

# **C14 - Physics Education Commission of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics**

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IUPAP**

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**June 5-10, 2022**

**Toronto  
Metropolitan  
University**



# What is the IUPAP and why we talk about it today?

- **The International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)** is a unique international physics organization, the only one that is founded and run solely by the physics community.
- The IUPAP connects physicists from all fields and all continents.
- Its members are nominated by physics communities in member countries representing different regions around the world.
- It depends on volunteers.
- Canada is one of the founding members of IUPAP.
- IUPAP celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2022-2023.
- The Commissions of IUPAP (including C14-Physics Education) will promote the educational and scientific activities of IUPAP around the world.



International Union of Pure and Applied Physics

**The aims of the Union are:**

- **to stimulate and promote international cooperation in physics;**
- **to sponsor suitable international meetings and to assist organizing committees;**
- **to foster the preparation and the publication of abstracts of papers and tables of physical constants;**
- **to promote international agreements on other use of symbols, units, nomenclature and standards;**
- **to foster free circulation of scientists;**
- **to encourage research and education**



International Union of Pure and Applied Physics

## Further IUPAP principles:

- Foster **openness and inclusiveness** in physics;
- Ensure **integrity and credibility**;
- Promote physics as **a building block of innovation and multidisciplinary** research;
- Promote **physics** as an essential tool **for development and for sustainability**;

# Strategic Plan

**Fulfilling the commitments that were made upon its creation and expanding on them, the new strategic plan of IUPAP and its proposed actions aspire to achieve the following goals:**

- **Assist in the worldwide development of physics and promote physics as an essential tool for development and sustainability;**
- **Engage in the strengthening and improvement of physics education, particularly in developing countries;**
- **Increase diversity and inclusion in physics, enhancing the participation and recognition of women and of people from underrepresented groups;**

# 1922

## The beginnings...

In 1919 was formed the International Research Council "largely through the representatives of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, and of the Royal Society, London, to co-ordinate international efforts in the different branches of sciences, under whose aegis international associations or unions in different branches of science could be formed".

In accordance with this principle, the 1922 General Assembly of the IRC convened at Brussels and a number of physicists present decided that the formation of a Physics Union was imperative.

Thirteen countries immediately announced their adherence to the new Union.

An "Executive" or steering committee of ten distinguished physicists undertook to prepare rules, regulations and activities of the organization.

The I.U.P.A.P. was launched.

