Responsibilities of the Council include:

- Establishment and oversight of the publications of the Society
- Approval of policy statements and science strategy of the Society
- Scientific meetings and conferences
- Admission of Members and election of Fellows
- All prizes and awards, and other honors bestowed by the Society
- Final approval of any amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws
- Any other responsibilities referred to the Council by the Board, or that are in response to requests by Councilors or Members
My committee assignments

APS Innovation Fund Steering Committee

- Projects that support APS’s mission to advance and diffuse the knowledge of physics for the benefit of humanity, promote physics, and serve the broader physics community
- up to 5 grants, maximum award of $100K/yr for up to two years

2020 Recipients
- Enabling Department Transformation though the Departmental Action Leadership Institute
- Women Supporting Women in the Sciences
- Bringing Quantum Information Science to Diverse Undergraduate Populations

2020 COVID-19 Cycle Recipients
- Modern Physics in the Latin-American Classroom
- Departmental Admissions Practices that Maintain Excellence and Diversity in the Face of COVID-19
My committee assignments

APS Prizes Selection Committee

• **APS Medal for Exceptional Achievement in Research** – *contributions of the highest level that advance our knowledge and understanding of the physical universe* - 2021 recipient Gordon Baym, ... 2017 Daniel *Kleppner* (first Medal in 2016)

• **Julius Edgar Lilienfeld Prize** – *recognize contributions to physics and exceptional skills in lecturing to diverse audiences* – 2021 recipient William Jackson, ... 2011 *Gerald Gabrielse*, ... 2004 *Jeff Kimble*

• **George E. Valley, Jr. Prize** - *early-career individual for an outstanding scientific contribution to physics that is deemed to have significant potential for a dramatic impact on the field* – 2021 recipient Vedika Khemani, 2020 *Norman Yao*, ... 2010 *Shina Tan*

• 2022 Prize nominations are now under consideration
April Council Meeting Highlights

• First meeting for Jonathan Bagger, new APS CEO, following retirement of Kate Kirby who served brilliantly for 11 ½ years!

• Jonathan’s strategic priorities:
  • strengthen the physics enterprise – making it better prepared to address global challenges
  • increase its impact and influence in the global arena
  • become a more effective organization overall
  • ensure the Society is positioned well to face the future
April Council Meeting Highlights

• **APS President Jim Gates** - adapting to the physics community’s changing needs and focusing on improving the climate of physics

• **APS Council Speaker Baha Balantekin** – focus on (i) repairing the damage caused by the pandemic and (ii) increasing the diversity, equity, inclusion, and civility in the entire physics community

• **APS Director of Industrial Engagement Dan Pisano** - (i) finding a balance between research security and promoting academic freedom and international collaboration is a key challenge; and (ii) advocacy focus on federal R&D budgets, COVID relief, ending sexual harassment in STEM, visas & immigration, liquid helium crisis, climate change

• Two focus issues for panel and breakout discussions of high priority: APS Meetings and APS Ethics / Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
April Council Meeting Highlights

**APS Meetings** – the pandemic, and trends already in place and accelerating, are driving the need to re-thinking, adapt, and evolve

- Pre-Council-meeting input solicited from unit Exec Coms;
- Collaboration and networking are vital and much easier face-to-face;
- Each meeting has different needs & a variety of platforms to meet those needs;
- Attendees are comfortable using Zoom; expanded attendance; change to meeting finances;
- Virtual meetings are here to stay, APS will hire a Virtual Events Manager;
- Best ways for offering hybrid meetings needs more exploration;
- The code of conduct for virtual events needs to be reviewed;
- Policies for live meetings in the future need to be reviewed
April Council Meeting Highlights

**Ethics / DEI** – Events, awareness, persistence of challenges nationally are reflected in the microcosm of APS and the physics community

- **APS society-wide** procedures and standards formulated – conduct at meetings, standards for honors and awards & leadership positions, process for handling ethics complaints, ethics survey data gathered, recommendations in the National Academies report on preventing sexual harassment, ...

- **Unit-level actions**
  - Focus on diversifying candidates in unit leadership roles;
  - Focus on diversifying invited guests at sessions and unit activities;
  - Consider creating an Allies program;
  - Consider forming unit-level committees dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion
I help represent your interests on the Council, so don’t hesitate to communicate to me what’s on your mind.

Thanks