Met The Press: What It’s Like to Talk to Reporters about Physics

REBECCA THOMPSON, American Physical Society — Someone from the Huffington Post just called you because they are doing a story about science and you are a physicist. The problem is that they need you to take time away from your grapheme experiments to talk about the physics of exploding anvils. It’s been a long time since you’ve shot an anvil in the air so you think you might not be right for this. But, as long as you understand general physics and can explain things well, you can be a real asset. This talk will recount first-hand experiences talking to a range of news outlets from the PBS New Hour to Real Simple Magazine about everything from quick-freezing water to pumpkin boats. It will include helpful information about preparing for an interview, learning new physics fast, timelines and follow-up.

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