When I travel abroad I try to get the pulse of the physical sciences community, for my own interest and to be able to view AIP within the global ecosystem of scientific societies. While traveling this summer, I met Michèle Leduc, the founding president of the Fédération Française de Sociétés Scientifiques (F2S), at her laboratory at École Normale Supérieure in Paris, France. She related a sentiment popular among the French science community that they are not training enough young people to satisfy the needs for innovation in their society. The physical sciences community needs to widely and effectively communicate about how science and technology improve lives, positively impact international business, and influence diplomacy. The path of a researcher in science and technology also needs to be better understood by young students as they choose a career. It is around these issues that physical science societies joined together in 2010 to create the F2S (http://www.f2s-asso.org/). The federation began as a partnership among three societies: la Société Française de Physique (SFP), la Société d’Electricité, d’Electronique et des Technologies de l’information et de la Communication (SEE), and la Société Française d’Optique (SFO). In 2012 they were joined by la Société Française du Vide (SFV) to create a federation of over 10,000 French scientists.

Similar to the mission of AIP, F2S promotes the physical sciences and brings together scientists working in academia and industry in order to act as a resource for the French government on questions of innovation and technology. They aim to speak with one voice regarding support for government-funded research and the need for large research infrastructure. Another major goal of F2S is to promote the profession of physical researcher to students.
Scientist and communicator Sean Carroll wins the 2014 AIP Gemant Award

The 2014 Andrew Gemant Award is presented to Sean Carroll, a physicist at the California Institute of Technology, for extraordinary public outreach on particle physics and cosmology, as an educator, author, public lecturer, and consultant for TV and radio programs, and for his pioneering work communicating with a variety of international audiences using social networ

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Underrepresented minority faculty in physics and astronomy

The Statistical Research Center recently released a new focus on report about under-represented minority faculty members in physics and astronomy departments. The data from our 2012 survey of departments show that the representation of African Americans and Hispanics among physics faculty members has not changed substantially since our last data collection effort in 2008. In 2012, there were approximately 9050 physics faculty members in the United States, but only 288 were Hispanic and only 190 were African American.

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A look at the new ACP.org

The AIP Web Management Team just completed the transfer of the ACP.org website into Drupal. The site has a fresh new look and is more user-friendly, enabling staff to make building announcements and other site updates more quickly. The site also contains directions to ACP, an M-Square shuttle bus schedule, information about the ACP Art Exhibit, and upcoming events.
Coming Up

July 26-30
- AAPT Summer Meeting (Minneapolis, MN)

August 1
- Last day of SPS internships (College Park)

August 13
- Birthday socials (Melville and College Park)