
D.C. Mayor Fenty Declares February 14-20, 2010
"Physics Education Week" in the Nation's Capital

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON, D.C., February 14, 2010 -- Washington Mayor Adrian Fenty declared in a signed proclamation today that the upcoming week of February 14-20, 2010 will be "Physics Education Week" in D.C.

In making his proclamation, Fenty recognizes the importance of physics to the global economy and calls upon "...all the residents of this great city to join me encouraging others to learn more about physics education."

The proclamation also specifically recognizes the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) for supporting the development of effective teaching resources and enrichment programs.

This week, AAPT is meeting jointly with the American Physical Society (APS) in Washington D.C. Journalists interested in attending the meeting, which runs through Tuesday, can find registration information below.

One educational highlight of this meeting is the Fourth Annual Symposium on Physics Education, titled, "Educating Physics Teachers: A Call to Action for Physics Departments." It will examine the national landscape for physics teacher preparation and address the questions: what can be learned from the exemplary programs that prepare physics teachers for the 21st century, and what should universities, states, federal agencies, funding agencies, and policy makers do to use these models as a basis for meeting the urgent national need?

At a press conference before the symposium, a panel of experts will discuss these questions and announce the findings and recommendations of the T-TEP. The T-TEP report describes how all of the most active physics teacher education programs in the country have individual champions who are personally committed to physics teacher education and that with few notable exceptions, these program leaders have little institutional support. The report makes numerous recommendations, including recommendations that would position physics departments to assume a major role in preparing the next generation of physics teachers, working collaboratively with schools

of education.

More information on the symposium can be found in this AAPT Press Release:
<http://www.aapt.org/aboutaapt/upload/DC-Symposium-2010-Press-Release.pdf>

MORE INFORMATION FOR JOURNALISTS

The 2010 joint Meeting of the American Physical Society (APS) and the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) takes place from February 13-17 in Washington, D.C.

The meeting hotel is the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, which is located at 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C., 20008.

KEY WEB SITES

- Main meeting site: <http://www.aps.org/meetings/april/index.cfm>
- APS abstracts: http://meetings.aps.org/Meeting/APR10/APS_epitome
- AAPT abstracts: <http://www.aapt.org/Conferences/wm2010/program.cfm>
- Hotel: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/wasdt-washington-marriott-wardman-park/>

REGISTERING AS A JOURNALIST

Science writers intending to go to the meeting should contact Jason Bardi (jbardi@aip.org) or 858-775-4080 about free registration. Onsite registration is possible in the pressroom throughout the meeting, but to speed the process journalists are encouraged to register in advance. Press badges can be picked up in the pressroom and will allow you to attend any session at the meeting as well as the press conferences.

Complimentary press registration will allow journalists and public information officers to attend all scientific sessions and exhibits. To register as press, contact Jason Bardi (jbardi@aip.org).

PRESSROOM INFORMATION

A dedicated and staffed pressroom will operate throughout the meeting in the Marriott Wardman Hotel. Phones, computers, printers, and free wireless Internet access will be available to reporters using the pressroom.

- Location: Park Tower, Room 8219
- Hours: Feb 13-15, 2010, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m. to noon
- Phone numbers: (202) 745-2134, x2135, x2136, and x2137
- Fax number: (202) 745-2138
- Food service: breakfast and lunch will be provided each day except for Tuesday (breakfast only)

PRESS CONFERENCES

Press conferences will be held daily in Park Tower Room 8222, which is adjacent to the pressroom.

ABOUT AAPT

AAPT is the leading organization for physics educators -- with more than 10,000 members worldwide. Its mission is to enhance the understanding and appreciation of physics through teaching. AAPT was founded in 1930 and is headquartered in the American Center for Physics in College Park, Maryland.

ABOUT APS

The American Physical Society is the world's leading professional body of physicists, representing more than 47,000 physicists in academia and industry in the US and internationally. It has offices in College Park, MD, Ridge, NY, and Washington, DC.

ABOUT AIP

Headquartered in College Park, MD, the American Institute of Physics is a not-for-profit membership corporation chartered in New York State in 1931 for the purpose of promoting the advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of physics and its application to human welfare.

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