

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN IN PHYSICS, ICWIP 2019-2020

Travel Grants for Women in Developing Countries Gillian Butcher (Chair, WG5) and Silvina Ponce Dawson (Vice-President at Large (Gender Champion)) (IUPAP Newsletter 2019)

Attending international conferences is a crucial part of any physicist's career development, sharing results, learning about new developments and making valuable connections. However, as was highlighted by Ivie [ref] women are not so likely to access travel funds, particularly in developing countries: 31% of women from developing countries said they had access to travel funding compared with 64% of men from highly-developed countries.

Since its creation in 2002, WG5 Women in Physics has been tasked with administering IUPAP travel grants to women from developing countries who wish to attend conferences. It is interesting to note that in the 18 years of funding, over 400 grants have been distributed to applicants in 53 countries.

Impressive as those statistics are, it is the effect that these grants have on individuals that is most telling. We have here the statement by a female researcher from Argentina who received a travel grant at a time when Argentina was facing very bad economic conditions and the support for science was practically non-existent:

"Even if the award is relatively modest, it is very good for a starting point. It helped me a lot. I've got it in 2002, when the economic situation in my country (Argentina) was horrible, there were no openings for scientific jobs, I had just finished my postdoctoral fellowship. With the grant, I went to an international congress in Brazil and started collaborating with experimentalists from Porto Alegre and Rio de Janeiro that lasted many years with me working in Argentina and traveling every now and then to visit them (that was very hard for me with 4 little kids). That kept my scientific career "alive" for a while until the situation in Argentina improved."

Ref: R. Ivie, C. Langer Tesfaye Women in Physics: A tale of limits
Physics Today (Feb 2012)

ICWIP 2020 in Melbourne, Australia

IUPAP Working Group members (Wg5) in physics had a meeting with Australian organizing committee as LOC in July 22-25, 2019 at Melbourne university, physics department. All the programs about ICWIP 2020 were discussed during this meeting. Now all the teamleaders from different participant countries are invited to prepare their country reports in physics activities during three years before this conference.

Those who are interested may send their scientific abstracts directly to the conference too.

All details about 7th IUPAP International Conference of Women in Physics, ICWIP, July 13-17, 2020:

<https://wp.csiro.au/icwip2020/>

WG5: WOMEN IN PHYSICS

Working Group 5 (Wg5), Women in Physics (WiP), was created by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics in 1999 as a resolution of the Atlanta, Georgia,

USA General Assembly to survey the present situation and report to the Council and the Liaison Committees, and to suggest means to improve the situation for women in physics.

Charge to Working Group

to survey the situation for women in physics in IUPAP member countries;

to analyse and report the data collected along with suggestions on how to improve the situation;

to suggest ways that women can become more involved in IUPAP, including the Liaison Committees, the Commissions, the Council, and the General Assemblies;

to report all findings at the General Assembly in 2002.

In carrying out the above charge, it may prove useful to organise and convene an international meeting on women in physics. If such a meeting occurs, it should be planned so that a full account can be provided with the report at the General Assembly in 2002.

Members

Chair: Gillian Butcher

Vice Chair: Lilia Meza Montes

Kwek Leong Chuan

Shohini Ghose

Apriel Kimaada Hodari

Dina Izadi

Kui-juan Jin

Francisca Nneka Okeke

Prajval Shastri

Associated Members:

Igle Gledhill (Past Chair)

Silvina Ponce Dawson (Vice-President at Large – Gender Champion)

Nicola Wilkin

IUPAP Liason:

Prof. Kok Khoo Phua, IUPAP Secretary General,

IUPAP Secretariat: Maitri Bobba / Sun Han

Administrative Support:

Jackie Beamon-Kiene

