DPF ExCom Early Career Member

Fernanda Psihas

The following are notes and suggestions compiled during my oneyear term. They include recommendations to increase the participation and impact of the early-career member.



Position requirements and term

The Early Career member of DPF is a one-year position which cycles with the calendar year. It is nominated and elected though the same process as other DPF ExCom positions.

The role of the Early Career member is defined by volunteering/being volunteered for tasks, in the same way as other DPF tasks are assigned.

This position provides a great opportunity to serve the community in a variety of ways.

Based on my experience a few improvements to the position terms would enable the early career member to serve the community in a more impactful way.



My experience and improvement opportunities

The Calendar Year Turnaround:

This works well for 2-year positions, but leaves the Early Career member term without the full experience of planning the April APS meeting.

Travel Funds:

No funds are available for the early career member to attend in-person meetings. This constraints us to remote participation since students and postdocs might not own travel-funds.

Overlap Period:

There is no designated overlap period/meeting for the old and new early career member. An overlap meeting would help with continuity of the tasks and issues pursued in representation of early career colleagues.

Student & Postdoc Representation:

There is currently no requirement that the early career member is a student or a postdoc. This leaves the youngest members of our community at a disadvantage to be represented. It would be ideal to have both students/postdocs and early faculty in this body each term.



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2019 Early Career Member Summary

DC Trip:

Organized the HEP advocacy trip in 2019. Reached 100% of congressional offices for the first time in the history of this trip.

Allies program:

Started the conversation about Allies program for April APS meetings. (I am currently starting this for Neutrino2020, I am happy to pass on what I have learned at a later time)

Snowmass Computational Frontier:

Took nominations and proposed conveners for this frontier together with Steve Sekula and Mirjam

Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve the community with you:)

