

Professional Development

Resources and Information

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DPS Dependent Care Grants

In 2011, the DPS began a pilot program to help parents of small children attend the DPS meeting. After surveying the DPS membership (see [2011 Childcare Survey spreadsheet](#) [1]), it was clear that the economic burden of child, elder, and disabled dependent care affects a small fraction of our membership, but the impact is so great that it can often prevent attendance at meetings, especially for early career scientists or those with limited funding. Therefore, members may apply to subsidize dependent care services during the DPS conference week, for use either at the DPS meeting location or at home.

These grants are intended to reimburse the following categories of expenses:

- Airfare for a caregiver (e.g., au pair, nanny, sitter) to fly to the meeting location to assist with dependent care for child(ren) under age 18, elderly, ill, or disabled family members able to travel.
- Airfare for child(ren) under age 18, elderly, ill, or disabled family members, or a family member caregiver traveling to the meeting.
- Costs for dependent care at the meeting (e.g., onsite babysitting, daycare or elder care service local to the meeting venue; local custodial child care, elder care, and/or expenses for care for elderly or other family members that the applicant usually provides; or paying for a nanny or other caregiver's labor).
- Costs for additional dependent care at home incurred due to member's absence during the DPS meeting (e.g., caregiver's labor, before and after school or extended day programs, late pick-up fees, day camps that are custodial in nature and not educational, daycare centers, sick-child care center not for medical services, custodial childcare / elder care, or expenses for care for elderly or other family members that the applicant usually provides).
- Other justifiable expenses related to the intent of the grant, as approved by DPS governance and AAS accounting.

All expenses should be justified with a receipt to claim the award. Full, associate, or junior DPS or AAS membership at the time of award selection is required.

The [DPS Susan Niebur Professional Development Fund](#) [2] provides financial assistance to qualifying members in order to facilitate their meeting attendance by offsetting dependent care costs at the meeting location or at home during the DPS conference week. Online applications are solicited no later than 1 month prior to the DPS meeting:

[DPS Dependent Care Grant Application](#) [3]

For questions, please contact the [DPS Professional Development subcommittee](#) [4].

Professional Development Events at DPS Provo 2017

New Early Career Presenters Review

Sunday, October 15 11:30a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Hubble Creek Meeting Room (Level Three, Utah Valley Convention Center)

Organizers: [Jennifer Grier](#) [5] and [Christine Shupla](#) [6]

Are you an early career scientist preparing to present your research at the 49th Annual DPS Meeting? Are you nervous, or looking for advice? Join this educational opportunity to receive feedback from seasoned presenters! The DPS Early Career Presenters Review will take place on Sunday October 15 11:30-1:30. Early career scientists (including undergraduate and graduate students and postdocs) attending the 49th Annual DPS Meeting are invited to practice their oral or poster presentation and receive feedback before presenting during the regular meeting. Participants also have the opportunity to network with their peers and future colleagues. **Registration is free but required for participants** ([register here](#) [7]). To help mentor early career scientists by providing feedback, or for further information, please contact Jennifer Grier (jgrier@psi.edu [8]) or Christine Shupla (shupla@lpi.usra.edu [9]).

Communications and Networking in Planetary Science

Sunday, October 15 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Hubble Creek Meeting Room (Level Three, Utah Valley Convention Center)

Organizer: [Karly Pitman](#) [10]

Maintaining a career in planetary science requires you to put yourself out there to access opportunities, but rarely are the mechanics of how one goes about this discussed. This two-hour workshop hosted by the DPS Professional Development subcommittee will introduce attendees to different strategies for communicating and networking in the planetary science environment. Topics discussed will include: communications at work (from co-workers to program managers), constructing an elevator speech that is authentic to you, how to talk up your ability to fill a niche or demand for a particular skills set, how to get involved with missions (including some examples of what works and what does not), and various intangibles (e.g., perseverance, enthusiasm, capitalizing on luck). Workshop is open to scientists at all levels: students through professionals.

AAS DPS Student & Postdoc Reception

Sunday, October 15 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom B (Level 2, Utah Valley Convention Center)

Organizer: [Candace Gray](#) [11]

Please join us for the AAS DPS Student & Postdoc Reception, held immediately prior to the meeting reception. Attendees will be introduced to other students and postdocs who work on similar topics and encouraged to participate in peer-to-peer mentoring, brainstorming conversations, and joint projects. The goal is to get familiar with one another on the first day of the meeting and use the rest of the meeting to enhance those connections and get involved with other activities.

Event is free to attend; appetizers will be served. Pre-registration on the DPS meeting website is encouraged.

Women in Planetary Science Discussion Lunch
Tuesday, October 17 12:00-1:30 p.m.
Cascade C Meeting Room (Level 3, Utah Valley Convention Center)
Organizer: [Kelsi Singer](#) [12]

Please join us for the annual DPS Women in Planetary Science event over lunch. This event is an informal meeting for all interested parties. This means you do not have to be a woman to support women in science or be interested in learning some professional development tips - for yourself, or to share with others.

The overarching topic for this year is being finalized, as is the guest speaker. We will leave plenty of time for discussion, please feel free to bring any information/announcements related to women in astronomy and planetary science to share.

A 'BIG Thanks!!' to both AURA and the DPS committee for sponsoring this event again this year! Learn more about AURA here: <http://www.aura-astronomy.org/> [13]

Due to the generosity of the sponsors, we will be able to provide lunch this year. All are welcome! Pre-registration at http://bit.ly/DPS_WIPS_2017 [14] is required due to space limitations.

MentorNet

Contacts: [Kelsi Singer](#) [12], [Jennifer Hanley](#) [15], [Audrey Martin](#) [16], [Karly Pitman](#) [10]

AAS DPS has partnered with [MentorNet](#) [17], a national virtual mentoring platform providing access to planetary science and general STEM career advice, as well as training modules on how to be a mentor. Special features are also available for members of underrepresented groups in STEM (women, minorities, 1st generation college attendees). Please contact us for more information and join as a mentor or mentee today!

[MentorNet FAQ](#) [18]

Professional Development Social Networks, Forum, and Wiki

Contacts: [Ed Rivera-Valentin](#) [19], [Kelsi Singer](#) [12], [Karly Pitman](#) [10]

You can hear more DPS Professional Development Subcommittee News and discuss planetary science careers on [Twitter](#) [20], [Facebook](#) [21], our [AAS forum](#) [22] and [wiki](#) [23]. Follow the Twitter feed for information about fellowships, jobs, and career advice, or join the Facebook group to be part of the active discussion.

[Tweets by DPSdevelopment](#) [24]

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