URUGUAY

Sociedad Uruguaya de Física

The Uruguayan Physical Society (SUF) — a short introduction

PRESENTED BY

Arturo Martí

SUF representative at the meeting · Instituto de Física, Universidad de la República

Who we are

The **Sociedad Uruguaya de Física (SUF)** is the non-profit scientific society of physicists in research, teaching and industry in Uruguay. Founded in **1992**, it is the national voice of physics and Uruguay's adhering body to IUPAP.

Statutory aims (statutes 1992, revised 2023)

1. **Foster research in physics**
2. **Bring together all physics researchers and encourage communication among them**
3. **Advise the competent bodies on physics teaching and research, and set minimum quality criteria for physics teaching at every level**
4. **Promote the participation of physics professionals in the life of the country**

1992
Founded in Montevideo

XXX
Members

18
National meetings since 1994

6 + 1
Committees and one thematic division

Our members

Active members

Full members, with voice and vote at the General Assembly; they elect the Board and may be elected to it.

Any one of these qualifies:

- A Licenciatura in Physics from Universidad de la República
- A physics teaching post, grade 3 or higher, at Universidad de la República
- Peer-reviewed research papers in international journals

Subscriber members

University students in physics-related programs. They take part in assemblies with voice but no vote.

Since 2023 student members also enjoy the benefits and activities of **IAPS** through the SUF Students Committee, which acts as Uruguay's physics students' society.

Membership is open to physicists in research institutes, universities, teacher-training institutes, schools and industry across the country.

XXX

Active members

XXX

Student members

XXX %

Women among members

How to join: an application form endorsed by two active members; the Board decides within two months. Annual fee 2026: UYU 1,800 for active members and UYU 800 for students, with a discount for early payment.

Governance

Board (Comisión Directiva) 2026–2027

Elected by the General Assembly on 22 December 2025 for a two-year term, together with five alternates and a three-member Fiscal Committee.

Role	Name
President	Sofía Favre
Vice-President	Guzmán Hernández
Secretary	Lucía Amy
Treasurer	Nahuel Barrios
Member	Enzo Spera

Fiscal Committee: Javier Pereyra (chair), Gonzalo de Polsi, Nicolás Pan

Presidents since 1992

- 1992–1995 · Rodolfo Gambini
- 1996–1997 · Arturo Lezama
- 1998–2001 · Carlos Negreira
- 2002–2003 · Gabriel González
- 2004–2007 · Arturo Martí
- 2008–2011 · Erna Frins
- 2012–2013 · José Ferrari
- 2014–2017 · Arturo Martí
- 2018–2021 · Cecilia Stari
- 2022–2023 · Arturo Martí
- 2024– · Sofía Favre

How we are organized

THEMATIC DIVISION

Division of Medical Physics

Approved by the Ordinary Assembly on 12 November 2016. Coordinator: Dr. Javier Brum. Our first thematic division; new ones can be created by the Assembly as the community grows.

Divisions and committees are created by the General Assembly and run by volunteer members.

Standing committees

Science Outreach
Coordinates and publicizes outreach by the physics institutes

Physics Olympiads
Runs the national olympiads at secondary and tertiary level

Physics Education
Workshops and seminars to improve physics teaching at all levels

Gender
Actions to strengthen the presence of women in physics

Undergraduate and Graduate Students
Students' society; IAPS Territorial Committee since 2023

History of Physics in Uruguay
Documents and preserves the history of physics in the country

National meetings since 1994

The **Reunión de la SUF** has brought the whole community together every one or two years, mostly in small towns and resorts around the country — Solís, Piriápolis, Lavalleja, Colonia, Carmelo, San José, La Paloma, Conchillas, Punta del Este.



- Reunión de la SUF — 18 editions
- Joint AFA–SUF meetings: Buenos Aires 2008, Montevideo 2011, La Plata 2025
- 25th-anniversary meeting, Montevideo 2017

Recent editions, named after Uruguayan physicists

- XV “Enrique Loedel” — La Paloma, 2016
- XVI “Félix Cernuschi” — Conchillas, 2018
- XVII “José Ferrari” — Conchillas, 2022
- XVIII “Aníbal Sicardi” — Punta del Este, 2024

XXX

Participants at the XVIII meeting (2024)

XXX

Contributions (talks and posters)

Education and outreach

Physics Olympiads

Secondary and tertiary levels, XXX students a year. Uruguay competes in the Ibero-American Physics Olympiad and ran its 2020 online edition.

Science Clubs

Special SUF prizes at the National Science Clubs Fair since 2014, and free mentoring by physicists under a 2017 agreement with the Ministry of Education (MEC).

FotoFísica

Physics through photography: an initiative for schools with its own online gallery, promoted together with the Outreach Committee.

Physics Colloquia

Regular public colloquia at Facultad de Ingeniería, with PEDECIBA and Fundación Julio Ricaldoni — most recently on solar thermal energy for industry (October 2026).

Researchers' Fair

Feria de Investigadores/as de Física, 15 June 2026, Facultad de Ciencias: XXX research groups from across the country presented their work to students.

Public lectures and teachers

Outreach lectures with the physics teachers' association APFU — José Edelstein (May 2026), Gastón Giribet (August 2026) — and Education Committee workshops for teachers.

International links

IUPAP

Uruguay is a **territorial member** of IUPAP, with the SUF as its adhering body (one share, one vote). Represented at the 34th General Assembly (October 2025) by SUF president Sofía Favre. Member since XXX.

FEIASOFI

Ibero-American Federation of Physical Societies. The SUF took part in the X General Assembly (San Luis, 2024); its president sits on the federation's board as Vocal, 2025–2026.

AFA (Argentina)

Our closest partner: three joint AFA–SUF meetings — Buenos Aires 2008, Montevideo 2011 and La Plata 2025.

IAPS

International Association of Physics Students: the SUF Students Division is the Territorial Committee for Uruguay, since 2023.

Ibero-American Physics Olympiad

Uruguay takes part in the OIbF and organized its 2020 edition, held online.

Thank you

Muchas gracias

Sociedad Uruguaya de Física
Montevideo, Uruguay

Find out more

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