

Be a part of the AAPT delegation to Egypt!

As President and Executive Officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT), we are honored to have been selected as leaders of the AAPT delegation to Egypt. We invite you, as an AAPT member, to join us in this important international exchange. In conjunction with World Learning, a US-based nonprofit organization, this delegation has been developed to foster one-on-one dialogue with our overseas counterparts. Our delegation will continue World Learning's 85-year legacy of advancing leadership through engaging citizens and forming networks between US and international counterparts. This delegation, specializing in STEM and Physics Education, will convene in Cairo, Egypt in December 2019. We believe you would contribute valued expertise to the team while gaining both personally and professionally from the experience.

The civil unrest, and political reform in Egypt, beginning in 2011, has spurred reforms which continue today, resulting in rapid economic and social growth. Egypt, home to the largest school system in the middle east, strives to provide equal access to education for girls and boys, has put specific emphasis on STEM and Literacy programs throughout the country.

Plagued by a teacher shortage, which is near crisis point in Egypt, the Ministry of Education (MOE) has launched an expansive education advancement plan and is eager to welcome US education teams. They hope to share with you the best practices used as they address the challenges they face in this crisis.

The purpose of the AAPT Delegation is to meet with STEM and Physics Educators, as we observe our counterparts first-hand and discuss the methods they use and experiences they have had as they implement programs designed by international experts to address shared challenges. The topics of discussion and site/facility visits designed for this program are:

Diversity, equity and Inclusion are important to STEM Programs around the world but how we support inclusive learning spaces will depend on cultural norms. How can we collectively navigate and support these types of learning spaces across different cultures?

Active engagement and instructional materials that are based on education research have been shown to be effective for students in STEM. What are the challenges that teachers and administrators face in implementing these types of learning environments in STEM classrooms? What types of support are available for schools, teachers, and administrators to implement these types of classrooms?

Professional Education societies play a large role in supporting teachers and recruiting teachers for STEM classrooms. How do professional societies in Egypt support current and future teachers? How does the MOE/World Learning support current and future teachers?

Schools and curriculum that “embody trans-disciplinary collaboration, real world applications, and critical thinking.” How do you foster collaborations to support this type of effort? Who is involved and how is it accomplished? How do you support teachers and engage in professional development to promote interdisciplinary STEM, critical thinking and real-world applications?

The AAPT Delegation will convene in Cairo on December 8, 2019 and conclude in Alexandria, on December 13, 2019.

The interactions, site visits, and experiences have been designed to enhance our appreciation and understanding of the programs and challenges of this region. Check out the [brochure](#) to learn more about our planned professional opportunities and cultural experiences.

We encourage you to invite a travel companion to share this experience with you. A parallel program of humanitarian activities and an opportunity to experience the culture will be arranged for your accompanying guest while you attend the professional sessions. Following the conclusion of the professional exchange, an optional Nile Cruise will provide participating delegates and guests the opportunity to explore the history and wonders of Egypt. Additional information and a detailed itinerary will be provided upon your acceptance in the delegation.

As this World Learning program is a private-citizen effort, delegates are responsible for their own program costs. The estimated cost per delegate or guest is \$4250 USD. This cost includes the professional program, accommodations, ground transportation, cultural activities, most meals, travel insurance, and other costs associated with participation. It does not include airfare, so that you are free to arrange your flights at your convenience with your preferred airline.

For US citizens, participation in this program may be tax-deductible as an educational expense related to your profession. As each individual's financial situation is different, please contact your tax advisor for guidance.

Due to the extensive planning involved in coordinating a program of this nature, we ask that you respond with your intentions regarding this invitation by September 1, 2019. The size of this delegation will be limited to ensure a high quality of professional interaction. In the event that you are unable to accept this invitation to apply to be part of this delegation, an alternate delegate candidate will be invited. You may also recommend a colleague as your alternate for the program. We would appreciate hearing from you whether you are able to join our delegation or not.

To join us on this rare journey, please follow **this link** to apply:
<https://www.worldlearning.org/what-we-do/professional-exchanges/>

Upon acceptance into the delegation, you will be asked to complete a delegate profile so that you can be officially announced to our counterparts as part of the exchange. You will also be required to deposit \$500 to hold your position on the team. The full balance of the program cost

will be due 90 days prior to the start date. If you have questions regarding the delegation, we encourage you to contact the Washington DC office of World Learning at 202-464-6742.

We are pleased to be involved in this exciting opportunity and hope you will strongly consider participating in this unique event. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us or World Learning with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mel S. Sabella, President

Beth A. Cunningham, Executive Officer