UIPPA  
IUPAP

1922-1992

70

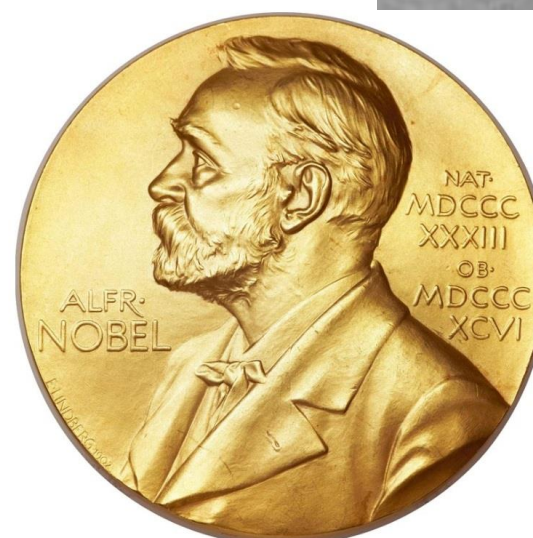
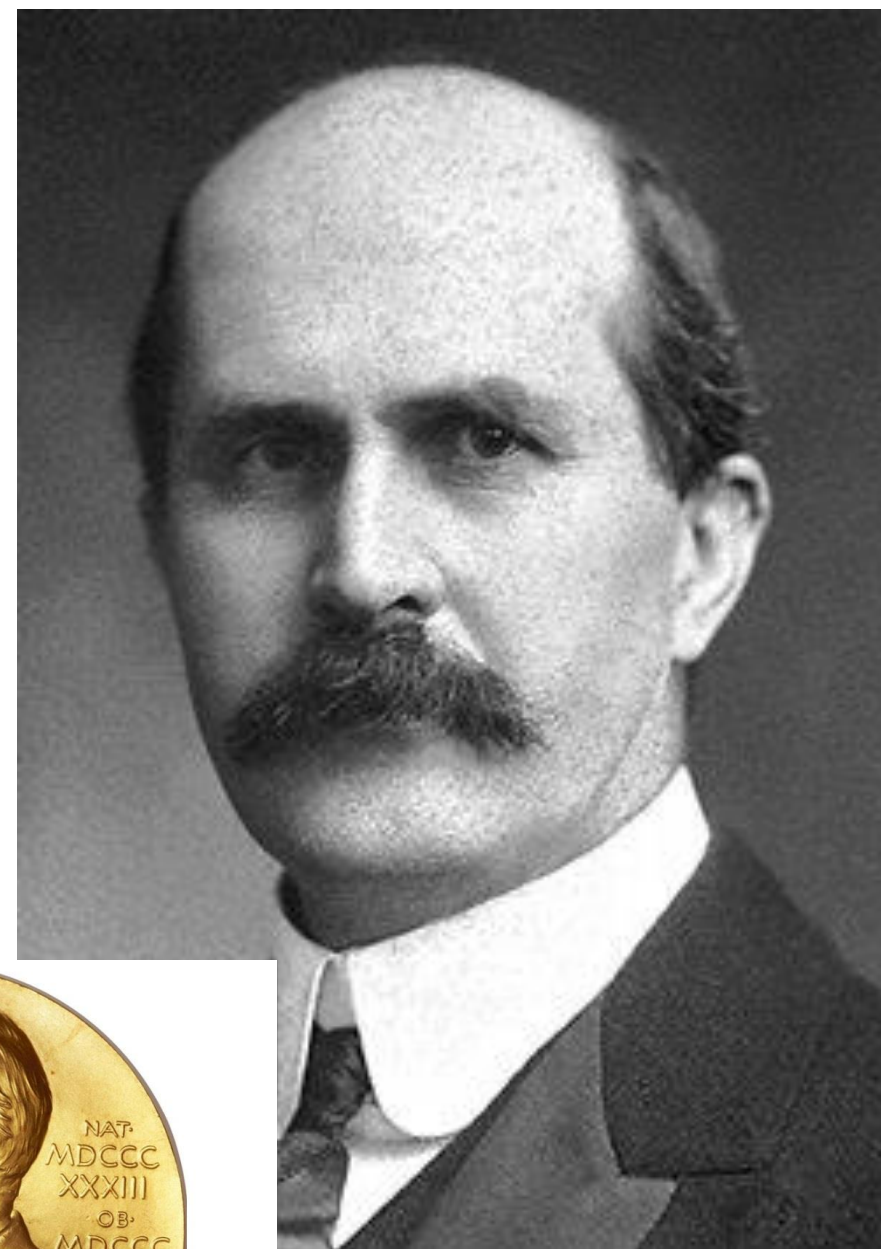
For the history of IUPAP's first 70 years,  
see the IUPAP website

<http://iupap.org/about-us/the-history-of-iupap-1922-1992/>

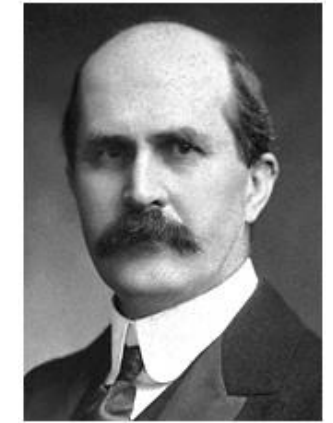


# IUPAP was established in 1922

**First President:  
Sir William Bragg  
(1922-1931)**



# 1922



William Bragg  
First IUPAP President

## The Thirteen

1. Belgium
2. Canada
3. Denmark
4. France
5. Holland
6. Japan
7. Norway
8. Poland
9. Spain
10. Switzerland
11. United Kingdom
12. United States of America
13. Union of South Africa

## The Ten

- W. Bragg, president
- M. Brillouin
- O.M. Corbino
- M. Knudsen
- M. Leblanc
- R.A. Millikan
- H. Nagaoka
- E. Van Aubel, vice-présidents
- H. Abraham, secretary



