

# Report on the 2018 Canadian Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics

Thomas Armstrong, Erin Broatch, Laura Burchell (co-chair), Fiona Burns, Gevy Cao (co-chair), Sandra Cheng, Kate Fenwick (co-chair), Sebastian Gitt, Mari Hanson, Gen Hayes, Laurie Huang, Hadiya Ma, Laura Miller, Lucas Rooyakkers, Kevin Woodcock (Queen's University)

Francine Ford (CAP)

Brigitte Vachon (McGill University)

CAP Congress  
13 June 2018

# What is CUWiP?

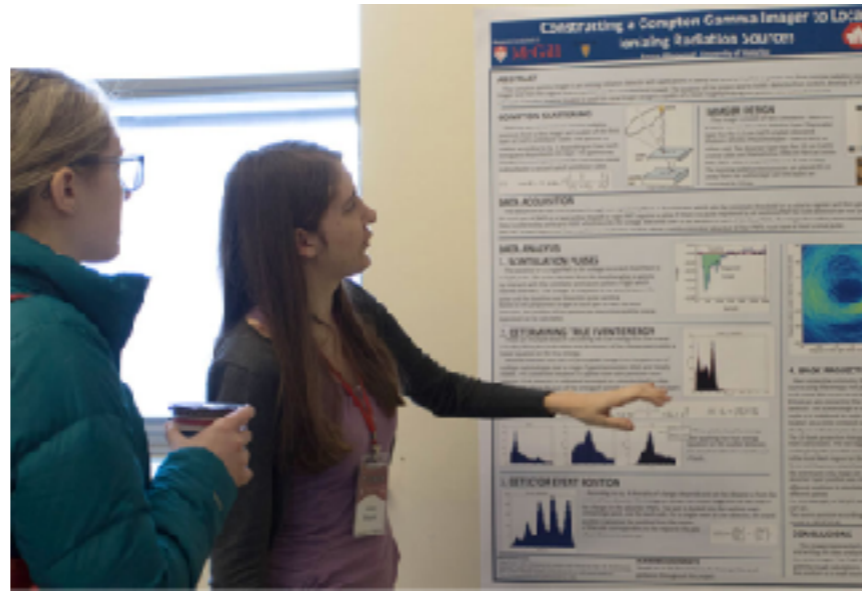
- **C**onference for **U**ndergraduate **W**omen **i**n **P**hysics
- 3-day conference held annually in Canada since 2014.
  - McGill (2014), Laval (2015), Dalhousie (2016), McMaster (2017), Queen's (2018)
- Canadian CUWiP modelled after the successful US-APS CUWiP.
  - <https://www.aps.org/programs/women/workshops/cuwip.cfm>
  - Typically hosts annually ~11 conferences simultaneously across the US
  - Strong national organization and support from APS

# CUWiP Goal

- **Goal:** Encourage undergraduate women to pursue a physics education.
- **Strategy:** Provide undergraduate women the opportunity to
  - Experience a professional conference
  - Discover a variety of career paths
  - Develop a regional/national network of women in Physics
  - Learn about undergraduate research opportunities, graduate studies, etc.

# CUWiP “philosophy”

- Organized for and by undergraduate students
- “Regional” conference
  - Event kept “small” providing optimal networking opportunities and sense of community.



# CUWiP “philosophy”

- All conference fees\* are covered for the participants.
  - Why?
    - Ensures that all students have the same opportunity regardless of their personal financial situation or whether or not they may have access to some external funding.
  - How?
    - Limited number of participants
    - Application process
    - Large number of sponsors

\* All expenses (food, accommodation) are covered, excluding travel costs to the conference.



# CUWiP 2018

Queen's University, 12-14 January 2018  
(<https://ccuwip.cap.ca/2018-ccuwip/>)



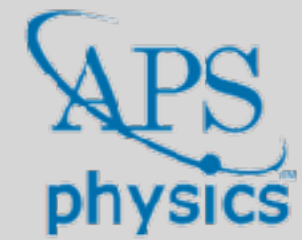
151 student participants (from 34 universities)





# CUWiP 2018

Queen's University, 12-14 January 2018



Incredible amount of support from sponsors. Thank you!



