

AIP | Matters

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Director's Matters

By H. Frederick Dylla, Executive Director & CEO



NSF releases its public access plan



On March 18, a long-awaited announcement came from the National Science Foundation on its plan for making the results of NSF-funded research more accessible to the general public. NSF released a 31-page [report](#) which presents in some detail how the agency is responding to the directive given to all major US funding agencies two years ago by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Almost every scientific society, especially those engaged in scholarly publishing, is keenly interested in how the OSTP directive will play out in enacted agency policies.

At its base, the report outlines NSF plans to require that all funded authors provide free access to articles and data related to federally funded research after a delay. (NSF has chosen an embargo period of 12 months to start from, subject to petition from stakeholders). In its many details, the report suggests that a distributed system may best help NSF serve the disparate disciplines it funds.

Recall that the OSTP [directive](#) mandated funding agencies to develop tangible plans for making scholarly publications and data resulting from agency funding available to the public after some reasonable period, and that scholarly publishers responded by developing one possible public access solution—[CHORUS](#)—to assist US federal agencies in meeting the OSTP requirements. Two years after its formation, CHORUS is tracking over 74,000 articles tagged to US agency funding, and (following embargo requirements) publisher members of CHORUS are already making 24,000 of these manuscripts free to read by the public in the context of the associated journal's online platform.

[Read more.](#)

Physics Resources Matters

Students gain exposure to Member Societies and issues

For many years, the Society of Physics Students has encouraged and provided financial support for students to attend meetings of the AIP Member Societies and other scientific organizations, to help students extend their development from classroom



academics to scientific community engagement. The SPS Reporter program enables students to grow their awareness of scientific societies and what they have to offer aspiring physical scientists. Moreover, it gives them a role at the meeting to interview the society and/or conference leaders with press credentials. Their task—to create a meaningful experience for themselves and to report on their experience and about the meeting they attended to the broader SPS community. Their reports can be accessed through the [SPS website](#) and are often featured in SPS publications. Below is one of the latest reports, one of four covering the APS Conferences for Undergraduate Women in Physics.



Jenny Su, Duke University, author of ***How to Encourage More Women to go into Physics***

[Read ***How to Encourage More Women to go into Physics***](#)

Jenny Su, Duke University

[Read more.](#)

Art in optics

Physicist Charles Falco dazzled a full house of art and history enthusiasts last Thursday evening, as the invited speaker for the Lyne Starling Trimble Science Heritage Lecture, “[The Science of Optics: The History of Art](#).” A fellow of the APS, IEEE, OSA, and SPIE, Falco has gained acclaim for his extensive and diverse research. Most recently, he has worked with artist David Hockney to dive deep into the Renaissance canvas to unlock the secret of renowned artists, such as van Eyck, Bellini, and Caravaggio, who were able to make startling advances in the realistic depiction of their subjects.



[Read more.](#)

Coming Up

April 8

- Birthday celebrations (College Park and Melville)

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, "[Stanford Ovshinsky and the Creation of the Nickel Metal Hydride Battery](#)" (College Park)

April 17

- AIP milk-and-cookies social (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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