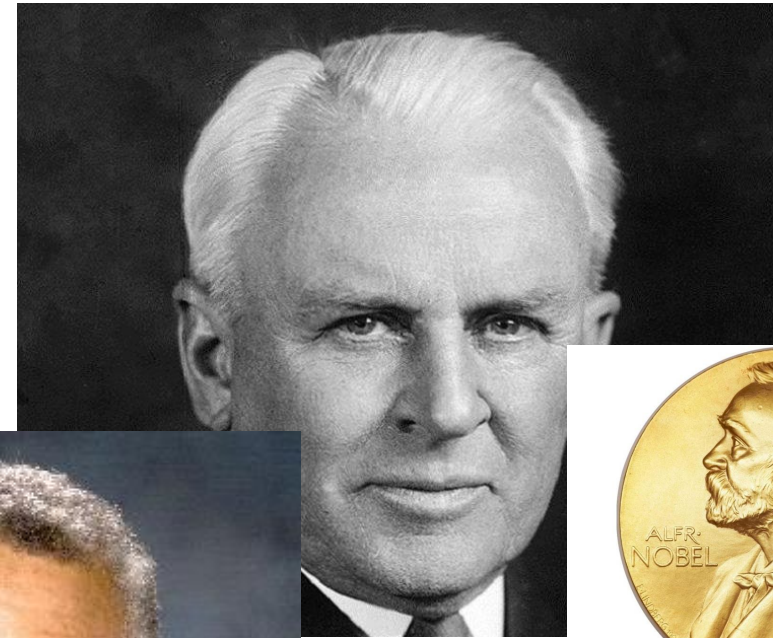
# Past Leadership



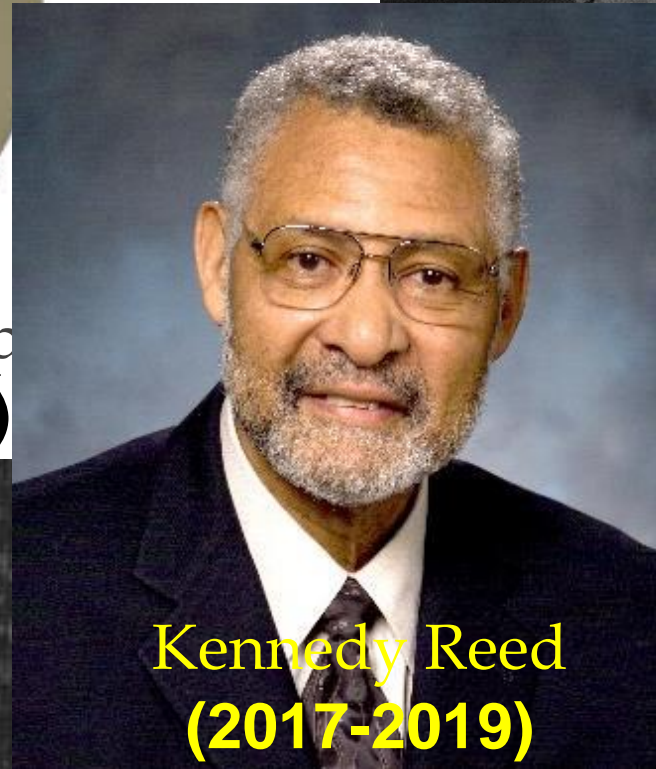
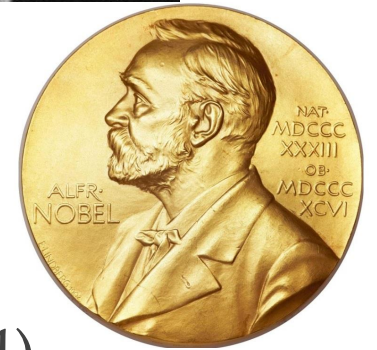
Edoardo Amaldi  
(1957-1960)



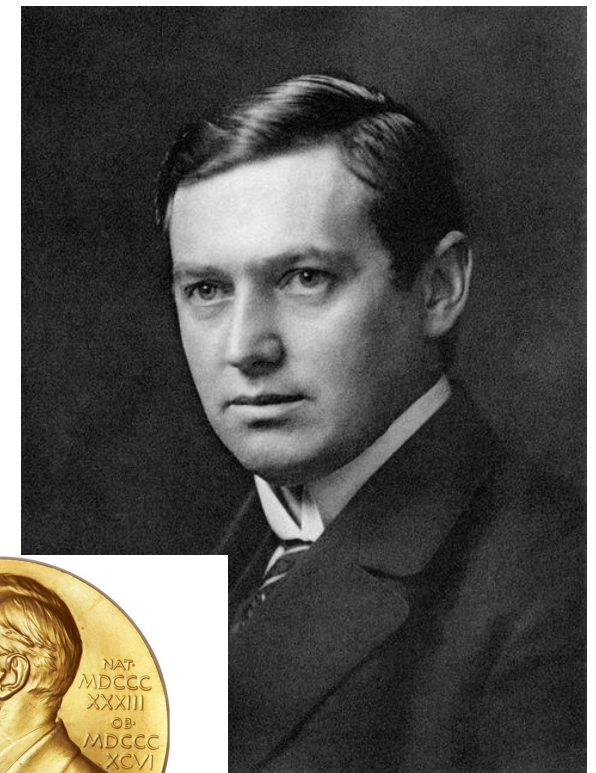
Cecilia Jarlskog  
(2011-2014)



