

1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey
Being a part of a larger physics community

Preliminary Report

Raymond Y. Chu
Roman Czujko

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I. **Executive Summary**

This preliminary report summarizes much of the data from the 1998 Survey of Non-US Resident APS Members. APS members residing outside the United States number close to 9100. Of that, 1632 received questionnaires and requests to participate in this survey which was designed to assess the benefits and services provided by the APS. The final response rate was a healthy 57%. Many of the findings show little change from the results in the previous survey in 1992. Several questions focusing on meeting attendance and online access were added to this year's survey. Here are some highlights:

- APS Members reside in more than 120 countries, however, Japan, Canada and Germany combined account for about 40% of APS Members residing outside the US.
- In terms of employment characteristics, the international membership of APS are more homogenous than the domestic membership. The majority of international members are PhD physicists employed in academe. By comparison, the domestic membership includes larger proportions of individuals employed in the private sector, engineers, chemists, students and retired members.
- Although the majority of non-US resident APS members already belong to the physical society within the countries in which they reside, most of them also joined the APS to be part of a larger physics community.
- Nearly 70% of international members had studied or worked in the US.
- *Physics Today* is the most important benefit of APS membership. *PT* is read regularly by most of the international APS members.
- Two-thirds of international members read the majority of their physics research literature in APS journals. The majority of non-US resident APS members prefer to use paper journals instead of electronic versions of research literature.
- The majority of non-US resident APS members regularly attend other physics meetings, but had not attended APS meetings within the past five years.
- Overall, a significant proportion of the international APS membership would prefer more international involvement with publications, meetings and committees.

II. *Being part of a larger physics community*

Table 1. Predominant countries in which non-US members reside, 1998

Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
Japan	19	Switzerland	5	Sweden	2
Canada	11	Italy	3	Taiwan	2
Germany	10	Israel	3	Brazil	2
France	6	The Netherlands	3	Mexico	2
South Korea	5	Spain	3	Russia	2
England	5	Australia	2	Belgium	2

Footnote: These countries comprise 84% of the non-US resident APS members. At the time of this survey, there were 9088 APS members in 122 countries outside the US. Of these, 104 countries each have fewer than 2% of the international membership and are not shown on this table.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the countries in which most of the non-US membership reside based upon the APS membership records.
- The predominant numbers of non-US residents members live in Europe, Japan, Canada and Korea. Members in Japan make up one-fifth of the international membership. Members in Canada and Germany make up another fifth. The respondents reflect these proportions, therefore, the overall responses in this report will be heavily represented by respondents in these regions. Where significant, analyses will be done by specific regions or countries.
- There are 65 cash-poor countries that are “eligible” for matching membership and they account for 9% of the international membership of APS. Most of these respondents are in South America, Asia and Eastern Europe (see Appendix Table 2).
- A little over 6% of the respondents claim US citizenship, which projects up to 566 APS international members to be US citizens.

Table 2. Employment status, 1998	
	Overall %
Full-time employed	84
Part-time employed	3
Unemployed	1
Retired	7
Student	5
Number of respondents	926

Table 4. Age, 1998	
	Overall %
Younger than 40	30
40-49	23
50-59	27
60-69	13
70 or older	6
Number of respondents	925

Table 3. Highest degrees, 1998	
	Overall %
PhD	91
Masters	7
Bachelors	2
Number of respondents	922

Table 5. Gender, 1998	
	Overall %
Female	5
Male	95
Number of respondents	919

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- APS members who reside outside the US are more homogeneous than domestic members of APS. They are significantly more likely to be employed, PhD physicists (52% domestic in 1996 vs. 73% non-US in 1998).
- The percentages of retired and students among the non-US resident respondents are lower than the base rates in the domestic membership.
- Respondents in developing countries tend to be older than their counterparts in developed countries (see Appendix Table 3).

