took a post-doc were employed primarily in physics one year after earning their degree, most in the same subfield as their dissertation. By contrast, over 40% of those who took a potentially permanent position were employed primarily in non-physics fields.

[Read more.](#)



## Coming Up

March 17

- AIP milk-and-cookies social (College Park)

March 18

- AIP birthday celebrations (College Park)

March 22-26

- The Optical Fiber Communication Conference and Exposition (Los Angeles, CA)

March 24

- Einstein Fellows meeting (College Park)

March 25

- Brown bag lunch talk by Teasel Muir-Harmony: "Astronaut Ambassadors: The Apollo 11 Goodwill Tour and the Role of Space Exploration in Science Diplomacy" (College Park)

March 26

- AIP Public Lecture. Charles Falco of the University of Arizona will present, "The Science of Optics; The History of Art." A reception starts at 5:30 pm, and the talk starts at 6:30 pm. (College Park)

March 26-27

- AIP Board of Directors meeting (College Park)

April 11-14

- APS April Meeting (Baltimore, MD)

April 16

- L.S. Trimble Science Heritage Lecture given by Lillian Hoddeson of the University of Illinois (College Park)

April 21

- ACP Art Reception introducing the next exhibit: "Flow" (College Park)

April 21-23

- STM Spring Conference (Washington, DC)

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