**The Art McDonald  
SNO Breakthrough Prize  
Research Fund**



Department of  
Physics, Engineering Physics  
and Astronomy



# CUWiP 2018

Queen's University, 12-14 January 2018



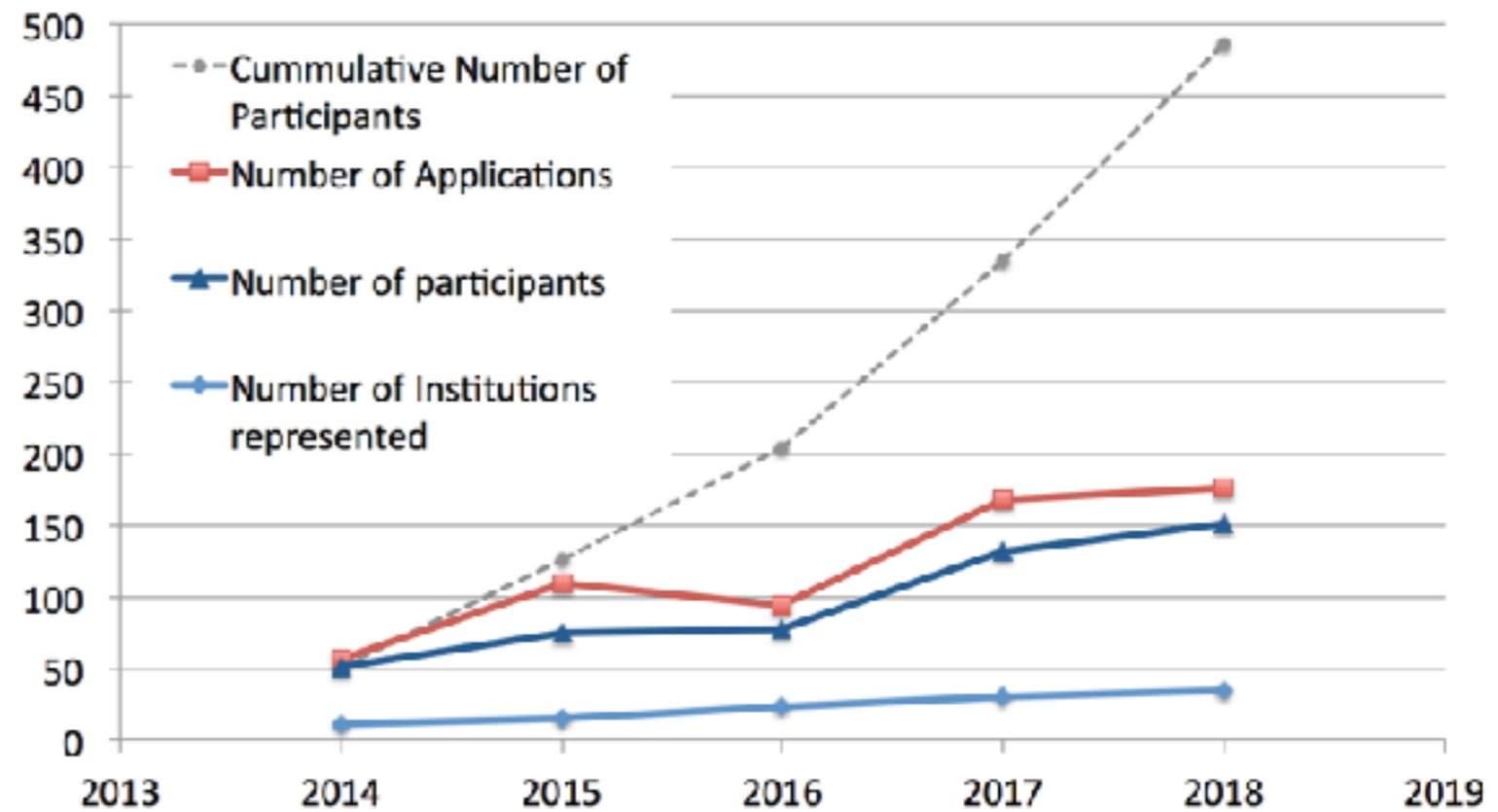
- **Student talks and poster session**
- **Invited speakers** [Prof. Vicky Kaspi (McGill), Dr. Renee Horton(SLS)]
- **Participation in North American-wide live broadcast of keynote speaker** [Prof. Patricia Burchart (Stanford)]
- **Panel discussions** (Diversity in Physics, Physics opportunities in Industry, Research Opportunities, Graduate School Experience)
- **Workshops** (Negotiation skills, Presentation skills, Interview strategies, Imposter syndrome and stereotypes in STEM, Graduate school applications)
- **Graduate and Career fair**
- **Lab tours and stargazing**
- Networking mentorship and opportunities
- Emphasis on general issues related to diversity in physics through workshop/panel offerings and organizational aspects geared at providing an all inclusive environment.





# CUWiP Statistics

- CUWiP 2018:
  - Number of applications: 176
  - Number of participants: 151
  - Number of institutes represented: 34



- Detailed statistics included in appendix.
- Increase in number of applications/participants over the years.
- Increased participation from western Canadian institutes.
  - Clear interest for hosting a CUWiP in western Canada.
- Conference series has now reached nearly 500 undergraduate students.

# CUWiP 2019

- University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Ontario)
- 18-20 January 2019

<https://www.cap.ca/congress-conference/canadian-conference-undergraduate-women-physics-ccuwip>

[www.facebook.com/ccuwip](http://www.facebook.com/ccuwip)



Application deadline: Mid-October 2018



CCUWiP 2019 co-chairs Emily Zhang, Amina Berrada and Courtney Tower.



Advertise to your undergraduate students and join us!

# CUWiP 2020


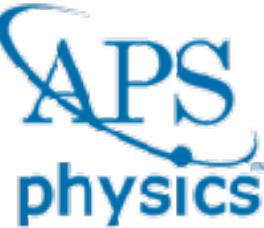
## Interested in hosting a CUWiP conference?

