

Reported by (Name):	Jessica Fagerstrom
Organization:	American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM)
Position Title:	Liaison to AAPM
Activity:	Annual Report 2025
Meeting Dates:	Previous (2025): • January 18-21, 2025 • August 2-6, 2025 Upcoming (2026): • January 17-20, 2026 • July 18-22, 2026
Meeting Location:	• January 2025: St Louis, MO • August 2025: Washington, DC • January 2026: Las Vegas, NV • July 2026: Pasadena, CA
Payment \$:	No budget was required for the 2025 meetings.
Reasons for Attending or not Attending	To discuss collaboration between AAPM and AAPM through the Living Physics Portal as well as connecting physics educators with AAPM resources.
Issues from Previous Meetings or Year:	Budget was not required for 2025 meetings. The large 2025 summer meeting took place in Washington, DC, immediately following the 2025 annual AAPM meeting. AAPM does not have funding for travel for invited speakers, but all speakers were recruited locally.
General Description of Activities of the Organization and/or Meeting:	October 25, 2025 AAPM Liaison Report 2025 1. AAPM holds two annual meetings: the smaller winter meeting and the larger summer meeting. 2. I worked with Dr. Juan Burciaga from AAPM to include multiple invited presentations from AAPM educators to the AAPM conference programming. a. Winter 2025 AAPM meeting: Dr. Michael Altman, Medical Physics Division Director of Education at Washington University School of Medicine, was an invited speaker within the Introductory Physics for Life Sciences section. Dr. Altman was one of three speakers in the session and presented a talk entitled, "Enabling students to achieve successful careers in medical physics." The presentation guided the audience through strategies for introducing students to the field of medical physics early in their education and helping them build the skills and experiences needed for success. It emphasized the importance of raising awareness about medical physics at the high school and undergraduate levels to better prepare and position students for competitive graduate programs.

	b. Summer 2025 AAPT meeting: Dr. Jay Burmeister, Professor and Chief of Physics at Karmanos Cancer Center of Wayne State University, acted as a session chair for a special session entitled "Advances in Medical Physics: What You and Your Students Should Know." For this session, he had multiple medical physicists as invited panelists, Dustin Gress (American College of Radiology) and Drs. Rachel Ger (Johns Hopkins University) and Rao Khan (Howard University). This session covered the need for medical physicists and discussed educational pathways for AAPT educators' students. It included a Q&A panel. 3. As previously noted, the 2025 AAPM annual meeting took place immediately preceding the AAPT annual meeting, and both gatherings were held in Washington, DC. The 2025 annual AAPM meeting then presented a unique opportunity to highlight cooperative efforts between AAPM and AAPT. a. I presented a proffered abstract entitled, "Strengthening the Pipeline to Careers in Medical Physics," which described how interdisciplinary partnerships between physics educators and medical physicists, supported by resources like the Living Physics Portal, can enhance student preparation for medical physics careers by integrating real-world medical physics applications into high school and undergraduate curricula, fostering early interest and addressing workforce shortages. b. I was pleased my RFP, jointly supported by the AAPM's Public Education Committee and AAPT, was accepted. This RFP designed a session, "Fostering Future Medical Physicists: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Physics Education." Despite being scheduled in the first morning time slot immediately following the AAPM's "Night Out," the session was well attended and audience participated and actively engaged in interactive elements. The following speakers presented: i. Dr. Jay Burmeister. Presentation: Addressing Workforce Gaps with High School and Undergraduate STEM Engagement ii. Dr. Izabella Barreto. Presentation: Developing Skills and Interest in Medical Physics through Undergraduate Internships iii. Chad Ronish (AAPT leadership member with affiliate AAPM membership) and daughter Cara Jean Ronish. Presentation: Exploring Medical Physics Careers through Interactive Learning iv. Dr. Ashley Cetnar. Presentation: Building Foundations: A Pilot Program Connecting High School Physics with Medical Physics v. Dr. Aba Lippuner. Presentation: Using Digital Media to Educate the Public about Medical Physics 4. Planning is already underway for AAPM representation at 2026 AAPT meetings. Douglas Pfeiffer of Boulder Community Health will be an invited speaker at the 2026 AAPT Winter Meeting. In addition current AAPM President Designate, Dr. Andrew Maidment, worked with Dr. Burciaga and myself to be involved in a future AAPT meeting, pending his busy professional schedule. 5. AAPT continues to develop the Living Physics Portal (www.livingphysicsportal.org/) electronic repository of high quality educational materials for teaching physics to life sciences students at
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	the undergraduate level. This online platform hosts curricular materials focused on physics topics in the life and biological sciences, and facilitates the sharing and peer review of these materials. This resource was discussed in more detail in the 2022 AAPT-AAPM report. It could be a quality resource for AAPM members who would like to share education materials or who would like to use materials that have previously been developed. Respectfully submitted by: Jessica Fagerstrom, Ph.D., M.Ed., DABR AAPT Liaison
Issues for AAPM:	1. Encourage submission and use of materials to AAPT's Living Physics Portal web-based curricula platform to include medical physics resources. 2. Encourage AAPM members to be more active in AAPT meetings. 3. Work with physicists local to AAPT meeting location to deliver up to two invited presentations at upcoming AAPT meetings, promoting resources from the AAPM available to AAPT members, especially the AAPM Public Education website (www.medicalradiationinfo.org).
Budget Request (\$):	Currently no budget is requested, and we will continue to attempt to recruit local speakers for AAPT meetings.