

Physics Teachers Responding to the Physics Teacher Shortage.

As we all know, there is a critical worldwide shortage of physics teachers that is not likely to abate any time soon. PhysTEC and PTEC are programs developed by APS in association with AAPT and AIP to develop best practices in physics teaching and teacher development, to disseminate information about those practices, and to encourage new entrants into the career field we love. Physics education is profoundly important to continued scientific and technological development in the U.S. So how can H.S. and college physics teachers help beyond what they already do in the classroom? I believe there are ways, and propose to introduce a few, and facilitate a discussion of the subject from there.

I have a few questions I'd like to pose in anticipation of our Nov. 3rd meeting. Please respond directly to me at mda35@cornell.edu at your convenience before October 29th.

- 1) What events or people convinced you to become a physics teacher?
- 2) What do you like most about being a physics teacher?
- 3) How do you encourage students at your school to take physics?

Who do you direct these efforts at?

- 4) Have you discussed the importance of physics with your school's guidance counselors? Do they encourage all students to take physics at some level?
- 5) How do you encourage your students to continue taking physics classes in college?
- 6) What do you do to encourage your students to become physics majors or minors in college?
- 7) What do you do in class to encourage your students to become physics teachers?

Thanks, Group!

Your Friend and Colleague,

Marty A.