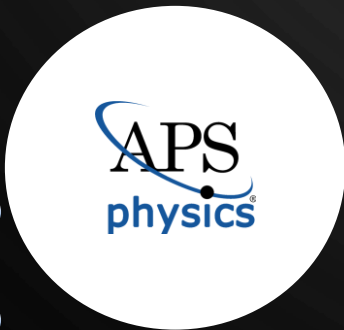


Helping Budding Physicists Find Career Success



Jack Moody, UMass Amherst
American Physical Society

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ME...

Education

- Rising senior
- Physics and applied math major
- Army ROTC Cadet



UMass
Amherst

Experience

- Love career development!
- Participate in mentoring opportunities
- 2020 SPS APS Careers Program Intern



APS NEWS ARTICLE

- Volunteered prior to internship
- Worked with APS News
- Published article to help students

APS NEWS

June 2020 (Volume 29, Number 6)

The Back Page

Staying Motivated and Productive During COVID-19 as an Undergraduate Student

By Jack Moody

Social distancing, college campus shutdowns, and the transition to online learning have left most of our routines in tatters. But as the school year comes to a close, how do we budding physicists continue pursuing our personal and professional goals? What can we do during the summer to help us get ready for the fall?

Below is a list of thirteen topics we young physicists can work on to take control of our situation and keep moving forward regardless of social distancing or the uncertainties we now face. Our goal should be to make incremental progress on these suggestions in hopes of maintaining momentum during these difficult times.

Take care of yourself. First and foremost, make sure you are taking care of your physical and mental health. No progress can be made if you aren't up for the task. It's okay to take a step back from everything and take time to process current events. Do not let anyone make you feel the lesser for needing to take time for yourself. Everyone processes things differently. However, once you are feeling up to it, there are definitely some questions most undergraduates can tackle during the summer to keep progressing as young physicists.



<https://tinyurl.com/backpagecovid>

PHYSICIST PROFILES

Webpage redesign

- What is this webpage?
- Categorized 60+ profiles
- Created new engaging interface

The screenshot displays the 'Physicists Profiles' webpage. At the top, there are navigation links: Home, Careers in Physics, Becoming a Physicist, Physicists Profiles, and Careers in National Labs. The main heading is 'Physicists Profiles' with a sub-heading 'Careers in National Labs'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'A physics degree qualifies you to work in many different fields. You can improve, and innovate. You can work in public service, the private sector, or in academia. You can analyze, design, and create. You can work in industry, or in academia. You can work in government, or in academia. You can work in academia, or in academia.' To the right, there is a section titled 'Common Career Paths in National Labs' with a 'View All Career Paths' button. The main content area features several profile cards, each with a photo, name, and a short bio. The profiles are categorized by degree level: Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, and Doctorate Degree. The Bachelor's Degree section includes Anthony Day, an electronics technician and undergraduate researcher. The Master's Degree section includes Ginger Kerrick, who says only kids dream of space exploration, and Julia Scherschligt, who manages a team at NIST. The Doctorate Degree section includes Beth Brown, a high school physics teacher, Brenda Rubenstein, an Assistant Professor, and Claudia Alexander, a science fiction writer and rodeo rider. The page also features a 'Learn about faculty research at' section and a 'Explore the career path working in R' section.

<https://www.aps.org/careers/physicists/profiles/>

SHAPE UP EMAIL SERIES

- Targeted email series
- 3 Audiences
 - Career explorers
 - Grad school finders
 - Job seekers
- Provide relevant content

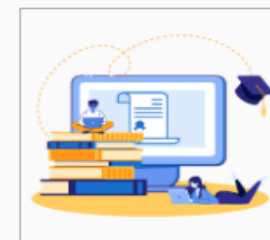


Shape Up for Grad School: Optimize Your Search

Applying to graduate schools can be a daunting task. That's why we've broken it down into easy steps you can follow!

