

## March 2026 DPF Newsletter

Dear DPF members,

Please find below the monthly DPF newsletter for March 2026. This newsletter will be archived on the [DPF website](#). If you would like an announcement included in the April 2026 newsletter, please contact the DPF Secretary/Treasurer. Please keep requests to 300 words and submit them by the **10th of the month** for consideration.

DPF is the primary community organization for particle physicists in the United States. You can directly support our activities by **making a donation** at [this link](#).

Best wishes,

Ken Bloom, DPF Secretary/Treasurer, [kenbloom@unl.edu](mailto:kenbloom@unl.edu)

[Report from 2026 Global Physics Summit and DPF Business Meeting](#)

[Save the Date: Next DPF community meeting May 21-22](#)

[DPF Software and Computing Rising Star\(s\) Award](#)

[Save the Date: DPF26](#)

[Phenomenology Symposium 2026 \(PHENO 2026\)](#)

[54th SLAC Summer Institute](#)

[RPC 2026. September 14-18, 2026](#)

## Report from 2026 Global Physics Summit and DPF Business Meeting

We were happy to see around 600 DPF members in attendance at the APS GPS26 conference (<https://summit.aps.org/>) in Denver. During the meeting, DPF sponsored 14 invited sessions, 13 minisymposia, and 26 contributed sessions. The meeting featured awards ceremonies for our prize winners, and talks on their impactful work. APS-level awards went to Francis Halzen (APS medal) and our DPF Vice Chair Hitoshi Murayama (Lilienfeld award). DPF-level awards went to Elena Pinetti (Henry Primakoff Award for Early-Career Particle Physics), John F. Donoghue (J. J. Sakurai Prize for Theoretical Particle Physics), Jie Wei (Robert R. Wilson Prize for Achievement in the Physics of Particle Accelerators), Joel Butler (W.K.H. Panofsky Prize in Experimental Particle Physics), Kevin Lannon (Meenakshi Narain Mentoring Award), Zhiquan Sun (J. J. and Noriko Sakurai Dissertation Award in Theoretical Particle Physics), and Christina Wang (Mitsuyoshi Tanaka Dissertation Award in Experimental Particle Physics).

The conference featured our first ever “lunch with an expert” event, hosted by DPF Vice Chair Hitoshi Murayama and former DPF Executive Committee student member Olivia Bitter and was sold out. Participants indicated that they very much appreciated the rare “April” meeting contribution to this APS program. We are considering hosting more next year, constrained by our budget. This year our research focus was on neutrinos, but based upon participant feedback, we encourage suggestions for potential speakers from across our field going forward. Please contact GPS26 DPF program committee chair Kate Scholberg.

Our annual business meeting was held on Wednesday evening (<https://indico.global/event/17360/>) with a full room, perhaps due to the snacks, or perhaps due to the talk by DOE-HEP Energy Frontier Program Manager Abid Patwa on the recent news of the merger of DOE Nuclear and High Energy Physics in DOE’s Office of Science. Abid indicated that the two programs are complementary and have close synergies across several initiatives undertaken by each program office. He also indicated there are no plans for reduction in staff following this merger and that people should continue to interact with the same points of contact that they have been working with. It was also noted that the budgets would remain distinct between the two HEP and NP programs for FY26 and FY27, and that the P5 plan would still guide priorities for initiatives undertaken for HEP. Abid was also inducted as a APS Fellow of the Forum for International Physics during GPS26.

APS’s Jane Hopkins Gould gave a presentation emphasizing the work APS has been doing to fight for our budgets and introducing two new journals, including one focused on AI with no publishing fee in the short term (sure to be of interest in these days of the Genesis Mission).

Secretary/Treasurer Ken Bloom presented the budget and presented the benefits of increasing enrollment and a plan to improve our membership. Fellowship certificates were presented to the new DPF APS Fellows (Anadi Canepa, Florencia Canelli, Bertrand Echenard, Fernando Febres Cordero, Stefania Gori, Thomas Hartman, Gray Rybka, Misao Sasaki, Matthew Toups). We were very happy that five of our new fellows were able to attend and receive their certificate in person. As a reminder: the number of DPF Fellowships that can be awarded is proportional to the number of DPF members. Joining DPF and encouraging your colleagues to do so can help us honor a larger number of our members.

The 2027 March/April GPS meeting will be held 11-16 April in Atlanta Georgia. Please contact DPF program committee chair DPF chair-elect Kate Scholberg for ideas on how to make this an even more productive event. Hope to see you there!

## **Save the Date: Next DPF community meeting May 21-22**

DPF is organizing its next online community meeting, to be held on May 21 and 22, 2026. This series started when HEPAP was dissolved and we realized the need to maintain communication between the federal funding agencies and the community. The previous community meeting was held on Dec 18-19, 2025 (<https://indico.global/event/15767/>).

There is a major difference this time. The DOE Office of Nuclear Physics and Office of High Energy Physics are merging to become the Office of High Energy and Nuclear Physics within the DOE Office of Science. As a result, we decided to organize the May 22 meeting jointly with the APS Division of Nuclear Physics (DNP). Gina Rameika, who will direct the new merged office, has agreed to join us on that day, as well as Saúl Gonzalez, NSF MPS deputy directorate head.

We live in changing times. Please let Hitoshi Murayama ([hitoshi@berkeley.edu](mailto:hitoshi@berkeley.edu)) know what subjects you would like to be discussed in this two-day meeting. Community input is crucial.

More information will follow on how to register to attend the online meeting.

## DPF Software and Computing Rising Star(s) Award

Dear DPF members,

The DPF Software & Computing Rising Star(s) Award application is open for submissions. The deadline to complete the application has been extended to April 3, 2026 (11:59 p.m. ET).

