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

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

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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

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%!
WEBINAR!

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

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