

Abstract Submitted
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California State University Long Beach: Model for a Terminal Master's Program as a Bridge to PhD¹ ANDREAS BILL, PATRICK KE-NEALY, CHUHEE KWON, ZOLTAN PAPP, GALEN T. PICKETT, California State University Long Beach, Dept. of Physics Astronomy, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90840 — The department of Physics & Astronomy at California State University Long Beach has redesigned its Master's program in 2008 with the goal to provide a true graduate experience in Physics. The hallmarks of the program are five core graduate courses and a research-based MS thesis. During the last five years, 42% of MS recipients (24 students) were accepted to PhD programs, 41% started private-sector STEM careers, and 17% decided on teaching and other paths. The program doubled in size during that period. In 2013 we also became one of six Bridge Sites and only non-PhD granting institution of the American Physical Society (APS). We will describe the structure of the MS program, its goals and its place in the University degree plan landscape. We will also discuss how the APS Bridge Program has been implemented in our institution and has influenced our MS program.

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