Table 6. Professional self-Identification by employment sector, 1998				
	Physicist	Engineer	Chemist	Overall
	%	%	%	%
Academic	79	55	82	78
Government	11	12	5	11
Industry, self-employed	8	32	13	9
Other	2	1	0	2
Number of respondents	726	42	40	822*

* Includes 14 respondents who did not identify themselves as a physicist, engineer or chemist.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Table 7. Professional self-Identification by work activity, 1998				
	Physicist	Engineer	Chemist	Overall
	%	%	%	%
Basic research	61	29	75	60
Teaching	14	13	14	14
Long range applied research	11	29	5	11
Short range applied research, DDE	5	15	0	6
Administration	4	10	3	4
Other	5	4	3	5
Number of respondents	729	42	40	825*

* Includes 14 respondents who did not identify themselves as physicist, engineer or chemist. DDE is the abbreviation for design, development and engineering.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- The APS members living abroad are comprised mostly of physicists working in universities doing basic research. Most chemists are also doing basic research in universities. Those who identify themselves as engineers distribute much more evenly across work activities. A third of the engineers work in industry, which is four times more likely than among physicists. The international APS membership is less diverse in terms of professional self-identification and employment characteristics than their domestic counterparts.

Table 8. The factors that most influenced the respondents' decisions to join APS by developed country categories, 1998

	Developing countries %	Developed countries %	Overall %
Wanted to be part of larger physics community	60	52	53
Wanted to receive <i>Physics Today</i>	38	43	42
Wanted to receive information about research	43	32	34
Studied or worked in the US	28	30	29
Wished to participate in APS meetings	14	31	29
Keep abreast of US physics community	21	28	27
Reduced rates for journal subscriptions	26	23	24
Urged by colleague/professor to join	12	13	13
Wanted chance to make professional contacts	13	11	11
Prestige of journals	9	7	7
Wanted student discounts	6	3	4
Wanted to receive APS promotional material	4	1	2
Other	1	1	1
Number of respondents	168	757	931

Footnote: These are the percentages of the respondents who chose the following as the factors which most influenced their decisions to join the APS. Respondents were asked to choose up to three factors as the most important. They averaged 2.8 choices.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the factors that most influenced respondents' decision to join the APS. The majority of respondents reported that one of the most important factors in joining the APS was wanting to be part of a larger physics community. The second most cited factor was *Physics Today*. Three-fourths of the respondents indicated one or both of these as reasons for joining the APS.
- The majority of the respondents already belong to physical societies in their countries of residence (see Table 10). For the majority, joining the APS makes them feel they are a part of a larger physics community.
- Over 85% regularly read *Physics Today* (see Table 13). A significant portion of the respondents joins the APS for this benefit of membership.
- About 43% of respondents in developing countries, join the APS to receive information on physics research.

- The majority of respondents joined the APS for reasons other than participating in APS meetings, particularly among respondents who live in developing countries. Two-thirds of the respondents did not attend any APS meetings within the last five years (see Table 25).
- About 41% of those who studied or worked in the US indicated that as the reason why they joined the APS (see Table 9).

Table 9. Extent to which respondents have studied or worked in the US, 1998			
	Developing countries	Developed countries	Overall
	%	%	%
Only studied in the US	11	4	5
Only worked in the US	26	43	41
Studied and worked in the US	31	22	23
Had not studied nor worked in the US	32	31	31
Number of respondents	168	761	929

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Nearly 70% of non-US resident members had studied or worked in the US.

Table 10. Extent to which respondents had physical societies and memberships with them in their country of residence, 1998	
	Overall %
Member of physical society in country of residence	69
Not a member of the physical society in country of residence	14
No physical society in county of residence	17
Number of respondents	919

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the extent to which respondents have resident physical societies by country of residence and whether or not they are members.
- The majority of respondents are multiple physics society members.

III. Advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of physics

Table 11. The extent to which respondents rated these services and benefits of APS membership as important, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
<i>Physics Today</i>	89	83	83
Being a part of a larger physics community	61	50	51
Reduced rates for journal subscriptions	53	45	45
Ability to contribute papers at APS meetings	29	38	37
Opportunity to make professional contacts	48	34	35
APS Membership Directory (hard copy)	39	35	35
Reduced registration at APS meetings	28	32	31
APS News	46	25	27
Division, topical group, section and forum memberships	35	27	27
APS Membership Directory (online)	22	27	26
AIP/APS Directory of Physics, Astronomy, and Geophysics Staff	25	21	21
Bulletin of the APS (hard copy)	23	13	14
Bulletin of the APS (online)	17	13	13
Fellowships and Awards	17	12	12
Number of respondents	142	777	919

