

AAC&U 2008 Annual Meeting

Defining Scholarship in Science and Mathematics: Challenges and Opportunities

2:45- 4:00 pm, Thursday, January 24, 2008

Panelists

Melanie Cooper is the Alumni Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Clemson University. She has been a faculty member in the Clemson Chemistry Department since 1987, where she teaches general and organic chemistry and chemistry education courses. She is chair of the American Chemical Society (ACS) task force that revised the recently approved Statement on Scholarship, and was chair of the ACS Division of Chemical Education (www.divched.org) in 2007. Her research area is chemistry education, and she directs graduate students in the chemistry education Ph.D. program in the Clemson Chemistry Department. Her research has focused on problem solving in a wide variety of areas, including laboratories and large enrollment lectures. She is interested in methods to improve students' problem-solving abilities and strategies, and has focused on interventions that promote metacognitive activity. In addition to research papers in chemical education, Melanie is the author or editor of a number of resources for chemistry education including a lab manual, the "Chemists' Guide to Effective Teaching" series, and the ACS "Chemistry" text. She is currently the Co-Chair of the College Board Science Standards Committee. She has been the PI or Co-PI on a number of NSF grants for discipline-based science education research (over \$1.5 million in the last five years).
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Theodore Hodapp is the Director of Education and Diversity for the American Physical Society (APS) in College Park, Maryland. APS is the largest professional society representing physicists in the United States, publishing the most significant international journals in physics, and facilitating programs to represent physicists and their interests. The APS Department of Education and Diversity (www.aps.org/programs) runs programs that advocate issues relevant to minorities and women, and in areas of education and careers. Ted is also Principal Investigator of a large NSF and FIPSE-funded national effort, the Physics Teacher Education Coalition (www.PhysTEC.org), which seeks to improve the quality and quantity of physics and physical science K-12 teachers. Before coming to APS, he served as Program Director in the NSF Division of Undergraduate Education, working with programs in curriculum development and implementation, teacher preparation, scholarships, and the National Science Digital Library (he is currently co-PI on the ComPADRE digital library project, www.compadre.org, that is collecting physics education materials throughout the country). Prior to coming to NSF, Ted was professor and chair of the Hamline University Physics Department in St. Paul, Minnesota. He recently served as chair of the Physics and Astronomy Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research (www.cur.org). His research interests include laser cooling, optical modeling, and physics education research.
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Michael Pearson serves as Associate Executive Director and Director of Programs and Services for the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi in 1980, a master's degree from Mississippi State University in 1982 and a Ph.D. (Harmonic Analysis) from The University of Texas at Austin in 1989. Prior to joining MAA (in 2002), he served on the faculty at Florida International University (1989-2002) and Mississippi State University (1992-2002). In his current position, Michael provides administrative oversight for a wide range of MAA programs and externally funded projects. During his tenure at MAA, he has overseen significant growth in the scope of activities offered by the association that encourage and support faculty development, including the MAA Professional Enhancement Program, programs for engaging students such as the Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference program, and efforts to increase public awareness and appreciation of mathematics, such as the Distinguished Lecture Series at the new MAA Carriage House conference center.
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Tom Pusateri recently ended a 7-year term as Executive Director of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (Division Two of the American Psychological Association). He received his Ph.D. in social psychology from The Ohio State University in 1984. From 1984 through 2003, he taught at Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa, where he attained the rank of Professor and served as the College's Assessment Director and Chair of the Psychology Department. From 2003 through 2006, he served as Assessment Director at Florida Atlantic University, where he received the 2005 President's Leadership Award for administrative service to the institution. In 2006, he was appointed Associate Director for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning at Kennesaw State University (KSU). He recently submitted a successful application on behalf of KSU for the Council for Higher Education Accreditation's 2008 Award for Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes. Tom has numerous presentations and publications related to teaching pedagogy and assessment. In 2007, Tom was recognized at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association for "sustained and significant contributions to the Society for the Teaching of Psychology as its first Executive Director."
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Moderator

Jodi Wesemann is the Assistant Director for Higher Education at the American Chemical Society (www.acs.org), where she also serves as the Staff Liaison for the Task Force on the Statement on Scholarship.
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