

From: Washington, Emery
Sent: Fri, 14 Mar 2025 20:34:47 +0000
To: Aaron Sibarium
Cc: DOE NEWS; Woods, Andrea; Dietderich, Ben
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Media Inquiry: Chanda Prescod-Weinstein's role on HEPAP

Hi! Thank you for your patience. Please see the following statement you can attribute to a DOE spokesperson:

"The High Energy Physics Advisory Panel is a scientific advisory panel to the Office of High Energy Physics in DOE's Office of Science and the National Science Foundation's Directorate of Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Advisory panels such as HEPAP meet under the guidelines established by the Federal Advisory Committee Act and provide guidance on long-range plans, priorities, and strategies for scientific research programs. HEPAP meeting topics are limited to technical discussions of current developments and research directions within particle physics and related fields.

HEPAP members are appointed to the panel, following extensive reviews and approval of the membership by the Secretary of Energy, by the Under Secretary for Science and Innovation (or designee) and the Director of the NSF. The DOE and NSF review HEPAP's membership annually and assesses each candidate's alignment with the Department of Energy's objectives, and whether the candidate possesses relevant knowledge and experience in the fields they will represent.

Prof. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein was appointed by the Biden-Harris administration and has served since 2024. She attended two HEPAP meetings, May (in person) and December (remote) 2024. At the December meeting, she contributed to discussion of several topics, all of which were related to the agenda items. The recording for this meeting is available on the HEPAP website: <https://science.osti.gov/hep/hepap/Meetings>"

Best regards,

Emery Washington

Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Public Affairs

MOBILE (b) (6)

From: Aaron Sibarium <sibarium@freebeacon.com>
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 2:37 PM
To: Woods, Andrea <andrea.woods@hq.doe.gov>; Dietderich, Ben <ben.dietderich@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: DOE NEWS <doenews@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Media Inquiry: Chanda Prescod-Weinstein's role on HEPAP

Hi, just checking in on this. Ben told me yesterday that your office would try to get me a quote by COB today. Let me know if it's possible to get me something by 5:00 PM.

Best,
Aaron

On Thu, Mar 13, 2025 at 2:02 PM Aaron Sibarium <sibarium@freebeacon.com> wrote:
Dear Ms. Woods and Mr. Dietderich,

This is Aaron Sibarium with the *Washington Free Beacon*.

I am reporting a story about Chanda Prescod-Weinstein's [role on the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel](#) (HEPAP), which advises the Department of Energy on research and funding priorities.

Prescod-Weinstein has [argued](#) that "white empiricism" is endemic to physics and undermines Einstein's Theory of General Relativity. She has also [accused](#) Israel of genocide, [falsely claimed](#) that James Webb led a withunt against gay employees at NASA, and written that string theory "failed to succeed" because the field has too many white men.

Prescod-Weinstein was appointed to HEPAP by Joe Biden in 2024, before the Trump administration's executive orders on DEI went into effect. Her term on the panel is not set to expire until 2027.

I'm reaching out to see if the Energy Department has any comment on Prescod-Weinstein and whether it will revisit her role on the panel. I'm reachable at this email or by phone—(b) (6)

My deadline for the story is 12 PM tomorrow.

Thank you,
Aaron Sibarium

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