

Rocky Kolb

For many, many years we have worked in the same field. When we started our careers, cosmology was not considered to be a reputable profession.. But now it is! I'm not sure whether either of us helped in this, but you can claim some credit. Few have the courage to challenge conventional dogma. I've always respected and admired your willingness to do so. May you continue to do so.

Frank Close

Congratulations on today celebrating your three score years and ten. Biblically, regard everything from here on as a bonus.... and Enjoy!
Hope to see you in the real world soon to celebrate in person.

Joe Silk

It's been a remarkable experience over the years with many delightful and inspiring interactions with you at Oxford. I have learnt so much. I very much regret that attendance at a conference in the US meant that I couldn't join you this week for what surely will be a wonderful retrospective of your career and the opening of exciting new vistas for you.

Very best wishes for an active and heathy future!

Alan Barr

I'm sorry not to be able to be at the Subir Fest today. Subir amongst the first to welcome me to Oxford as a young academic, and made quite an impression. With his relentless intellectual curiosity and rigour, breadth of knowledge and willingness to challenge perceived wisdom, combined with personal warmth and hospitality, he reflects the best of academic virtues that we'd all like to aspire to

Katie Freese

It has been such a pleasure to have you as my colleague all these years!
I'm sorry I cannot attend SubirFest due to teaching obligations, but I will certainly be thinking of you then, and hoping to see you again in the near future!
I fondly remember so many wonderful conferences we both participated in. I especially remember dinners in Trieste; that must have been the COSMO conference. And the time we were both at the GGI in Florence. And most recently, when you came to Stockholm, you took us (your wife and my son were also there) to the beautiful botanical garden for a dinner.
Your science is so very interesting and has always kept us on our toes! If there is a status quo we should re-examine, you always let us know. I love it!
Creative, smart, kind, fun... what more could I ask for in a friend!
Here's to many many more adventures, in physics and otherwise,

Gia Dvali

Congratulations for your brilliant achievements and the spirit of explorer you bring to our field! It is always an immense pleasure and inspiration to interact with you. I am looking forward to more of this in the future.

Kari Enqvist

I am very pleased to join the crowd of SubirFest in congratulating you for your numerous achievements. Please accept my sincere apologies for not being able to be there in person. We first met at CERN in the mid 80's and I vividly remember thinking, perhaps even a bit intimidated: this guy means business! I feel my assessment has hold true for all the 40 years that followed. Meanwhile, we had lots of common business regarding various EU programmes, of which you were the glorious leader, or whatever the official title was. I very much admired your no-nonsense way of handling things. Are you sure you are not a bit Finnish? Anyway, I am also delighted to congratulate you for your 70th birthday – delighted because I found that I am five months younger than you.

Christoph Wetterich

It's a long time since we first met - was it in Katmandu? Since then we have fortunately met quite often, in Heidelberg, Oxford and many other places in this small world. We had so many discussions, on physics, society, politics, and I always enjoyed the clear opinions of a good friend. On many issues we agreed, on others not, and I hope that this will continue for a long time! I was always impressed by you critical way of bringing cosmology down to earth and have learned a lot from you. I hope very much that you will have a very nice „Subir Fest“ and that we will soon 3 again have a possibility to meet in person.

Eduard Masso

The first encounter with Mandy and you was in summer 1986 in Peñíscola (Spain), during the workshop "Cosmology and particle physics".

As it happened in Casablanca, "that was the beginning of a beautiful friendship".

After Peñíscola, our lives have crossed many times, in Oxford and in Barcelona. (You told me you like to come to Spain because your name is on every lift. To go up you have to press "SUBIR").

However, most of the time we met in Geneva in summer because both of us were visiting CERN.

In our meetings we talked about Physics but also about many other important things in life. In this way, we have been keeping a very nice friendship.

As you remember, our last meeting was during the pandemic; it had to be online and we toasted virtually.

Unfortunately, I cannot come to your Fest, but you will be surrounded by many good friends. I join everybody in wishing you a happy birthday and congratulating you for the excellent work done in all these decades.

My wife Béatrice, my son Hug, and my daughter Lena also send their love.

Gunter Sigl

I regret to not be able to attend SubirFest 2023 in person due to other travel constraints and duties. Instead let me write a few lines by email below.

I would like to congratulate you very warmly for your new status as Professor Emeritus at Oxford University. Your work was always very inspiring for me, in particular because you cover a wide range of topics including cosmic rays and cosmology. Foremost, I appreciate your style of “thinking outside the box” and not always within the main stream which in times of a proliferation of publications of epsilon variations of the Standard picture I find very refreshing, in particular in cosmology.

I wish you all the best and look forward to further inspiring contributions from you. I hope to have an occasion to soon see you in person again in the near future and perhaps even collaborate with you on a topic of mutual interest (currently, apart from other things like the intersection cosmic rays/particle physics I am quite interested in axion-like dark matter and its small scale structure, including radio signatures and cosmological aspects).

Francis Halzen

According to the journal Nature forty-three percent of scientists write a paper after retirement. I anticipate that you will pulverize that number and look forward to many more years of collaboration. I nevertheless take advantage of this momentous occasion to thank you for the science, inspiration, and no-nonsense advice you contributed to IceCube for so many years. Sorry to miss the celebration

Pierre Sikivie

Congratulations on your lifelong career exploring the wonders of physics, with particular regard to cosmic rays of all sorts, and the amazing accuracy of Lorentz symmetry. I am very sorry that duties at my home institution keep me from attending the well deserved celebration of your accomplishments that is SubirFest. I am all the more sorry because of my fond memories of the conversations we have had over the years, the gracious hospitality you extended to me on more than one occasion at Oxford, and my admiration for your steadfast skepticism of accepted views of all sorts.