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate how important to them are these services and benefits of APS membership on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not Important" and 5 is "Essential". They were also allowed to indicate "No Opinion". These percentages represent the respondents who chose 4 or 5.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the extent to which respondents find these APS services and benefits important.
- *Physics Today* is among the primary reasons for joining APS and is an important benefit of membership. After joining the APS, the majority find being part of a larger physics community an important benefit of membership.
- The ability to contribute papers at APS meetings, the opportunity to make professional contacts and the APS Membership Directory were benefits and services that over a third of the respondents find important.

Table 12. The extent to which respondents agreed with the following statements, 1998			
	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
If I did not receive <i>Physics Today</i> , I would lose out on information that is important to me	63	52	59
I receive fair value for my dues	52	54	54
Number of respondents	137	741	878

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with statements on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Strongly disagree" and 5 is "Strongly agree". They were also allowed to indicate "No Opinion". The data above represent the respondents who chose 4 or 5.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- The bare majority find dues to be fair. In future surveys, this issue should be explored in greater detail to better understand why so many members disagree with this statement.

Table 13. The extent to which respondents read the average issue of <i>Physics Today</i> , 1998			
	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
Read most/all of it	51	31	34
Read some of it	43	54	53
Scan it	4	13	12
Rarely look at it	1	1	1
Number of respondents	141	776	917

Footnote: Respondents were asked to describe the extent to which they read the average issue of *Physics Today*

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the extent to which respondents read an average issue of *Physics Today*.
- *Physics Today*, in part, provides the APS non-US resident members the information and forum that gives them the sense of belonging to a larger physics community. The overwhelming majority regularly read *Physics Today* and considers it an essential benefit of APS membership (see Table 11). And the majority of respondents agreed with that if they did not receive *Physics Today*, they would lose out on important information (see Table 12).

Table 14. Extent to which respondents read physics research literature from APS journals, 1998

	Overall %
Almost all	12
More than half	28
Half	27
Less than half	25
Almost none	8
Number of respondents	919

Footnote: Respondents were asked of the physics research literature that they read, how much is from APS journals.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Over two-thirds of the respondents indicated that at least half of the physics research literature they read is in APS journals. This contributes greatly to the sense of belonging to a larger physics community.

Table 15. Ease of access to the latest issues of Physical Review or Physical Review Letters, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
In your office, on your computer	26	36	35
A few offices away, in your building	28	33	33
Within walking distance from building	28	20	20
Too far to walk, don't know	19	11	11
Number of respondents	91	583	674

Footnote: The online questionnaire responses to this question were unusable. Therefore, this table only reflects those who responded to the paper questionnaires.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- The table shows how accessible are the latest copies of Physical Review and Physical Review Letters to the respondents. The majority indicate that Physical Review is readily accessible. Respondents in countries eligible for matching membership are slightly more likely to be more distant from their PR or PRL. These findings are consistent with the employment profile of international members and their heavy reliance on APS journals for physics research literature.

Table 16. Extent to which respondents regularly read physics research literature in the following ways, 1998

	%
Paper journals	89
Read print journals from the library	72
Single articles photocopied from journals	72
Paper preprints	50
Online journals	39
Read from own subscription	39
Electronic preprints	36
Accessed online journals through an institutional subscription	24
Read a colleague's print subscription	19
Access my own online subscription	19
Articles from a document delivery service	16
Number of respondents	869

Footnote: Respondents were asked to indicate how frequently they read physics research literature in the following ways within the past year on a 5-point scale, where: 1 is "Daily", 2 is "Weekly", 3 is "Monthly", 4 is "Rarely" and 5 is "Never". This table shows the percentages of those who chose 1, 2 or 3, that is, monthly or more often.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the predominant ways in which respondents read physics research literature. Overall, paper is still preferred over electronic access.
- Paper journals, from the library or photocopied, are still the prevalent means by which most respondents read physics research literature. Paper journals are used regularly by most of the respondents. Nearly half of the respondents accessed online journals within the past year (see Table 17).

