

## 21st Century Campaígn Exceeds Goal

am delighted to announce that the American Physical Society's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Campaign has raised \$4.3 million, exceeding its goal of \$3.5 million. The Campaign exemplifies the commitment of the American Physical Society to improve science education, attract greater numbers of

women and under-represented minorities to the sciences, and develop stronger ties between industry and academia. Our success was made possible by the many volunteers who served on the Executive Committee, the Campaign Council of Nobel Laureates, the Individual Gifts Campaign Committee, and those that supported our efforts as APS Board and Council members. We greatly appreciate the numerous individuals who lent their name or played an active role in this initiative.

Our efforts are already providing students with the skills to help them excel in the new millennium; endowing teachers with the knowledge to engage and educate their students; ensuring women and minorities have the opportunities and

role models they need to compete in the physical sciences; providing industry with a robust and technically trained workforce; and communicating with the public that physics is a vital and dynamic field that touches nearly every aspect of our lives. The funds raised by the Campaign are providing major support to APS programs and will continue to do so in upcoming years.



Congratulations to all involved. This is certainly a major achievement for the Society.

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William F. Brinkman Campaign Executive Advisor & Chair, Individual Gifts Campaign

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Campaign Prog

THE PHYSICS TEACHERS EDUCATION COALITION (PhysTEC) is a signature program run jointly by the APS, the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT), and the American Institute of Physics (AIP) to improve the preparation of future K-12 physics teachers. It provides funding to selected institutions to create teacher preparation programs that emphasize a student-centered, hands-on, inquiry-based approach to learning science. Institutions funded by PhysTEC have doubled, or more, the number of physics teachers graduating from their programs each year, and PhysTEC sites now graduate around 8% of all new physics teachers in the U.S. The PhysTEC model of teacher preparation includes aggressive teacher recruitment; research-based pedagogy; collaboration between the physics department, education department, and school districts; a teacher-in-residence who is hired from a local school to work in the physics department; and an induction and mentoring program for the graduated teachers who are beginning their careers in the classroom. The project also includes PTEC, a national coalition including both recognized leaders in science teacher preparation and institutions eager to enlarge and improve their programs. This growing coalition consists of more than 130 member institutions, and holds an annual national conference at which members share innovative best practices in teacher preparation.

**HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICS TEACHERS' DAYS** are held in connection with the two annual meetings of the American Physical Society. In 2008, Teachers' Days were held in New Orleans, LA and St. Louis, MO. In 2009, they are being held in Pittsburgh, PA and Denver, CO. At these recent events, high school teachers participated in hands-on activities in workshops conducted by master physics teachers and saw presentations on cutting-edge research. They also networked with physicists and fellow teachers at breakout sessions and "lunch with a physicist." Teachers come away with new ideas for experiments, sample activity materials, and a renewed enthusiasm for teaching science. Some APS units, such as the Division of Plasma Physics (DPP) and the Division of Physics of Beams (DPB) hold similar events in connection with their separate meetings during the year.

THE MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR UNDERGRADUATE PHYSICS MAJORS supports talented undergraduate physics students who come from minority groups that are currently under-represented among bachelor and PhD



physicists. This highly successful program has now awarded scholarships to 405 recipients (includes new and one year renewals) since its inception in 1980. Sixty-five percent of the scholarship recipients receive their undergraduate degrees in physics or a related field and twenty percent go on to pursue their PhD in

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physics. Since 80-100 qualified students apply annually, and only one quarter of those were funded due to budget restraints, additional funding is helping provide more scholarships to talented minorities applying to the program. In addition to financial support, students are paired with two physicist mentors; one from the APS Committee on Minorities in physics (COM), and one from their home institution. The mentors serve as role models who provide support and career guidance to the scholarship winners. The students cite this mentoring component as a key source of support and encouragement in helping them complete their physics degree.

**STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS FOR PHYSICS MEETINGS** provide physics students with an opportunity to attend APS meetings and gain a sense of the physics community as they are beginning to pursue their scientific careers. They hear

about exciting research, participate in special events, network with physicists and fellow students, and obtain career counseling at a critical time in their education. Through this program's grants, students who would ordinarily not be able to handle the financial burden of travel, lodging and registration to experience APS meetings are able to do so.



**THE WOMEN AND MINORITIES SPEAKERS PROGRAM** reaches out to the untapped resource of women and underrepresented minorities at a time when the need for a scientifically literate and technical workforce is growing. The aim of this program is to enroll and retain more of these students in scientific programs. In this most recent year, the APS online listing of prominent physicists who have agreed to give talks and serve as role models at high schools, colleges and universities included 400 women speakers and 110 minority speakers. The program allows for grants to cover the costs incurred by departments that host these speakers. Several years ago, external funding made possible a brochure promoting physics to middle and high school young women. A similar brochure has now been developed to expose middle and high school minorities to opportunities in physics.

**THE PHYSICS CENTRAL WEBSITE** brings the excitement and importance of physics to the public at large. Visitors to the website learn about fundamental physics, delve into contemporary research, and learn fun at home activities and experiments. The site includes in-depth stories, profiles of physicists, artistic visuals, and educational materials. The site includes blogs, podcasts and vodcasts. Launched in November 2000, it has won several awards and has consistently ranked among the top Google and Yahoo! Physics sites.

## 21st Century Campaign Leadership

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### **Campaign Executive Advisor**

William F. Brinkman

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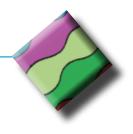
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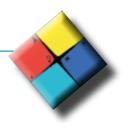
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