(1931-1934)



Kennedy Reed  
(2017-2019)



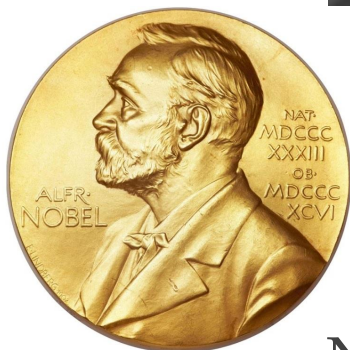
Manne Siegbahn  
(1934-1947)



Neville Francis Mott  
(1951-1957))



Hans Kramers  
(1947-1951)



# Current Members (61)

Algeria  
Argentina  
Australia  
Austria  
Belgium  
Brazil  
Bulgaria  
**Canada**  
Chile  
China: Beijing  
China: Taipei  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Egypt  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Finland

France  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Hungary  
India  
Iran  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Japan  
Jordan  
Korea  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Mexico  
Netherlands  
New Zealand  
Norway  
Pakistan  
Peru  
Philippines

Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Singapore  
Slovak Republic  
Slovenia  
South Africa  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Tunisia  
UK  
Uruguay  
USA

**Asian Pacific and European**

**Corporate Associate Members are being considered**

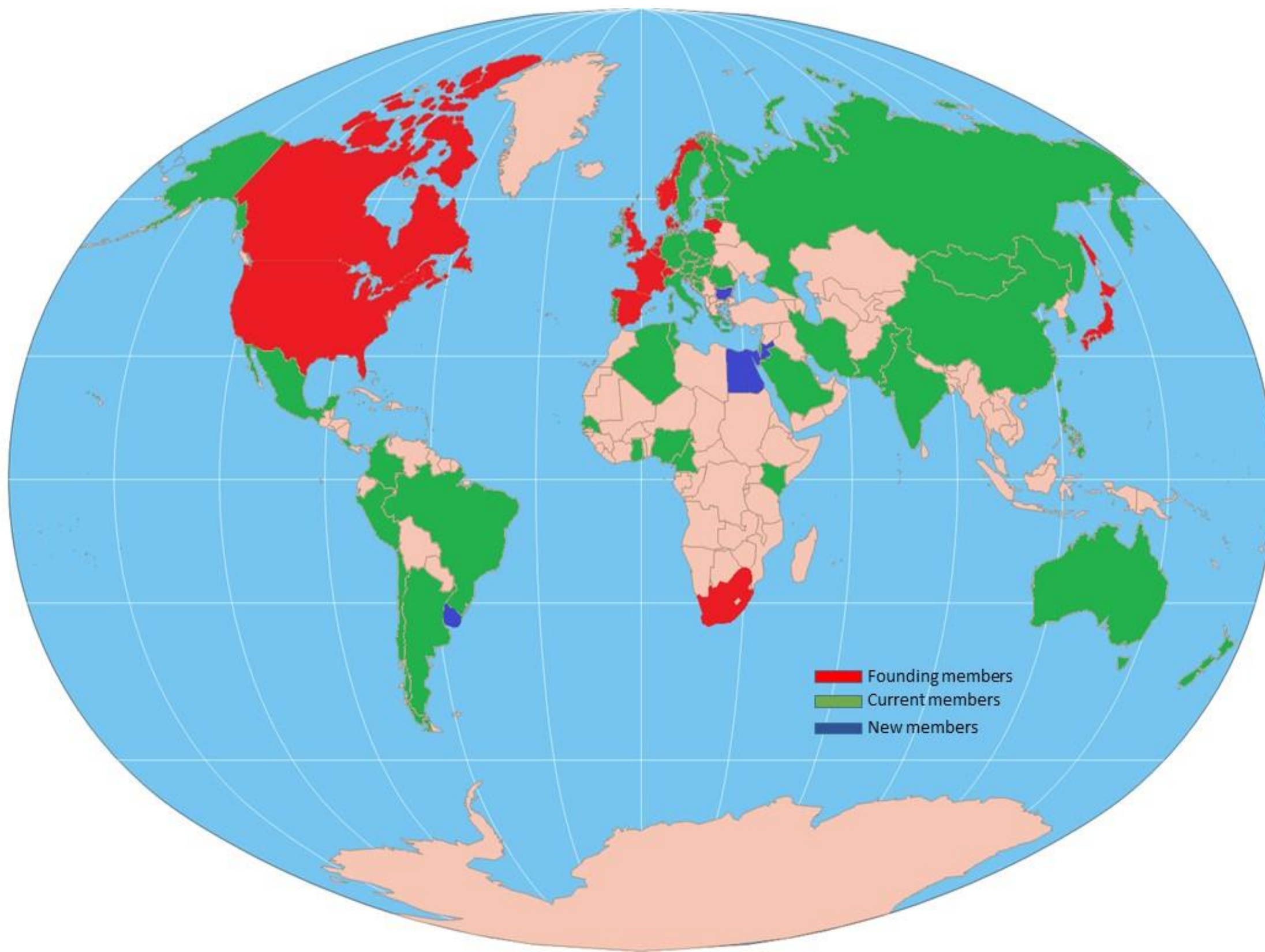
**IUPAP is looking into attracting new members (countries)**