Table 17. Percent of respondents who accessed online journals within the past year, 1998

	%
Any online journals	49
Physical Review online or Physical Review Letters	17
Number of respondents	909

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Table 18. Extent to which respondents indicated these reasons for not having an online subscription to Physical Review or Physical Review Letters, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
I prefer using the paper version	51	57	56
I access the online journals through an institutional subscription	13	32	30
I find \$25 for each APS member online subscription too expensive	26	9	11
I have experienced problems accessing Physical Review/Physical Review Letters on World Wide Web	16	9	9
The foreign exchange rate in my country is too unfavorable	39	6	9
I lack the necessary computer equipment and Internet access	25	7	8
Other	10	14	14
Number of respondents	82	397	479

Footnote: Respondents were asked if they did not have an online subscription to PR or PRL, to indicate their reasons.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Table 17 shows that the majority of APS international members have accessed no journal online within the past year. Table 18 shows the reasons why some respondents do not have online subscriptions to Physical Review or Physical Review Letters.
- The majority of respondents still prefer to use the paper version of PR and PRL to the online version.
- Respondents in countries eligible for matching membership status are more likely to cite monetary and access difficulties as reasons for not subscribing to PR and PRL online.

Table 19. Among members who regularly read APS journals in print, reasons for not subscribing, 1998

	Overall %
I read the copy at a library instead	88
I lack storage space for a personal subscription	27
I find APS' member subscriptions too expensive	26
I find foreign mailing surcharges too expensive	17
The foreign exchange rate in my country is too unfavorable	12
I read a colleague's copy instead	10
Other	5
Number of respondents	737

Footnote: Respondents were asked to indicate their reasons why they do not subscribe to APS journals if they use them regularly. Respondents were allowed to check off all reasons that applied. On average, respondents chose 1.9 reasons.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Half of all reasons given for not having a journal subscription to APS journals was the availability of these journals in the library.
- Most of the other reasons cited were related to cost of personal subscriptions.

Table 20. Extent to which respondents indicated their libraries either have or should have the following APS journals, 1998

	Already have %	Should have %
Physical Review Letters	92	7
Physical Review B	83	5
Reviews of Modern Physics	82	10
Physical Review A	80	5
Physical Review C	74	5
Physical Review D	74	4
Physical Review E	73	6
Number of respondents	837	837

Footnote: Respondents were asked to indicate which of the APS journals were in their institution or library collections and which they feel should be added to them.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- The vast majority of respondents indicate that their libraries have subscriptions to APS journals.

Table 21. Respondents recommendations regarding the most effective ways APS can communicate new information about its products and services, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
E-mail	45	55	54
Regular mail	27	20	20
APS News	12	11	11
APS home page	7	10	10
Other	1	1	1
Number of respondents	141	762	903

Footnote: Respondents were asked what they feel is the most effective way APS can communicate to them new information about its products and services.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the most effective ways APS can let respondents know about new products and services. Email is the prevalent way in which the majority of respondents wish APS to communicate. Whereas for research literature, paper is still preferred over electronic forms, electronic correspondence is preferred over paper mail or APS News.
- A significant proportion of APS members, especially in “eligible countries”, do not have access to the web as reflected in slightly higher preferences for regular mail and APS News.

Table 22. Respondent reactions to the amount of information they have been getting from APS about its research journals, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
Just right	77	86	85
Too much	3	4	4
Not enough	20	10	11
Number of respondents	135	721	856

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate the amount of information they have been getting from APS about its research journals.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- APS members living outside the US think they have been receiving the right amount of promotional material from the APS. A significant number, especially in “eligible countries”, are receptive to receiving more information.

IV. *Involvement of international members*

Table 23. The extent to which respondents indicated that they know or have participated in the following APS units, programs or affiliations, 1998

	Know well 4 or 5 %	3 %	Know little 1 or 2 %	No opinion %
What's New?	27	21	39	13
Forum on Industrial and Applied Physics	15	16	51	18
Reciprocal Member Society Agreements	15	13	51	21
Forum on International Physics	15	19	51	15
Human Rights Petitions	12	14	54	20
Committee on the International Freedom of Scientists	11	16	57	16
Library Outreach Program	11	13	58	19
Committee on International Scientific Affairs	10	16	55	18
Matching Membership Program	9	11	60	21

