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. a family member, 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:

The DPS is a Division of the American Astronomical Society.
DPS Dependent Care Grant Application [3]

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

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Professional Development Events at EPSC - DPS Geneva 2019

Early Career Review
Monday, 16 September & Tuesday 17 September, 08:30-10:00 a.m.
EPEC Room
Organizers: Brian Jackson

Is EPSC-DPS 2019 your first conference presentation (oral or poster)? Nervous? Would you like advice? Join others like you for this educational opportunity to get feedback from seasoned presenters at the Early Career Review on Monday, Sep 16 & Tuesday, Sep 17, 08:30am -10:00am in the EPEC Room. Undergraduates, Graduate Students, and new Post-Docs are all welcome. If you would like to participate in the Early Career Presenters’ Review, please register now at [5]. If you have any questions, or are a seasoned presenter that would like to add your voice to the review, please contact Brian Jackson at bjackson@boisestate.edu.

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Thriving, not surviving, during PhD (EPEC short course)
Tuesday, 17 September 12:15-1:15 p.m.
Ceres (Room 14)
Organizers: Maike Brigitte Neuland and Solmaz Adeli

Keeping work and leisure time in a healthy balance can be difficult, during PhD as well as afterwards. Alan Percy, head of counselling services at Oxford University, will talk about the importance of mental health, and give hands-on tips and advices how to manage work mania and recovery times. [6]

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Women in Planetary Science Discussion Lunch
Wednesday, 18 September 12:15-1:15 p.m.
Saturn (Room 2)
Organizer: Kelsi Singer [7]

We are looking forward to sharing our annual discussion of professional development topics with the EPSC/DPS community. All are welcome! The main topic will be announced on the registration page. Pre-registration at [8] is recommended due to space limitations. Contact Kelsi.Singer@gmail.com with questions.
Professional Development Social Networks, Forum, and Wiki

You can hear more DPS Professional Development Subcommittee News and discuss planetary science careers on Twitter [11], Facebook [12], our AAS forum [13] and wiki [14]. 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 [15]