Particularly rewarding experience and one that provides undergraduate students with a unique opportunity to develop various highly-sought professional skills.

- Host site(s) applications open for 2020.
- Timeline: Bids to be presented at 2019 CUWiP (18-20 January 2019).
- Instructions:  
<https://www.cap.ca/congress-conference/canadian-conference-undergraduate-women-physics-ccuwip/2019-ccuwip-host-application-information/>
- For more information: Francine Ford ([execdir@cap.ca](mailto:execdir@cap.ca))



# Canadian CUWiP organization

- Ongoing partnership with CAP and APS.
  - Ensure continuity and sustainability of Canadian CUWiP conferences.
  - Increase visibility of Canadian conference series.
  - Provide technical assistance to facilitate conference organization.
- CAP 
  - Provide administrative and technical support (e.g. conference website, application/registration website, web-based pre/post-conference surveys, IT support, conference poster printing and distribution, conference advertisement, etc.)
- APS 
  - Canadian site listed on APS CUWiP website:  
<https://www.aps.org/programs/women/workshops/cuwip.cfm>
  - Canadian site rep and CAP-CEWIP rep member of APS-CUWiP “National Organizing Committee” (meets ~ monthly)
  - Access to APS-CUWiP twiki full of useful information to assist with conference organization
  - Canadian site representative invited to attend annual in-person APS-CUWiP organizational meeting (June)
  - Participation in North American-wide live broadcast of keynote speaker

# Canadian CUWiP organization

- Within recent evolution of CAP-APS partnership, looking to establish a permanent oversight structure for the conference series within CAP.
- To learn more or get involved contact:
  - Francine Ford ([execdir@cap.ca](mailto:execdir@cap.ca))
  - Brigitte Vachon ([Brigitte.Vachon@McGill.ca](mailto:Brigitte.Vachon@McGill.ca))

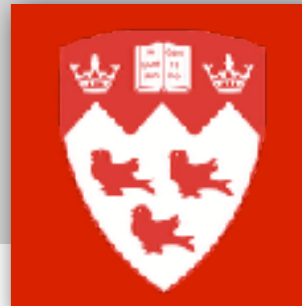
# Summary

- **C**onference for **U**ndergraduate **W**omen in **P**hysics (CUWiP)
  - Five successful editions of this conference series.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> edition to be held at University of Ottawa in January 2019. [Join us and advertise!](#)
  - Host site application open for 2020 conference. [Consider applying!](#)
- Excellent training, networking and professional development opportunities for undergraduate women in physics.
- Partnerships with APS and CAP in place to support Canadian conference series continuation and evolution.

**Come and join us!**



# CUWiP Statistics



Province	Institute	2014 McGill	2015 Laval	2016 Dalhousie	2017 McMaster	2018 Queen's
Alberta	Alberta	-	-	-	-	1
	Calgary	-	-	-	4	1
	Lethbridge	-	-	-	-	2
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
British Columbia	Okanagan	-	-	1	-	-
	SFU	-	-	-	2	-
	Thomson River	-	-	-	-	1
	UBC	-	-	2	1	5
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
Manitoba	Manitoba	-	-	-	-	2
	Winnipeg	-	-	-	-	1
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
New Brunswick	Moncton	-	-	-	1	1
	Mt Allison	-	3	3	-	-
	UNB	-	-	4	-	-
		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Nova Scotia	Acadia	-	-	4	1	-
	Dalhousie	-	4	9	-	4
	STFX	-	-	3	1	3
	St. Mary's	-	-	9	1	3
		<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>

Province	Institute	2014 McGill	2015 Laval	2016 Dalhousie	2017 McMaster	2018 Queen's
Ontario	Carleton	2	-	2	8	9
	Guelph	-	3	-	3	5
	Laurentian	-	6	1	2	1
	McMaster	7	10	3	18	16
	Memorial	-	-	-	1	1
	Ottawa	-	-	-	2	6
	Queen's	8	8	2	6	26
	RMC	-	2	1	1	3
	Ryerson	-	-	2	8	4
	Toronto	5	4	6	11	6
	Trent	4	2	-	5	4
	UOIT	2	-	2	7	4
	UWO	-	-	-	2	-
	Waterloo	2	4	4	14	9
	Western	-	1	-	3	7
	Windsor	-	-	-	-	2
WLU	-	-	-	1	2	
York	-	6	3	4	3	
		<b>30</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>108</b>
PEI	UPEI	-	-	3	-	-
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Quebec	Bishop	-	-	-	-	1
	Concordia	-	-	-	1	4
	Laval	7	12	3	4	-
	McGill	10	7	6	11	8
	Montreal	2	3	2	1	-
Sherbrooke	2	-	-	6	1	
		<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>
Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan	-	-	3	-	4
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
USA	CHC	-	-	-	1	-
	Montgomery College	-	-	-	-	1
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Participants**      **51**      **75**      **78**      **131**      **151**

**Applications**      **56**      **110**      **94**      **168**      **176**