

IUPAP C&CC Meeting October-November 2015

President's Report

The big news item since the our last meeting is that we now have all but about 2,000 EUR of our funds in the Singapore account, thanks to efforts of our former Secretary General, Stuart Palmer and the CEO of the Institute of Physics (UK), Paul Hardaker. The IUPAP UK account will be closed in early December, with any remaining funds being transferred to Singapore. That will permit us to wind up the UK Charitable Company IUPAP-UK before the end of 2015. Management of our affairs will be simpler and more economical next year.

I have found the process of reporting to the UK Charities House time consuming and occasionally frustrating. By winding up the UK company this year, we were able to simplify our report on the 2014 year, as we were not reporting as an on-going company. Our 2015 report will be even simpler, and can be audited internally by the Institute of Physics.

Our Singapore Company has yet to go through its first auditing and reporting cycle. As an optimist, I am looking forward to a simpler process.

I am in Singapore for the start of our electronic C&CC meeting. That gave me the opportunity to visit Bertil Andersson, the President of NTU and our host in Singapore. I was able to thank him personally for his support and to discuss ways in which IUPAP and NTU can work together to foster science in Singapore and in the region. You may recall that I commented at our last meeting on the importance of paying more attention to the "Applied" in our title. In recent years Singapore has increased its attention to "pure" research, but pragmatically because that is the stepping stone to innovative applied research and innovation. Perhaps being in Singapore will enable us to learn about how to give more attention to Applied Physics.

I have previously emphasised the importance of communication — physicists in general and our members in particular need to have a much better idea of what we are doing. Our newsletter and our website are important aspects of our communication, and we have those on our agenda. I do want to ask you what steps you have been taking to promote the activities of IUPAP to the physicists that your Commission caters for, for example by speaking about IUPAP at relevant conferences. And have you promoted IUPAP in your country, as did Kennedy and Aihua in APS news (<http://www.aps.org/publications/apsnews/201507/iupap.cfm>)? We should all keep communicating about IUPAP.

Much of what I have to say will be said as the meeting progresses. At that time I will tell you about those of our plans which are moving more slowly than we had hoped.

I hope that you are finding this first year of your time as a member of the IUPAP Executive Council or as a Commission Chair a fruitful one, and that we have not made it difficult for you to perform your work in this role. If we have, this is a good chance for you to tell us.

Many of you have commented favourably on the efficiency of our staff in Singapore. Maitri and Sun Han are doing a wonderful job in responding to our requests. I thank them on behalf of all of IUPAP.

In the New Year we will have our own offices, rather than working out of a corner of the office of the Institute for Advanced Studies at NTU. I believe that this will be the first time that IUPAP has had an office of its own, with "IUPAP" on the door. IUPAP is starting a new era!