**Ukraine just joined!**

**Four regional Physics Societies are observers: African, American,**



# IUPAP Members' Map



# Governance

- **Governed according to the New Statutes and Bylaws of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (adopted by the General Assembly, 2021)**
- **The IUPAP will get the legal status as an Association under Swiss Law, located in Geneva with the Administrative Office in Trieste**

**Bylaws:** <https://iupap.org/documents/statutes-bylaws/>

- **Vision, mission, strategic plan are also posted on the website**



# **Governance:**

# **The General Assembly**

**The General Assembly (GA) of all members is the highest governing body of the Union.**

## **The GA**

- **Creates and amends the statutes (requires a two-thirds majority of those present).**
- **Sets and amends the procedural bylaws (requires a three-fifths majority of those present).**
- **Elects the Executive Council that oversees Union activities between General Assemblies.**
- **Elects members of its Commissions.**
- **General Assemblies are every 3 years in person, every year virtually in between**



# The Structure

- **Commissions**
- **Affiliated Commissions**
- **Working Groups**

# Commissions

- The first scientific commission, on Units, was established in 1931 at the third General Assembly.
- Currently there are 18 Commissions.
- The commissions organize the major International conferences in their field; and award Young Scientist Prizes



- Symbols and Units (C2)
- Statistical Mechanics (C3)
- Astroparticle Physics (C4)
- Low Temperature Physics (C5)
- Biological Physics (C6)
- Semiconductors (C8)
- Magnetism (C9)
- Condensed Matter (C10)
- Particles and Fields (C11)
- Nuclear Physics (C12)
- **Physics for Development (C13)**
- **Physics Education (C14)**
- Atomic Molecular and Optical Physics (C15)
- Plasma Physics (C16)
- Laser Physics and Photonics (C17)
- Mathematical Physics (C18)
- Astrophysics (C19)
- Computational Physics (C20)

(There are no commissions 2 and 7)

# Affiliated Commissions

- **International committees or organizations of physicists, with their own administrative structure, who wish to join IUPAP commissions**
  - **Currently there are 4 +2 affiliated commissions**
  - **Participate in IUPAP activities, endorse IUPAP principles**
- **International Commission for Optics (AC1)**
  - **International Commission on General Relativity and Gravitation (AC2)**
  - **International Commission on Acoustics (AC3)**
  - **International Commission on Medical Physics (AC4)**
  - **International Association of Physics Students (AC5 New)**
  - **Affiliated Commission on the History and Philosophy of Physics (AC6 New)**

# Working Groups

**WG1: International Committee for Future Accelerators (ICFA)**

**WG2: Communication in Physics**

**WG5: Women in Physics**

**WG7: International Committee on Ultrahigh Intensity Lasers (ICUIL)**

**WG9: International Cooperation in Nuclear Physics (ICNP)**

**WG10: Astroparticle Physics International Committee (ApPIC)**

**WG11: Gravitational Wave International Committee (GWIC)**

**WG12: Energy**

**WG13: Newtonian Constant on Gravitation**

**WG14: Accelerator Science**

**WG15: Soft Matter**

**WG16: Physics and Industry**

**WG17: Centenary – temporary, time-sensitive**

**WG18: Ethics WG19: Quantum Science and Technology**

**Some working groups have had close links with working groups of the OECD Global Science Forum**



**The Working Group on Women in Physics**





# Conferences

IUPAP sponsors and endorses ~**50** conferences per year:

