March 9, 2015

Director's Matters

Guest column by Catherine O'Riordan, Vice President, Physics Resources

Grounding from the community

Peer review is a tenet in scientific research, but it can be equally powerful when applied to programs that serve the science community. AIP provides programs, products, and services to a broad array of audiences. These include journalists, historians, and workforce administrators in addition to scientists and students. To make sure that AIP programs remain relevant, we gather input from the scientific community and these audiences through committees of advisors. Every year, committees meet to discuss programs and make sure the voice of the audiences is heard by AIP staff and management. In recent years, we have increased the interaction with these committees through email communication and conference calls to keep volunteers abreast of progress throughout the year.

Over four days at the end of February more than 60 volunteers gathered to advise AIP senior program staff, when eight of the committees met (Physics Today Advisory Committee met at the end of January). The meetings kicked off with our Advisory Committee on Physics Education (ACPE) meeting on Wednesday, February 25, collocated with the National Society of Black Physicists meeting in Baltimore, to facilitate participation in NSBP events. The AIP Development Board, which works with AIP's Development Office to raise funds for our history and student programs, met on Thursday at ACP. Friday was the big day, when five AIP program advisory committees convened, and we held a special plenary session for all committee members.

Read more.

Physics Resource Matters

Career Network hosts interviewing "how-to" webinar
On February 4, the Career Network (CN) hosted a webinar on behalf of its partner organizations titled "The Interview: What you need to do before, during, and after to get the job." Participants learned how to convert conversations and networking into interviews and interviews into job offers, and also what they needed to know and do throughout the interview process to demonstrate their value to the hiring institution and land the job.

Read more.

Pi reloaded

Sigma Pi Sigma has launched its Pi Day Campaign for 2015. In 2014 the generosity of the physics community and Sigma Pi Sigma members contributed more than $32K through this effort, helping the Society of Physics Students and Sigma Pi Sigma assist thousands of students along their journey to becoming physics-trained professionals. See the video gallery to hear several people's stories about how their piece of the pi(e) has influenced their paths. You too can help reload that pi(e).

Sigma Pi Sigma will host a Pi Day Social for all ACP staff on Thursday, March 12 at 3:00 pm.

Coming Up

March 7-10
- AAPM Spring Clinical Meeting (St. Louis, MO)

March 11
- AIP and AIP Publishing birthday celebrations (College Park and Melville)

March 12
- Brown bag lunch talk by Elaine Howard Ecklund of Rice University. Ecklund, a sociologist, is an authority on how individuals bring changes to scientific institutions. (College Park)
- Sigma Pi Sigma Pi Day Social for ACP employees, 3 pm. (College Park)

March 13
- AIP milk-and-cookies social (College Park)

March 22-26
- OFC/NFOEC (Los Angeles, CA)

March 24
- Einstein Fellows meeting (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 Spring 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)