

Working Group WG-15 – Soft Matter Physics
Report to the IUPAP Council & Commission Chairs meeting
June 29, 2022

Mandate of the proposed IUPAP Working Group on Soft Matter

1. To organize/assist in organization of the International Soft Matter Conference every 3 years in each geographic region (Europe, America, and Asia/Australia).
2. To coordinate soft-matter-related regional, national & local conferences, meetings & workshops
3. To coordinate soft matter education, such as summer schools and short courses and help organize them if a need appears
4. To promote soft matter research through information exchange, publicity, prizes, publications, etc.
5. To strengthen the connections between academic and industrial soft matter research and development through outreach events, short courses, etc.

Progress since last report:

1. **The International Soft Matter Conference 2022 is planned for September 19-23, 2022 to be held in Poznan, Poland (see conference web site <http://ismc2022.home.amu.edu.pl/>)**
2. **The International Soft Matter Conference 2023 has been postponed to September 4-8, 2023 and will be held in Osaka, Japan (see conference web site <https://ismc2021.jp/>).**
3. We are beginning the planning process for **The International Soft Matter Conference 2024 to be held in North Carolina, USA.**
4. IPAP WG-15 initiated the formation of the Soft Matter Association of Asia and Oceania that will be responsible for the Asian section of the International Soft Matter Conference after ISMC2021 in Osaka, Japan. Five countries from the region will have their own section of this association. The Chair and co-Chair from these sections of each country form the Executive Committee of the Soft Matter Association of Asia and Oceania. This committee will decide the host country for the next ISMC2026 (in Asia/Oceania) and will coordinate information exchange about existing conferences, meeting, summer/winter schools. They will also discuss how delegations and individual scientists from different countries can learn about and attend these events. They will create the organization web site with links to the societies and events at the representative countries.
5. The plans for the formation of the Soft Matter Association of Americas that will hold International Soft Matter Conference 2024 have been developed. The web site <https://soft-matter.com/> has been created to enable effective information exchange between soft matter researchers. It contains the calendar of lectures, seminars, and conferences, links to the corresponding societies, links to educational lectures on different soft matter topics, as well as job listings of interest to soft matter scientists.
6. The International Summer of Soft Matter was postponed from August 2020 and will be held in Cargese, France on July 11-22, 2022 (see summer school web site <https://softmat2022.espci.fr/-Home-> for details).