

GMED Newsletter Spring 2025

Note from the Chair

Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of the GMED newsletter!

As we close the spring APS conference season, we are thrilled to share that the APS Global Physics Summit 2025 in Anaheim was a resounding success! Below, you'll find key highlights from the event, along with minutes from the 2025 GMED business meeting. A heartfelt thank you to our program committees, session chairs, and all participants—your dedication and contributions are the driving force behind GMED's continued success.

Looking ahead, planning is already underway for next year's meeting, which will once again be held jointly in Denver, CO, from March 15–20, 2026. If you're interested in proposing a focus or invited session, supporting outreach and promotional efforts, or helping shape GMED's programs in any capacity, we encourage you to connect with me or any member of the Executive Committee.

We also take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new Executive Committee members! GMED continually seeks enthusiastic volunteers to contribute to various initiatives, including conference organization, outreach, industrial relations, and newsletter contributions. Your engagement strengthens our community, and we deeply appreciate your involvement.

Thank you for being part of GMED—we look forward to another exciting year ahead!

Matija Milanic, PhD

2025 GMED Election Results

Congratulations to all new Executive Committee members, whose terms started in March 2025:

- **Member-at-Large:** [Sarah Ashmeg](#)
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
- **Member-at-Large:** [Ramin Abolfath](#)
Howard University
- **Executive Vice Chair:** [Alexey Tonyushkin](#)
Oakland University

Thanks to all the volunteers who have served on GMED's Executive Committee! If you would like to be more involved with GMED, there are open opportunities to help. Please check the committee website here: <https://engage.aps.org/gmed/governance/committees>

Announcement of 2024 GMED Fellow

Congratulations to Thomas Bortfeld, Professor at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, who was elected an APS Fellow in 2024. He was nominated for his foundational work developing intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) techniques in cancer treatment, and extensive scholarly contributions to medical physics, for significant and essential contributions to the early development of the Topical Group on Medical Physics (GMED) at the American Physical Society (APS), and for outstanding service and mentorship to generations of medical physicists and the medical physics community.

Previous APS Fellows nominated by GMED:

2023: **Donald C. Chang**, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

2022: **Robert Jeraj**, University of Wisconsin.

2021: **Matthew S. Rosen**, MGH/Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging

2020: **Scott Smith** GE Research

2019: **Theodora Leventouri**, Florida Atlantic University

2018: **Richard G. Spencer**, National Institutes of Health

Highlight of the past Global Summit meeting 2025

GMED Career Fair Table



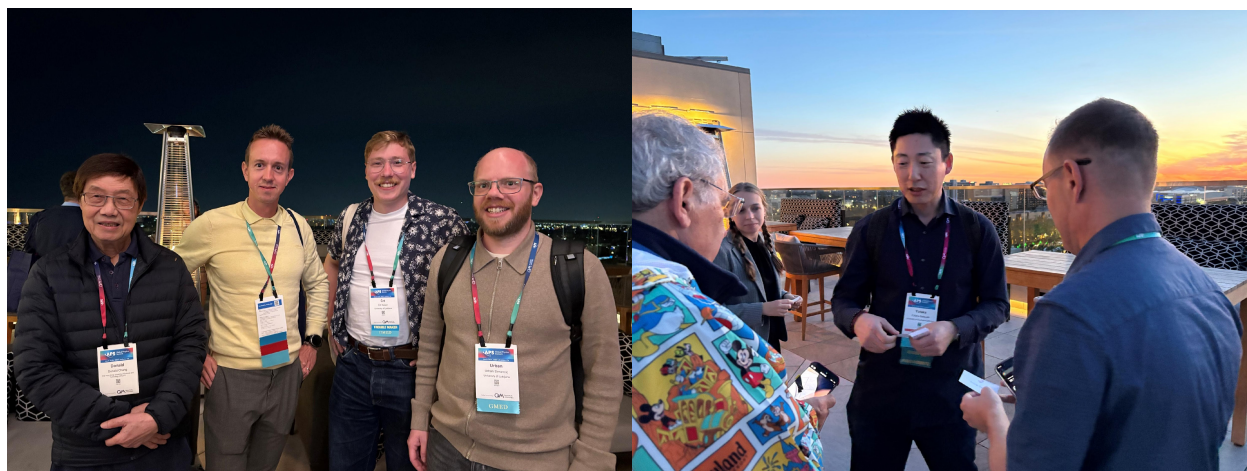
GMED once again this year hosted a table at the Graduate School Fair at the APS Global Physics Summit. Many students stopped by to learn about medical physics career options and how to find medical physics graduate programs or programs that support medical physics research. Pictured above is GMED Chair-Elect Michael Gramlich talking to students during the fair. If you are interested in participating in outreach opportunities through GMED, please contact Alison Deatsch (deatsch@wisc.edu) or Jennifer Pursley (pursley.jennifer@mayo.edu).

