

APS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
2020

Committee

Education

Committee Charge

The membership of the Committee on Education consists of the Chair, Past-Chair and Chair-Elect from the Forum on Education and nine (9) persons selected by the Committee on Committees and appointed by the President-Elect to staggered three-year terms. The President-Elect appoints the Chair from among the members. The Committee is responsible for activities in the area of physics education designated to it by the Council. It reports periodically to the President and the Council on physics education. It may suggest and supervise studies and programs to improve the cooperation between the educational community and other parts of the physics community.

2020 Committee Members

Chair: **Martha-Elizabeth (Marty) Baylor**
Carleton College

Member: **Jamie D White**
Juniata College

Member: **Joshua (Josh) Grossman**
St. Mary's College of Maryland

Member: **Stefan Zollner**
New Mexico State University

Member: **Daryl Hartley**
US Naval Academy

FED Chair-Elect to COE: **Catherine Crouch**
Swarthmore College

Member: Rajeswari (Raj) Kolagani
Towson University

FED Chair to COE: **Gerald (Jerry) Feldman**
George Washington University

Member: **Karen Magee-Sauer**
Rowan University

FED Past Chair to COE: **Laurie McNeil**
University of North Carolina

Member: **Galen Pickett**
California State University, Long Beach

Member: **Kathryn (Kat) Svinarich**
Kettering University

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2020

Due to COVID all of the committee meetings were online: January 22, March 14, July 8, and October 3. Subcommittees met and conducted their work virtually between meetings. The Committee on Education was very focused on responding to COVID's impact on education within the physics community in addition to working with Effective Practices for Physics Programs (EP3), revising COE's priorities, establishing connections with other APS committees, and, indirectly, working with Educational Policy Committee (EPC). Other tasks were completed but were not the primary emphasis of the committee.

Response to COVID: There was a special-called COE meeting held on June 10th to brainstorm potential COE response to COVID and the call for social justice after the murder of George Floyd ahead of our summer meeting. The suggestions fell into two categories. 1) Build capacities and resources for teaching around diversity, equity, and inclusion. 2) Foreground for department chairs and other academic leaders the disproportionate challenges faced by low-income students under COVID-imposed remote learning.

Effective Practices for Physics: We continued to spend a great deal of time trying to understand the inner workings of Effective Practices for Physics Programs (EP3) in preparation for the handover of the guide to COE. With the planned roll out of EP3 in January 2021, a sub-group of COE has spent the last year trying to understand the development and review process of a section in the guide by going through the entire process for a section in progress. This sub-group experienced editing, reviewing and soliciting contributors, etc. of one section and provided feedback to the EP3 Editorial Board to improve the process.

Education Policy Committee: EPC served as a major conduit of information from OGA to COE. The committee spent a substantial amount of time supporting APS' response to Federal Policies that had immediate consequences to higher education, particularly to international undergraduate and graduate students. Two major accomplishments for EPC was developing a toolkit for departments facing threats of closure (suggestions and strategies for making a case for continued funding) and supporting the refinement and dissemination of Mike Marder Proposal. Further accomplishments will be discussed in the EPC annual report.

COE appoints two members to EPC in staggered two-year terms. The EPC met roughly monthly throughout the year. Major accomplishments of EPC are listed below.

2010 EPC membership is as follows:

COE members: COE Chair (Baylor), Karen Magee-Sauer (EPC Chair)- Rowan University,
Galen Pickett, California State University Long Beach, Bryan Pyper, Brigham Young
University - Idaho

GPER member: Paula Heron - University of Washington

FEd member: Scott Franklin - Rochester Institute of Technology

Other 2019 COE Activities

Additional work of the committee includes these actions:

- Annual review of COE priorities
- Ensured alignment of COE work with COE priorities
- Supported Awards Related/Grants Activities
 - Selected recipients of Award for Improving Undergraduate Physics Education.
 - Reviewed & selected recipients of APS Prize for a Faculty Member for Research in an Undergraduate Institution.
 - Established a process to formally recognize top producers of physics majors (by institution type, by key demographics).
 - Reviewed and ranked Innovation Award pre-proposals which listed COE as a related unit.
- Discussed ways to support and collaborate with the Committee on International Scientific Affairs (CISA) and Forum on Education (FEEd).
- Discussed with COM and CSWP a preliminary proposal for an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Fellowship Program to develop physicist facilitators who are EDI trainers. An exploratory sub-committee is continuing development of this proposal.
- Provided suggestions to the REU Leadership Group for considerations on the implementation and structure of the program to better support students applicants from primarily undergraduate institutions and to promote development of REUs at non-R1 institutions.
- Followed up on Draft GRE Statement, now the Holistic Admissions Statement, and provided feedback to POPA on the draft statement.
- Supported the APS/AAPT Chairs Meeting by co-chairing sessions and serving as notetakers, which also supported information gathering for COE.
- Provided feedback on Michael Marder's Whitepaper.
- Discussed proposal for APS to create a Leadership Development program to support department chairs and other leadership opportunities physicists inside and outside of APS.