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate their knowledge or awareness of the APS units, programs and affiliations on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is "Never heard of the program" and 5 is "Know it well and/or have participated in the program". Respondents could also chose "No opinion". The column labeled "Know well" shows the percentage who chose 4 or 5. The column labeled "3" shows the percentage who chose 3. The column labeled "Know little" shows the percentage who chose 1 or 2. Please note, about a quarter of the responses to each item was "No opinion". There were 782 respondents to this item.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the extent to which respondents know or have participated in these APS programs. With the exception of "What's New", the majority are unaware of these programs. If one assumes that the "No opinion" responses also indicate low awareness, then the vast majority know little about the APS programs listed.

Table 24. The extent to which respondents regularly attended other physics meetings, 1998

	%
None	39
One	41
Two or more	20
Number of respondents	823

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- The majority of respondents did not indicate participating in APS meetings among top factors for joining the APS. Only a third of the respondents attended APS meeting within the last five years, but the vast majority of them regularly attend other physics meetings.

Table 25. The extent to which respondents attended APS meetings within the past five years, 1998	
	%
No meetings	66
One meeting	18
More than one meeting	17
Number of respondents	900

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Two-thirds of the respondents indicated that they did not attend any APS meetings within the past five years. Fewer than a third of the respondents indicated that they joined the APS to participate in APS meetings (see Table 8).
- Respondents who worked or studied in the US were only slightly more likely to have attended an APS meeting than those who did not work or study in the US (see Appendix Table 4).

Table 26. The extent to which respondents find the following as important influences on their decisions to attend APS meetings, 1998		
	Have not attended APS meetings	Attended APS meetings
	%	%
Travel costs	72	50
Meeting topic and content, invited speakers	50	72
Time constraints	50	59
Invitation to speak	36	59
Particular invited speakers and talks	33	44
Meeting location	39	34
Registration fees	28	25
Number of respondents	472	274

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate how important the listed influences their decisions to attend APS meetings a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not important" and 5 is "Very important". This table shows the percentages of those who chose 4 or 5. Respondents could also choose "No opinion". Please note, some items solicited "No opinion" from up to 35% of the respondents. The columns represent those who have or have not attended APS meetings within the past five years.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- As expected, cost in terms of travel and time are the major reasons international members do not attend APS meetings.

Table 27. The extent to which respondents think the following could be improved about APS meetings, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
Locate meeting so as to reduce travel costs	52	32	34
Participation of a smaller number of APS divisions, topical groups and forums	18	29	28
Earlier notification of program content	29	26	27
More plenary sessions on subjects outside my specialty	13	25	25
Hold meeting in a more attractive location	15	24	23
More networking opportunities	28	17	18
Participation of a larger number of APS divisions, topical groups and forums	15	13	14
Easier to use the APS Bulletin	20	10	11
More social functions	10	8	8
Other	7	8	8
Number of respondents	82	397	479

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- This table shows the aspects of APS meetings that respondents think could be improved. The majority of respondents did not answer this question. This might reflect the low reliance on APS for meetings. Attending APS meetings is not among the top reasons for joining the APS (see Table 8). Instead, the majority of the respondents do regularly attend other physics meetings (see Table 24).

Table 28. The extent to which respondents agreed with the following statements, 1998

	Eligible %	Ineligible %	Overall %
APS meetings and programming reflect the interests of the international physics community fairly well	46	46	46
APS meetings need more international participation	61	38	40
APS publicizes its international activities adequately	45	39	39
APS journals need more international participation	58	34	36
APS Committee on International Affairs needs more international representation	56	31	33
APS provides international members with ample opportunity to comment on APS priorities and activities	37	30	31
I wish to be invited to serve as a referee	42	19	21
I wish to be invited to serve on an APS Committee	37	15	17
APS is too academically oriented	12	9	9
Number of respondents	137	741	878

Footnote: Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with the list statements on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Strongly disagree" and 5 is "Strongly agree". They were also allowed to indicate "No Opinion". The data above represent the respondents who chose 4 or 5.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

- Respondents in "eligible countries" are more likely to agree that the APS would benefit from more international involvement on meetings, journals and committees than their counterparts in "ineligible countries". Their sentiments might reflect the fact that physicists in eligible countries often belong to local societies that neither have a strong international prestige nor publish cutting edge physics research.