Minutes from the 2025 GMED business meeting

The GMED Business Meeting was held on Wed, March 19, at 6:15 pm, during the APS Global Physics Summit in Anaheim, CA. Past Chair Jennifer Pursley and Vice Chair Michael Gramlich chaired the meeting. The election results, student travel awards, and 2024 Fellow results were also announced and can be found in this Newsletter. GMED's highlights from 2024 included sending 3 Executive Committee members to the 2024 APS Annual Leadership Meeting, organizing 8 in-person sessions and two facility tours at the 2024 March APS Meeting in Minneapolis, and holding a session on GMED at the 2024 AAPM Annual Meeting.

Incoming GMED Chair Matija Milanic was unable to attend the meeting but provided his goals for the upcoming year, which included building upon successful GMED initiatives from previous years, such as the monthly Executive Committee meetings, the Newsletter, and organizing sessions for APS conferences. Another goal was to expand and strengthen ongoing outreach initiatives, including possibly expanding to offer webinars featuring medical physics speakers. His final goal was to enhance partnerships and integration with the medical industry, possibly leading to increased opportunities for GMED members to interact with industry or to receive sponsorship from industry partners.

Next, Secretary/Treasurer Michael Boss presented on GMED's financial status. For the last 5 years, GMED has maintained a stable budget, with revenue from dues, investment income, and GMED's share of the APS meeting profits totaling \$3,984 for 2024. The expenses for 2024 included the student travel grants and expenses for the GMED happy hour, for a total of \$1,541. The 2025 starting balance that APS holds for GMED is \$30,000. GMED is able to continue offering its current programs and may be able to increase the travel stipend, with a recommendation for the Executive Committee to plan expenditures more consistently year-to-year.



On photos: Happy hour at the Parkestry Rooftop Bar atop the JW Marriott hotel.

At the end, the floor was open for questions and there was a lively discussion with the GMED members present, focusing in particular on how to raise awareness of medical physics among undergraduate

students. Based on the discussion, the Executive Committee decided to host a virtual “GMED Meet and Greet” in April for GMED members to meet with the GMED Executive Committee to learn about and volunteer for activities. Another action item was for the Executive Committee to connect with SPS, the Society of Physics Students, to distribute educational flyers about medical physics careers to SPS undergraduate programs. After the Business Meeting, all attendees were invited to join the Executive Committee for a happy hour with appetizers and one free drink hosted by GMED at the Parkestry Rooftop Bar atop the JW Marriott hotel.

GMED March Meeting Travel Awards

To increase student involvement in GMED and the APS as a whole, GMED sponsors up to three student travel awards each year towards in-person attendance at the APS March Meeting. Applicants must be GMED members and have submitted an abstract to the meeting on research relevant to medical physics. The award amount this year is \$600, and this year, three deserving candidates received an award:

1. **Matthew Briggs**, California State University, Fresno
2. **Eric Johnson**, College of Wooster
3. **Črt Keber**, University of Ljubljana



On photos (left to right): Eric Johnson and Matthew Briggs with GMED Chair Elect M. Gramlich

GMED Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Medical Physics Awards

To encourage activity and excellence in medical physics research, GMED awards up to two Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations in Medical Physics Awards on an annual basis. These awards will be presented at the APS March or April meeting. Awardees will present an invited talk at one of these meetings and receive both a \$500 prize and up to \$250 towards travel expenses for in-person attendance. The student must be in the final year of his or her Ph.D. (or equivalent degree) program, and both the student and his or her advisor must be current members of GMED.

Nomination packages will consist of a nominating letter, often provided by the student's doctoral advisor, an extended abstract of the thesis (approximately 3 pages, including figures and references), and the nominee's full CV and publications list. These documents are to be submitted by the student's advisor or another senior scientist who is closely familiar with the student's work.

The nominating letter should address the following regarding the student:

- Quality and independence of the work
- Assessment of potential as a research scientist
- Oral presentation ability

Date of successful thesis defense: Any time from **June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026**. Nominations should be submitted at <https://engage.aps.org/gmed/honors/prizes-awards>, by **September 1, 2025**.

Join GMED

Link to join: Go to my.aps.org and sign in with your APS member login. Find “Manage My Units” on the left sidebar. Find GMED and select “Add to Cart.” Email our Treasurer (Michael Boss) to get **fees waived for the first year**.

QR code to our Engage page (engage.aps.org/gmed):