### Program description

The DPF Software & Computing Rising Star(s) Award celebrates individuals at an early career stage who have demonstrated exceptional innovation, creativity, technical excellence, and community engagement in developing or applying software and computing solutions. The award serves to recognize emerging leaders whose work enhances data analysis, simulation, computing infrastructure, operations, or collaborative research capabilities.

**While the award is nominations-based, self-nominations are permitted.**

### Qualifications

Nominees must:

- Be within 15 years of their terminal degree
- Have made significant contributions to software and computing with a clear impact on particle physics, with due account for interruptions and other factors in the nominees' careers.

Nominations must include:

- Nomination Statement: A concise summary (one page limit) describing the nominee's contributions, emphasizing their impact and relevance to particle physics.
- Two additional supporting/seconding letters
- A biographical sketch or CV of the nominee
- Supporting materials that can include links to code repositories, documentation

[Submit your nomination here](#). Follow this [walkthrough](#) for locating the nomination form.

For more information, including the evaluation criteria, please see the [Engage page](#). If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact [honors@aps.org](mailto:honors@aps.org).

Best,  
DPF Computing Panel

Guided by our core values, APS encourages nominations that reflect the full range of talent, distinction, and experience in our field, and supports broad canvassing for professionals across diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and expertise.

## **Save the Date: DPF26**

The 2026 edition of the APS Division of Particles and Fields (DPF) meeting will be held at Fermilab on July 20-24, 2026. More information to come!

# Phenomenology Symposium 2026 (PHENO 2026)

May 11 - 13, 2026, Pittsburgh, PA  
Registration deadline: May 1, 2026

The 2026 Phenomenology Symposium (PHENO 2026) will take place during May 11-13, 2026, organized by the PITT PACC at the University of Pittsburgh.

The Symposium will cover current issues in particle physics phenomenology, theoretical developments, and recent experimental results, ranging from low energy phenomena over collider physics to astro-particle physics and cosmology. The Symposia are attended by experimental and theoretical physicists in roughly equal numbers, with a large number of junior participants. The broad plenary and parallel sessions provide an excellent forum for discussions. There will be a “Forum on early career development” on Monday, May 11 at lunchtime.

The registration and parallel talk submission are open now. Parallel talk submission deadline is April 24, 2026. For further information, please visit the web site at <https://indico.global/event/16413/>

We look forward to seeing you at Pheno 2026!

Pheno 2026 organizers:

Brian Batell, Kun Cheng, Christopher Condon (Technical Support), Arnab Dasgupta, Ayres Freitas, Joni George (Contact), Gracie Gollinger (Technical Support), Tao Han (chair), Sam Homiller, Adam Leibovich, Zahra Tabrizi

**Φαινó 2026**  
**The 2026 Phenomenology Symposium**  
*An odyssey through particle physics and related encounters in astrophysics and cosmology*

**University of Pittsburgh**  
**May 11-13, 2026**  
[indico.global/event/16413/](https://indico.global/event/16413/)

**Organizers:**  
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Adam Leibovich  
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With financial support from the National Science Foundation and Department of Energy

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## 54th SLAC Summer Institute

Dear Colleagues:

The 54th SLAC Summer Institute will take place during the week of 10-14 Aug 2026; the theme is “Quantum Probes for a Quantum Universe”.

Advances in quantum sensors are opening up exceptional science opportunities in a wide range of fundamental physics areas, including dark matter, axion, gravity and the neutrino sector. Their exquisite performance has greatly extended the parameter space that can be studied experimentally, and further advances will continue to push the boundaries of our knowledge of fundamental physics. The lectures at the 54th SLAC Summer Institute will cover the principles of quantum sensors, their application in experiments to date and future prospects, providing a balance between technology and science.

The Institute lectures are primarily aimed at senior graduate students and postdocs while senior researchers are also welcome. No prior experience with quantum sensing is required. Presentation of topical results, participant projects, Q&A sessions, and social events supplement the morning lectures to create an invigorating environment for all participants.

The full program and further details can be found on the SSI website:

<https://indico.slac.stanford.edu/e/ssi2026>

For answers to questions, please contact us at [ssi@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:ssi@slac.stanford.edu).

We hope to see you at SLAC this summer for SSI 2026!

The SSI 2026 Program Consultants and Directors,

Chelsea Bartram, Noah Kurinsky, Richard Partridge, Emmanuel Schaan, Su Dong, Kelly Stifter, Yun-Tse Tsai, Charlie Young, and Tom Rizzo (chair)

## **RPC 2026, September 14-18, 2026**

RPC 2026 will take place on September 14-18, 2026, at the Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. General information is available on the conference website (<https://rpc2026.uerj.br/>) and on the event page (<https://indico.global/event/15349/>). This edition will be especially meaningful as it will be the first time the RPC Conference is held in Brazil and in South America.

The meeting is devoted to resistive plate chambers (RPCs) and related gaseous detector technologies, with topics spanning detector performance in high-energy physics experiments, production and quality assurance, instrumentation techniques, alternative gas mixtures and longevity studies, physics and simulation, and applied research. We believe these themes may be of interest to DPF members working on detector R&D, instrumentation, collider experiments, and related applications.

Abstract submission is open until June 24, 2026, and early registration will remain open until August 1, 2026.

Best regards,

Dr. Sandro Fonseca de Souza

Dr. Gilvan Augusto Alves

Chairs of the Local Organizing Committee, RPC 2026

[info.rpc2026@uerj.br](mailto:info.rpc2026@uerj.br)