



Message from the Editor

Maria Longobardi

Dear All,

Forum on Graduate Students Affairs (FGSA) welcomes you to the APS April meeting 2014 in Savannah, Georgia. In this special edition of our newsletter you can find special events and sessions designed specifically for graduate students and young researchers.

Don't forget to attend the FGSA activities, especially the Panel Discussion on career opportunities for Physicists on Saturday, April 5. We hope that you will enjoy the April Meeting 2014 and that your interaction with your researchers from different communities will stimulate a creative exchange of ideas.

See you in Savannah!

*Maria Longobardi
Newsletter Editor and International Student Affair Officer
APS Forum on Graduate Student Affairs*

*Département de Physique de la Matière Condensée
Université de Genève
24, quai E.-Ansermet
1211 Genève 4 – Switzerland
Phone : +41 22 379 3442
Email : maria.longobardi@unige.ch*

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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.

The articles in this issue represent the views of the Forum on Graduate Student Affairs (FGSA) and are not necessarily those of individual FGSA members or the APS.

Overview on the April Meeting Activities

Brock Russell, FGSA Chair



FGSA has several activities at the April Meetings in 2014. We will have a panel discussion on Saturday 5 April focusing on careers outside of the traditional research institution. We will

have industrial physicists, a data scientist, and a faculty member from a small liberal arts school. This will also be an open discussion, so come with questions. During the April Meeting, we will have also the session Career beyond General Relativity co-sponsored with the Topical Group on Gravitation about some physicists in that field who obtained PhDs and went on to non-academic careers.

We hope to see you at one (or all) of these sessions.

FGSA ACTIVITIES AT APRIL MEETING 2014

PANEL DISCUSSION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICISTS:

Saturday, April 5 • 3:30pm–5:18pm

Chair: Brock Russell

Convention Center Chatham Ballroom C

Please join us for an informative discussion about the many career paths available to those with a physics degree. Our panelists come from a wide variety of backgrounds and represent a diversity of employment sectors; through the discussion, we will explore academic and non-academic career paths, tips on building your network, searching for and applying to jobs, and how to navigate the negotiation process.

Panelists will include:

- **Steven Lambert**, *Industrial Physics Fellow, American Physical Society*
- **Meghan Anzels**, *Director of Predictive Modeling at CNA Insurance*

- **Kathy Harkay**, *Physicist at Argonne National Laboratory*
- **Brad Conrad**, *Asst. Professor of Physics & Astronomy, Appalachian State University*
- **Rafael Lang**, *Purdue University*

The event is free and open to all to attend. Light refreshments will be served..

CAREERS BEYOND GENERAL RELATIVITY:

Sunday, April 6 • 6:30pm–10:18pm

Oglethorpe Auditorium

LUNCH WITH DR. NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON

Monday, April 7 • 12:45pm

Ticket only event

OTHER ACTIVITIES AT APRIL MEETING 2014

WELCOME RECEPTION

Saturday, April 5 • 5:30pm–7:00pm

Convention Center, Esplanade

Join colleagues and other meeting attendees to network and mingle. Light refreshments will be provided.

APS PRIZES & AWARDS CEREMONIAL SESSION

Sunday, April 6 • 5:30pm–7:00pm

Oglethorpe Auditorium

Prizes and awards will be bestowed on several individuals for outstanding contributions to physics. Please plan on attending the Awards Program and join us in honoring these individuals.

LUNCH WITH THE GRADS: A PANEL DISCUSSION ABOUT PHYSICS GRAD SCHOOL

Saturday, April 5 • 12:30pm–1:30pm

Convention Center Room 102

Join our panel of graduate students for a frank discussion about physics graduate school. Topics of discussion will include choosing a graduate school, balancing teaching workload and coursework, time management, selecting a research advisor, studying for qualifying exams, thesis writing, and more. Lunch will be provided.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND OUTREACH: SPS I

Saturday, April 5 • 10:45am–12:21pm
Convention Center Room 102

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND OUTREACH: SPS II

Saturday, April 5 • 13:35am–15:06pm
Convention Center Room 102

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS BRUNCH

Sunday, April 6 • 10:30am–12:00pm
Hyatt Regency Savannah Scarbrough Ballroom 3-4

Join us for brunch and awards ceremony for undergraduate presenters from SPS oral and poster sessions. All presenters will be recognized and the top presenters will receive a special physics prize. Mentors are welcome and encouraged to attend. A light meal will be served.

GRAD STUDENTS LUNCH WITH THE EXPERTS

Sunday, April 6 • 12:30pm–2:00pm
Convention Center Exhibit Hall A

Graduate students may sign up on-site to enjoy complimentary box-lunch while participating in an informal discussion with an expert on a topic of interest to them. Sign-up will take place at the APS registration desk, and will be

on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendance is limited to eight students per topic.

MEET THE APS JOURNAL EDITORS

Sunday, April 6 • 10:30am–12:00pm
Convention Center Georgia International Gallery

The Editors of the APS Journals invite you to join them for conversation and refreshments. The Editors will be available to answer questions, hear your ideas, and discuss any comments you may have about the journals. Light refreshments will be served.

EDUCATION & DIVERSITY RECEPTION

Sunday, April 6 • 6:30pm–8:00pm
Hyatt Regency Savannah Scarbrough 3-4

Join us to relax, unwind, and recognize new fellows and award winners at the Education and Diversity reception. We will recognize new Forum on Education (FE) Fellows, the recipients of the Committee on Education Award for Improving Undergraduate Physics Education, as well as women and minority physicists that have received APS Prizes, Awards and Fellowships. Light refreshments will be served.

SPECIAL MOVIE SCREENING: PARTICLE FEVER

Monday, April 7 • 8:00pm–10:00pm
Hyatt Regency Savannah Scarbrough 2-4

Imagine being able to watch as Edison turned on the first light bulb, or as Franklin received his first jolt of electricity. For the first time, a film gives audiences a front row seat to a significant and inspiring scientific breakthrough as it happens.

Particle Fever follows six brilliant scientists during the launch of the Large Hadron Collider,



marking the start-up of the biggest and most expensive experiment in the history of the planet, pushing the edge of human innovation. Directed by Mark Levinson, a physicist turned filmmaker, from the inspiration and initiative of producer David Kaplan and masterfully edited by Walter Murch (*Apocalypse Now*, *The English Patient*), *Particle Fever* is a celebration of discovery, revealing the very human stories behind this epic machine.

“APPY” HOUR

Monday, April 7 • 5:45pm–7:00pm
Hyatt Regency Savannah Scarborough 1

Prizes and awards will be bestowed on several individuals for outstanding contributions to physics. Please plan on attending the Awards Program and join us in honoring these individuals.

2014 FGSA Executive Committee



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 One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740