

## 11/7 Meeting Minutes

- Announcements
  - SPS skate night this Friday! (tomorrow)
    - At 8 pm at leisure world!
    - If you need a ride we will meet for carpool in the Violet parking lot at 7:50 pm
    - Also it's like \$5
  - SPS National Membership should be active!
    - Check your emails
- Faculty Spy Report
  - Faculty search is underway! (21 applications were submitted)
  - Chair elections are happening, Lindy is the only candidate
  - CS 170/180 will officially be a prereq for MathPhys
  - The capstone is being reworked into a 2 credit-hour writing enhanced course
- Science Olympiad!
  - Writing and proctoring exams for the Science Olympiad competition
  - February 29th
  - Will need two volunteers for each category
  - Lots of fun!
  - Contact Riley if you are interested, or email me for Riley's info
- Phys News of the week
  - Gamma Ray Bursts
- Activity
  - Guess the constant!
- Demo!
  - Standing Waves!!
- Dr. Edis Presentation:
  - A lot of recent Truman grads have gone to work for boeing
  - Truman is not radically different from the national physics trends
    - About half go straight into the workforce with a bachelors
      - Many end up in the private sector
      - Many go into engineering
  - Writing skills are important for engineering or I.T careers
  - Graduate Studies
    - Physics and astronomy 60%
    - Engineering 20%
    - Other 20%
  - Employment after a PhD
    - Many go into Postdocs
    - However several go into potentially permanent positions
  - Have flexibility when going into the job field after graduation!
    - You may not end up exactly where you wanted but that's ok!

- National Labs
  - Are largely related to weapons development
  - You usually have to have some type of security clearance (typically a higher level of clearance)
  - Much more private than other types of positions
  - There is a certain type of job security though
- Physics allows for more freedom (time and opportunity) to research things you wish to or want to.
- Engineering is a bit more unstable than physics is job wise
- Academic jobs can give you the freedom to chase after the things you want to, some other types of jobs aren't necessarily able to allow this
- Postdocs are good for networking and connecting with people in your area of study and they don't always have to lead to an academic position\
- It's rare that anyone in physics or engineering will follow a career path in a straight line, they more often follow opportunities
- Knowledge and Skills are marketable
  - Be curious
- It is possible to go into physics and then add things along the way
  - For example, the philosophy of physics
    - You start with physics because it's the more difficult discipline and then add philosophy on the way
- Having the physics skills from being a physics student is beneficial
  
- Link to Statistics Website: <https://www.aip.org/statistics>