Appendix

Appendix Table 1. APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey response rate, 1998			
	E-Mail %	Paper %	Overall %
Response Rate	15	41	56
Number of respondents	253	682	935

Footnote: The sample was 1655. The first mailing went out on March 20, 1998. The second mailing went out on May 15, 1998. Please note, that respondents had to pay for return postage. Also, there are some discrepancies between the E-mail responses and the paper responses for certain items. These will be explained in forthcoming reports.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Appendix Table 2. Predominant countries of citizenship and birth, 1998			
Citizenship in		Birthplaces in	
Eligible countries	Ineligible countries	Eligible countries	Ineligible countries
Russia	Japan	India	Japan
Argentina	Germany	Argentina	Germany
India	Canada	Russia	Canada
Poland	United States	Poland	United States
Ukraine	Switzerland	Ukraine	Switzerland
China	France	Chile	France
Chile	United Kingdom	Czechoslovakia	United Kingdom
Venezuela	Korea	Egypt	Korea
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Colombia	Spain
Colombia	Spain		Netherlands
Egypt	Italy		Italy
	Sweden		Austria
			Sweden

Footnote: These countries comprise 75% of the respondents. Members in "Eligible countries" are classified by the APS as eligible for matching membership benefits.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Appendix Table 3. Age by developed countries categories, 1998

	Developing Countries %	Developed Countries %	Overall %
Younger than 40	21	32	30
40-49	26	23	23
50-59	36	25	27
60-69	13	13	13
70 or older	4	7	6
Number of respondents	168	757	925

Footnote: These categories are defined as developing Countries by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Appendix Table 4. The extent to which respondents who worked or studied in the US, also attend APS meetings within the past five years, 1998

	Worked or Studied in US %	Did not work or study in US %	%
No meetings	63	72	66
One or more meetings	37	28	34
Number of respondents	606	294	900

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Appendix: Written Comments

Q30. With respect to Physical Review and Physical Review Letters, do you feel you are ready at this point to give up the print version and use the online version instead? If no, please indicate your reason.

There were 427 responses to this question. The percentages represent the proportion of respondents to this question who cited each theme. The following are the predominant themes in response to this question:

- Comfort: Print versions are still more “easier to handle”, “easier to access” and “comfortable to read”. Sitting in front of a computer is “tiring on the eyes”. Some respondents said they “concentrate on reading” better and can “make notes in the margins” using print versions. (30%)
- Habit: Respondents are “accustomed to print” versions and are familiar with where things are. Similarly, some indicated that they did “not like to be computer dependent” or “fiddle with a computer”. (23%)
- Speed: Print versions are still quicker to access. Computers are still too slow for setting up connections, article retrievals, as well as file transfers. (18%)
- Access: Some respondents still have limited or no access to online resources. Also, some have not tried online versions. (8%)
- Portable: Print versions are still more portable and, particularly for busy people, can be read while travelling. (7%)
- Cost: Online versions are still too costly. (3%)

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey

Q41 What other services could a professional society provide that would be beneficial to you in your line of work?

There were 142 responses to this question. The percentages represent the proportion of respondents to this question who cited each theme. The following are the predominant themes in response to this question:

- Access to meetings: Several respondents would like to “visit APS meetings” or help the APS “organize a meeting in Europe”. Some also suggested APS assist in either the cost of travelling or lodging to attend APS meetings. (12%)
- Reduced costs: Members would like reduced charges for membership, journal subscriptions, conference proceedings, article reprints, etc. (9%)
- Happy: Some respondents are happy with the current services and benefits provided by the APS. They cite that the “APS is doing a great job”. (7%)
- Database of literature: Several respondents suggest that they wanted access to a primary online archive of physics research literature covering all publishers worldwide. (6%)
- Exchange programs: Some suggest that the APS arrange professional and student exchange programs between countries. (5%)
- Job announcements: Some would like prompt and regular job announcements. (5%)
- Cooperation among Societies: Several respondents indicate they would like more collaborations and joint efforts between Societies or nations. (4%)

Source: 1998 APS Non-US Resident Membership Survey