- **Very large, medium size, specialized**
- everywhere with a special **attention to developing countries**

Requirements are:

- **scientific interest**
- **worldwide attendance with no a priori restriction or difficulty to attend**
- **inclusiveness and diversity**





# Early Career Scientific Prize Awards

- The Early Career Scientist Prize is granted by IUPAP on the recommendation of a Commission or an Affiliated Commission.
- The award consists of a certificate, medal and a monetary award.
- A presentation also takes place at an international conference sponsored through the commission.
- 192 prizes awarded between 2006 and 2018!

# 2022/ 2023 Centenary of IUPAP

## IYBSSD

June 2022/June 2023

**International Year of Basic Sciences  
for Sustainable Development**  
Basic Sciences under the spotlight

*Basic Sciences are a key tool to provide a multi-cultural dialogue,  
with "scientific diplomacy" a known and demonstrated means to  
contribute to a more peaceful world*



**International  
Science Council**



JOINT INSTITUTE  
FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH



<https://www.iybssd2022.org/>



# Celebrations For The IUPAP Centennial

- IUPAP will celebrate its Centennial in 2022/2023. Several initiatives are being planned.
- They include a [Centennial Symposium](#), a [photo contest and satellite events](#) around the world.
- Many of these activities will be combined with those of the Year of Basics Science for Sustainable Development ( [YBSSD](#) ), given that the IUPAP's work on promoting physics and science for development will be a major part of its centenary celebrations.

# **Celebrations For The IUPAP Centennial (continued)**

- **IUPAP is arranging for dedicated talks in large IUPAP-sponsored physics conferences to publicize all these activities.**
- **We encourage the various commissions and national physics communities to organize satellite events worldwide.**
- **We suggest to make the Conferences in 2022 and 2023 part of the Celebration of the IUPAP Centenary and IYBSSD**
- **Participants** are welcome to use slides from IUPAP presentations, centenary, IYBSSD to show them in events and conferences all along 2022 and 2023

# Celebrations For The IUPAP Centennial (Continued)

- An [important effort](#) has also started to digitize IUPAP's institutional archival documents of the Union, which are currently spread in various archives.
- The digitized documents will be made available for public dissemination and historical research.
- They will constitute the primary source of information for a scholarly process, which will be concluded by a two-day academic workshop on the history of IUPAP in the last hundred years and the publication of a volume.



# Centennial Symposium Plans

## Program based on the following ideas:

- Three 30' segments (maybe four) on the IUPAP history
- Two testimonials from the past
- A virtual connection to a very large (ICHEP 2022, in Bologna, ~1000 people) C11 IUPAP type A conference on day one
- Five 1h panels on IUPAP mission statements
  1. Women and underrepresented groups
  2. Science advising policy
  3. Early career
  4. Physics for development
  5. Education
- Three 1h regional panels addressing achievements in the region and expectations from IUPAP (What can IUPAP do for the region?)
  1. Latin America
  2. Asia & Pacific
  3. Africa & Middle East
- Four prestigious keynote speakers
- Three brief (20') early-career keynote speakers (award winners)
- Two thematic presentations (mini 30' panels):
  1. Why it is important to be a member
  2. Focus on physicists working in industry

# C14-Physics Education Commission of IUPAP

## **The International Commission on Physics Education (ICPE) mission:**

**To promote the exchange of information and views among the members of the international scientific community in the general field of Physics Education including:**

- The collection, evaluation, coordination and distribution of information concerning education in the physical sciences at all levels;**
- Information relation to the assessment of standards of physics teaching and learning;**
- Suggesting ways in which the facilities for the study of physics at all levels) might be improved, stimulating experiments at all levels, and giving help to physics teachers in all countries in incorporating current knowledge of physics, physics pedagogy, and the results of research in physics education into their courses and curricula.**

# C14-Physics Education Commission of IUPAP Activities

- The complete mission statement can be found at <https://iupap.org/who-we-are/internal-organization/commissions/c14-physics-education/#mission-mandate>.
- One of the core activities of the Commission is the organization of the International Conference on Physics Education (ICPE), often in partnerships with other international or regional physics/science education societies.
- The Commission awards Physics Education Medal every year
- The Commission produces the ICPE Newsletter.
- As IUPAP celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2022-2023 with Canada being one of the founding members of IUPAP, the Commissions of IUPAP (including C14) will promote the educational and scientific activities of IUPAP around the world.

