Preparing Teachers for AP Physics
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In fall 2014 the College Board replaced AP Physics B with AP Physics 1 and 2. In this panel discussion and interactive session we will address the “best practices” in college-level learning that informed the reimagining of these courses and how these practices may be at odds with current university level “common practices.” Recognizing that teachers often teach as they were taught, we will discuss how the PhysTEC program at West Virginia University and the University of Arkansas includes best practices in its introductory physics courses and incorporates physics teaching majors as Learning Assistants. We will also discuss how Project Accelerate, a partnership between Boston University and several high schools, uses a blended course model to provide underserved students with a chance to successfully complete AP Physics 1. Teachers from the partnering schools are encouraged to take the course along with the students as professional development.