

# Forum on Graduate Student Affairs

The Forum on Graduate Student Affairs (FGSA) was established in 2001 to expand graduate students' involvement in the APS and in the scientific community at large. FGSA enhances the ability of APS to meet the needs of graduate students. FGSA offers support services and encourages participation in activities and decision-making in the physics community. **MISSION:** The APS Forum on Graduate Student Affairs encourages a free exchange of ideas among graduate students and the greater scientific community by providing opportunities for meetings, electronic discussion, and access to a permanent archive of member ideas and programs.

## Join APS/FGSA

- **MEMBERSHIP IN FGSA** is open to all APS members. Anyone interested in graduate student education is welcome to join. APS members may sign up online at [www.aps.org/membership/units/join-unit.cfm](http://www.aps.org/membership/units/join-unit.cfm) or contact the APS Membership Department at [membership@aps.org](mailto:membership@aps.org).
- Students who have never been a member of APS before may be eligible for a **FREE ONE-YEAR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP**. For more information, visit [www.aps.org/membership/student.cfm](http://www.aps.org/membership/student.cfm).
- **JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP** is available for recent graduates at half the current regular dues rate. This category is designed to help physicists in the period immediately following receipt of their final degree or the termination of their full-time student status. To qualify for Junior dues, you must have received your final degree within the last 12 months. A Junior member may remain in this category for a maximum of three years. After this three-year period, the Junior member will automatically be billed as an APS Regular member.

## Current Activities

- Arranging **SESSIONS AT APS MEETINGS** designed to be of interest to graduate students or others interested in physics graduate student education.
- Pursuing working relationships with other groups that are similarly interested in graduate student issues. As a result, the Forum on Education (FEEd) now includes a graduate student authored regular column in their newsletter called the **"GRADUATE STUDENT CORNER"** and the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) Committee on Graduate Education in Physics has invited our input on the issue of TA Training. The FGSA continues to work to extend the reach of graduate students in the physics profession.
- **CONDUCTING RESEARCH** on various educational topics of interest to graduate students, and physics departments across the country.
- **MAINTAINING AN UP-TO-DATE WEB PAGE** (<http://units.aps.org/units/fgsa>) to provide comprehensive information on graduate student education, career development, public policy, and more.
- Compiling lists of existing **STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDY** opportunities, and seeking additional funding for student travel to APS meetings.
- Nominating students to **SERVE ON KEY APS COMMITTEES** that address such issues as increasing the number of women and minorities in physics, careers, international affairs, education, and membership.
- Promoting **STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN LOBBYING** Congress, grassroots advocacy, and campaigning for improved science funding.
- Hosting **STUDENT RECEPTIONS** at APS March and April meetings.
- **ORGANIZING THE 2011 CANADIAN-AMERICAN-MEXICAN GRADUATE STUDENT PHYSICS CONFERENCE (CAM2011)**. The CAM conference is a bi-annual meeting cosponsored by the American Physical Society, the Canadian Association of Physicists, and the Sociedad Mexicana de Física that is organized for and by graduate students. The conference seeks to promote international networking and career development for young scientists. CAM 2011 will be hosted by the APS in Washington D.C., 29 Sept – 1 Oct 2011.
- Working with APS divisions to **COORDINATE GRANTS** for student conference travel and fellowships for student projects.

<http://units.aps.org/units/fgsa>

## 2011 FGSA Executive Committee

Megan Comins, *Chair*

Renee Horton, *Chair Elect*

Sarah Caudill, *Past Chair*

Kelly Reidy, *Secretary*

Eric Sorte, *Treasurer*

Abhishek Kumar, *International Student Affairs Officer*

Amber Stuver, *APS Councillor*

Kimberly Boddy, *Member-at-Large (2011)*

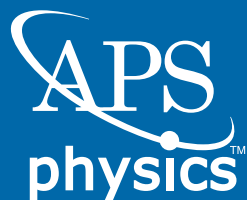
Elena Long, *Member-at-Large (2011)*

Ivan Christov, *Member-at-Large (2012)*

Hassan Masoud, *Member-at-Large (2012)*

### Questions

For more information about APS, FGSA, and membership options, please visit [www.aps.org](http://www.aps.org).



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