# **C14 Commission**

- **Recommends for Union sponsorship of the international conferences which qualify for support under Union regulations.**
- **Initiates such conferences as their need arises from the evolution of the Commission field.**
- **Assists in the organization of such conferences when practical.**
- **Ensures the compatibility of international conferences in its field and to discourage clashes and incompatibility of dates.**
- **Promotes the free circulation of scientists; assists conference organizers in ensuring such free circulation and in resolving potential infringements.**

# C14 Mission (continued)

- organizes where feasible the award of medals or other testimonials of excellence in its field.
- publishes where feasible newsletters, circulars, occasional books, journals or handbooks in its area.
- maintains liaison with other IUPAP Commissions, with the Commissions or Committees of other Unions or of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) or other scientific organizations, with a view to collaborating and cooperating in sponsoring joint conferences and to participating in joint projects when need arises.
- Prepares to each General Assembly of the Union a summary of activities and progress in its field since the previous Assembly.



# Collaborations with other Commissions within IUPAP

- **Physics for Development (C13)**
- **International Association of Physics Students (AC5 New) (I will meet with them tomorrow)**
- **WG2: Communication in Physics**
- **WG5: Women in Physics**
- **WG16: Physics and Industry**

# Cooperation With Other Organizations and Learning Societies

- International Research Group on Physics Teaching ([GIREP](#))
- UK Institute of Physics ([IoP](#))
- European Physical Society – Physics Education Division ([EPS-PED](#))
- Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics ([ICTP](#))

# C14 Conferences

- [3rd WCPE](#) Vietnam, 13-17 December 2021
  - **2019**
- [GIREP-ICPE-EPEC 2019](#) 1-5 July 2019, Budapest, Hungary
- [International Conference on Physics Education 2018: ICPE-SAIP-WITS](#) 1-5 October 2018, Johannesburg, South Africa
- [GIREP-ICPE-EPEC 2017: Bridging Research and Practice in Physics Teaching and Learning](#) 3-7 July 2017, Dublin, Ireland
- [The Second World Conference on Physics Education 2- 2016: Contemporary Science Education and Challenges in the Present Society: perspectives in Physics Teaching and Learning](#) 10-15 July 2016, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- [International Conference on Physics Education 2015: Engaging Students in Physics – Research and Practice](#) 9-14 August 2015, Beijing, China
- [GIREP-MPTL International Conference 2014](#) 7-12 July 2014, Palermo, Italy
- [International Conference on Physics Education 2014](#) 18-22 August 2014, Córdoba, Argentina
- [11th Interamerican Conferences on Physics Education](#) **Canadian-American-Mexican Graduate Student Physics Conference** 15-18 August 2013, Ontario, Canada

# C14 Conferences (Continued)

- [International Conference on Physics Education](#) 5-9 August 2013, Prague, Czech Republic
- [World Conference on Physics Education](#) 1–6 July 2012, Istanbul, Turkey
- **International Conference on Physics Education ICPE 2011: Training Physics Teachers and Educational Networks** 15–19 August 2011, Mexico City, Mexico
- **Teaching and Learning Physics Today: Challenges? Benefits?** 22–27 August 2010, Reims, France
- **10th Inter-American Conference on Physics Education** 6-10 July 2009, Medellin, Colombia
- **International Conference on Physics Education** 18-24 October 2009, Bangkok, Thailand
- **International Conference on Physics Education: Building Careers with Physics** 11-16 November 2007, Palais des Congres, Marrakech
- **GIREP-EPEC 2007 Frontiers of Physics Education** August 26-31 2007, Opatija, Croatia
- **International Conference on Physics Education 2006** 15-20 August 2006, Tokyo, Japan
- [9th Inter-American Conference on Physics Education](#) 3-7 March 2006, San Jose, Costa Rica
- **World View on Physics Education in 2005: Focusing on Change** 21-26 August 2005, New Delhi, India
- **What Physics Should We Teach? SAIP-ICPE International Conference** 5-8 July 2004, Durban, South Africa