Stay tuned for upcoming emails on the following topics

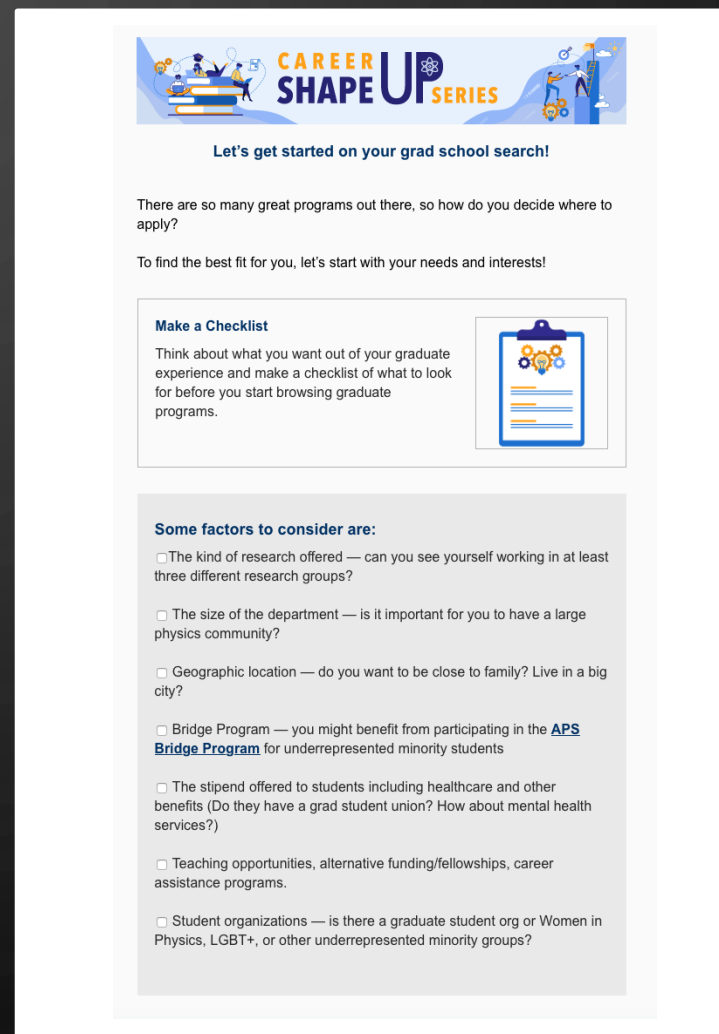
- Starting the search for graduate programs
- Finding information on graduate programs
- Creating a long list, and selecting a short list
- Graduate school vs. Industry - pros & cons
- Getting letters of recommendation
- Building the application



SHAPE UP EMAIL SERIES STATISTICS

Early Statistics

- Career Explorers: 46
- Job Seekers: 38
- Grad School: 33
- Open rate is over 70%!



The screenshot shows an email newsletter with a header banner for 'CAREER SHAPE UP SERIES'. Below the banner is a call to action: 'Let's get started on your grad school search!'. The main body of the email contains a question: 'There are so many great programs out there, so how do you decide where to apply?' followed by a tip: 'To find the best fit for you, let's start with your needs and interests!'. A section titled 'Make a Checklist' includes a small icon of a clipboard and a list of questions for students to consider. The questions are: 'The kind of research offered', 'The size of the department', 'Geographic location', 'Bridge Program', 'The stipend offered', 'Teaching opportunities', and 'Student organizations'.

CAREER SHAPE UP SERIES

Let's get started on your grad school search!

There are so many great programs out there, so how do you decide where to apply?

To find the best fit for you, let's start with your needs and interests!

Make a Checklist

Think about what you want out of your graduate experience and make a checklist of what to look for before you start browsing graduate programs.

Some factors to consider are:

- The kind of research offered — can you see yourself working in at least three different research groups?
- The size of the department — is it important for you to have a large physics community?
- Geographic location — do you want to be close to family? Live in a big city?
- Bridge Program — you might benefit from participating in the [APS Bridge Program](#) for underrepresented minority students
- The stipend offered to students including healthcare and other benefits (Do they have a grad student union? How about mental health services?)
- Teaching opportunities, alternative funding/fellowships, career assistance programs.
- Student organizations — is there a graduate student org or Women in Physics, LGBT+, or other underrepresented minority groups?

WEBINAR!

- APS Summer Webinar Series
- Overview of APS Careers website
- Live attendance: 112 people! 😊
- View it:
 - go.aps.org/summer-webinars

moody@aps.org

PowerPoint Slide Show - (Undergrad Guide to Career Dev.FINAL)

A Guide to Career Development

A Webinar for Young Physicists and Their Mentors

Jack Moody
American Physical Society

APS physics

2:32 / 59:46

APS Webinar: A Guide to Career Development

Unlisted

1 view • Jul 31, 2020

0 0 SHARE SAVE ...

APS Physics
11.3K subscribers

SUBSCRIBED

This webinar will help equip undergraduate students and their advisors with tools for career exploration and professional development. We will walk you through specific questions that students often raise and provide resources for you to share with them to help their career

SHOW MORE

REFLECTION AND LESSONS LEARNED

- Learned a ton about writing!
- Learned how to work in teams
- Applying first principles
- Communication is an art and a skill



Thank you!
Questions? Comments?
jdmood@umass.edu