

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Dr. Alexander K. Dickison, former President of the American Association of Physics Teachers, on January 8, 2022.

Alex was born in Jamaica, New York on October 16, 1943. He is survived by his wife, Lois Jean (Tansley), his sons Stephen and Jonathan, and grandchildren Blake, Ansley and Bryce.

Alex had a great passion for physics and physics teaching. He obtained his B.S. in Education in Physics from Western Illinois University, later attending Montana State University, earning M.S. and D.E. in Education in Physics. He related the story to one of his students who ultimately became a colleague that while in graduate school, he realized that he could spend his entire career working at becoming a better teacher, but to really make a difference and be intellectually engaged, he would need to be involved professionally in some way. It was that realization that led to his long involvement in AAPT, where he served in multiple committees over the years, culminating in attaining the Presidency in 2009-2010. He was also active in the Florida Section of AAPT, serving at various times as its Section Representative and President.

Alex had a particular interest in physics education in the two-year colleges. He served for over 40 years in the Physical Sciences department of Seminole Community College (now Seminole State College of Florida), ultimately becoming its long-term Chair. Alex collaborated with the highly successful Two-Year College Physics Project, the Two Year College in the Twenty-First Century Project, and was PI of the Introductory College Physics in the Twenty-First Century project. Several of his former students went on to become two-year college instructors and/or AAPT members.

Outside of his professional life, Alex was active in the Seminole County Historical Society, where he served in many capacities, including its Board of Directors. He enjoyed outdoor activities, including golf, camping and hiking.

Those who knew and worked with Alex over the years will miss him.