But we will see each other again! In fact we will see each other in Florida later this Fall, when I fulfill a lifelong ambition to have you visit us.

At any rate, you have henceforth more time than ever to do physics. I wish you and Mandy many additional years!

Dave Waters

I wanted to convey my best wishes. I always enjoy your deep and sometimes radical perspectives on particle and astrophysics, and long may they continue. See you around.

Celine Boehm

I sincerely apologise for not being able to come to Europe to celebrate your numerous contributions to our field. You have been a great mentor to me, and I am extremely grateful for the support you have provided me with throughout various critical stages of my career.

I distinctly recall you as one of the first academics who welcomed me into the physics department when I started my fellowship in Oxford. You kindly invited me to join you for lunch, but my English proficiency was so limited that I nearly missed the opportunity. I also remember vividly the first seminar I gave in front of you and Graham. I was presenting my work on light dark matter - an unconventional and rather controversial topic at the time. I was amazed by your keen interest to go through every single detail with me as well as your willingness to explore new ideas, including that from early career researchers. This significantly boosted my confidence at the time, and I hope that you realised how profoundly impactful our discussions were for me.

Your scientific curiosity and desire to be thorough have inspired me tremendously throughout my career. I imagine that you will continue your research while being Emeritus. However, I do hope that you have also planned ample opportunities to enjoy beautiful moments with Amanda and your family.

Take great care of you, and I hope to see you soon!

Manuel Drees

I confess I don't remember when we first met. At the latest it must have been at the 1998 SUSY conference in Oxford. Before that I had attended several meetings in India, starting in 1991, but I can't find any evidence that you've been to any of those meetings; you must have been persona non grata there in the 1990's.

In any case, we started to interact on a regular basis from 2006, within UniverseNet which you so ably led. Keeping theorists from 14 main institutes (plus affiliates) happy, or at least reasonably content, must not have been easy. In fact, in hindsight it seems remarkable that this experience didn't turn your hair white. Maybe your martial arts training came in handy here.

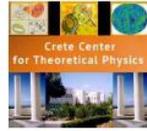
I remember some snippets from our network meetings. At the kick-off meeting in Oxford I caught some virus, and was amazed that even I could get treated for free at a clinic near the university guest house where I was staying. (Nowadays this wouldn't be true any more, sadly.) This guest house was special, too: my room was in the ground floor, but the closest bathroom was approximately on the sixth floor...

The second UniverseNet meeting was at Lesbos, well before it became (in)famous for its refugee camp. I remember nice Greek food, and swimming in the Aegean sea; remarkably, I even still remember bits and pieces of some of the scientific talks there. Mutati mutandis the same holds for our meetings in Barcelona and the final UniverseNet meeting in Lecce. It's really too bad that changed rules have made it so difficult to organize such networks in pure science now.

Of course, we did meet also after that fairly frequently. For example, I remember sharing some medicine with your son in the TIFR canteen in 2011, at the end of the Lepton-Photon meeting. (Your son had caught some stomach bug, but TIFR was not to blame, if memory serves me right.)

I'm sorry that I couldn't come to your retirement conference, but I'm sure we'll meet again somewhere in the not too distant future.

Elias Kiritsis



- I have known [Subir](#) since the mid-nineties.
- We met in many places: [conferences](#), [CERN](#), [Ioannina](#), [Crete](#), [Oxford](#).
- I like very much discussing physics with him.
- I appreciated his intellect, his broad knowledge of physics and as an extra, his [no-nonsense approach to science](#).
- As I am an amateur in cosmology, he would be my preferred source of explanations for murky cosmological topics.
- I would also trust his evaluations whenever we have a faculty search in his area of expertise.
- I wish [Subir](#) a fruitful continuation in the wonderland of physics and perseverance with the tough topics he is addressing these days.

Qaisar Shafi

*So sorry that Monika and I won't be able to attend in person
the Fest in your honor, but sending hearty congratulations on
the celebration of your birthday and Emeritus professorship.*

With very best wishes,

Qaisar

*Warm Wishes on Your
Birthday and Emeritus
Professorship Celebration!*



Sunil Gupta

Has sent a 5minute video message on you tube

[https://youtu.be/qy5iOT3UIFE?si=sfbijsprey6VnqY](https://youtu.be/qy5iOT3UIFE?si=sfbijspfrey6VnqY)

Susan Hezlet

When Subir came back to Oxford for the second time, I was Dick's last graduate student, struggling to finish my thesis and find something - anything interesting to put into it. Dick encouraged me to talk to the postdocs in his old office next door and he was interested to know what they were up to. This was particularly true of Subir and, over the intervening years and occasional visits, I have come to see Subir as being a sort of natural inheritor. Both Sarkar and Dalitz take a rigorous and sceptical approach to tackling particle physics.

Ps the 'interesting' last piece of the thesis was CPViolation in the neutrino sector.

Teresa Montaruli

I am sure I missed a great party at the SubirFest but was so lucky to host Subir for one of his illuminating seminars the week after his birthday.

Subir's experience is tremendously wide as it covers principally theory, but with deep consideration on instruments, and subjects spanning from cosmology to astroparticle and physics at colliders. His wide-breadth knowledge is his strength and makes him stand out among many scientists, as he can show that true science has no border dictated by fake domains linked to a single machine or detector, but depends on us being more or less limited. And surely his limits are well wider than most scientists's ones. Among other people, he has been a reference for me over the years. He created a real school of people and the presence of many of his students and more grown-up scientists at the SubirFest and sending messages to him shows that he is a guiding light in their career.