# C14 Conferences (continued)

- **8th Inter-American Conference on Physics Education** 7-11 July 2003, Havana, Cuba
- **Summer Course on Research in Physics Education** 15-25 July 2003, Rome, Italy
- **Physics in New Fields and Modern Applications** 5 August 2002, Lund, Sweden
- **Computer and Information Technology in Physics Education** 4-6 December 2001, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **International Conference on Physics Education in Cultural Context** 13-17 August 2001, Cheongwon, South Korea
- **Physics Teachers Education Beyond 2000** 27 August-1 September 2000, Barcelona, Spain
- **International Conference of Physics Teachers and Educators** 19-23 August 1999, Guilin, China
- **Hands-on Experiments in Physics Education** 23-28 August 1998, Duisburg, Germany
- **International Conference on New Technologies in Physics Education** 19-22 October 1998, Hefei, China
- **6th Inter-American Conference on Physics Education** 28 June-5 July 1997, Cordoba, Argentina
- **Creativity in Physics Education** 15-22 August 1997, Sopron, Hungary
- **Taller Iberoamericano de Enseñ de la Fisica Universitaria** Havana, Cuba
- **New Ways of Teaching Physics** 21-27 August 1996, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **International Conference on Physics Education – New Movement of Reform on Physics Teaching** 5-9 August 1995, Nanjing, P.R. China
- **Teaching Modern Physics for Students Not-majoring in Physics** 24-28 July 1994, Sinai, Egypt



# History Of ICPE

**The following articles describe the first years of existence of ICPE:**

- Leonard Jossem: [PREFACE](#)
- French: [THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON PHYSICS EDUCATION](#)
- William C. Kelly: [WITNESS AT CREATION: I.C.P.E.'s FOUNDING AND EARLY YEARS](#)

# Future Development In Strategic Areas: Physics Education

- IUPAP/C14 will continue to support the organization of physics schools, workshops, and conferences on physics education, particularly in developing countries.
- **The Commission on Physics Education (C14) is creating a repository of open (non-commercial) virtual/remote laboratory resources used around the world.**
- This information will be made available on the remodeled IUPAP website.
- The site will also be used to point to other teaching resources, particularly those of strong, long-established national associations that promote teaching/research in less developed countries.

# ICPE Medal

- The ICPE medal was instituted to recognize “outstanding contributions to physics teaching of a kind that transcends national boundaries”.
- The ICPE medal recipient must fulfill two criteria: (1) the contributions to physics education should have extended over a significant number of years; and (2) the contributions should be international in their scope and influence.



Prof. Marco Antonio Moreira (Brazil) – ICPE Medal 2017 among members of the ICPE Commission: left: Eilish Mcloughlin (Ireland), Manjula Sharma (Australia); right: Hideo Nitta – ICPE Chair (2016-2018) – (Japan) and Roberto Nardi (Brazil) – current ICPE Chair (2019-2020).

# Status of the initiatives arising from previous (2018-2021) C14 Commission Mandate:

- Assembling and publishing resources for virtual labs
- Ensuring active learning workshops at all IUPAP sponsored meetings initiative,
- Completing physics education panorama (being completed by our former Chair Dr. Roberto Nardi (Brasil))
- [The third volume of the Handbook "Connecting Research in Physics with Teacher Education"](#) – just published

# **Education Panel at the Centennial Celebration Symposium**

The symposium July 11-13, 2022 in Trieste, Italy



# Education Panel at the IUPAP Centennial Symposium: The trajectory of physics curriculum and its impact on society

- What are the features of a purposeful and meaningful "**physics curriculum for 21<sup>st</sup> century** and its delivery"? How to optimize the continuum ranging from face-to-face to remote approaches prompted by the pandemic which is still ongoing in many parts of the world?
- How do we **engage today's students**? How to make physics more attractive to the modern students? Would teaching modern physics early on instead of introducing it later in the curriculum help better to engage students?
- What is the place of the **experimentation and 'generic skills'**? What other skills are important for work in the industry and for society?
- What **careers are expected for future students** outside of academia, including multidisciplinary, and non-traditional areas of employment?
- To summarize, the panelists will provide their insights on how physics teaching and learning has changed since they started their careers and how they envision the future of physics education. They will offer their views on "how physics education can move forward and still maintain its disciplinary authenticity".

# Acknowledgments

This presentation includes information from Commissions' Chairs and Executive Council (CC&EC) meetings that took place January 25-28, 2022

The presentation contains the slides from the presentations of :

Dr. Michel Spiro (IUPAP President)

D. Silvina Ponce Dawson (Acting President Designate)

Monica Pepe Altareli (Centennial Symposium organizing committee)

My presentation is supported by the Faculty of Science Dean's Travel Fund, Toronto Metropolitan University (Formerly Ryerson University).

**Get involved with IUPAP!**

**Thank you!**

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