



The International Association of Physics Students

6 Rue des Frères Lumière

65060 Mulhouse, France

email: ec@iaps.info

website: www.iaps.info

Prof. Michel Spiro
IUPAP Singapore
Institute of Advanced Studies
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Executive Centre #02-18
60 Nanyang View
Singapore 639673

Dear Prof. Michel Spiro,

As you requested, we have explored some ways in which IAPS and IUPAP could interact, so that the forging of a collaboration agreement can begin. We are naturally also interested in hearing your opinion on our suggestions, and we hope that this exchange will eventually lead to more formal collaboration.

Firstly, IAPS would like to collaborate with the various national and international bodies to support student organisations in the member countries. One of IAPS's ultimate goals is to have a National Committee (NC) or a Local Committee (LC) in every country, creating a formal network of student representatives around the world, organising events and liaising with other committees through IAPS.

Such a network might be set up independently, ideally with the support of the relevant national physical societies, or could be a student branch of the latter. This is already the case in some countries, for example in Germany, in the relationship between jDPG, an IAPS NC, and DPG, an IUPAP member. This can also benefit the national physical societies by increasing the activity of young physicists in their own countries, who will later become members involved in research, teaching, outreach, and industry.

With this, IAPS can help interested IUPAP members to get their youth section started, by providing experience and conceptual help in forming a student committee. Similarly, IUPAP could help IAPS in setting up new LCs and NCs by asking its members to contact existing physics student associations in their respective countries, or help create new ones, and to encourage these student committees to partake in the international activities and opportunities IAPS can provide.

Another way IUPAP can support and collaborate with IAPS is through financial support. Currently, IAPS receives some direct financial support from the European Physical Society, and different IAPS events, such as the International Conference of Physics Students (ICPS) and our yearly physics competition, Physics League Across Numerous Countries for Kickass Students (PLANCKS), are partly funded through grants and other collaboration agreements. In fact, IAPS has already applied for C14 support for ICPS and PLANCKS this past summer, and we are waiting to hear back from IUPAP concerning these applications. Additionally, during the IUPAP 27th General Assembly in November 2011 in London IUPAP resolved "to support the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS)," but as far as we understand, this resolution is yet to be put into action.

A way in which IUPAP could enact the resolution is by supporting IAPS in its outreach efforts concerning upcoming physics students, such as through the IAPS School Day (ISD). The ISD involves physics students worldwide visiting schools and demonstrating several Physics experiments under the same topic. The ISD was implemented in 2015 during our celebrations of the International Year of Light. Nowadays, it is celebrated every year around November 10th, marking the World Science Day for Peace and Development, and is one of our most international activities, spanning three continents in one day. IAPS supports its members' committees with ISD grants based on applications. This year's topic is Particle Physics and due to next year being the International Year of the Periodic Table (IYPT), the ISD topic was decided to be Elements and Materials by the IAPS AGM 2018. Following the successes of IAPS's collaboration with the International Year of Light and the International Day of Light with the EPS and IUPAP, IAPS would be interested in collaborating with IUPAP on IYPT.

IAPS has a long tradition of inviting associations with whom we collaborate to our flagship events, such as ICPS, as well as inviting these associations to attend the IAPS Annual General Meeting (AGM), which, for example, EPS has done in the past. As our collaboration evolves, IAPS is interested in having IUPAP attend the AGM as well. Similarly, IAPS is interested in attending or sending a delegate to IUPAP's C & CC meetings for networking and collaboration purposes.

To summarise, here are the potential projects mentioned in this letter or elsewhere previously:

1. *IUPAP supporting the formation of national organisations of physics students in their home countries, with help from IAPS;*
2. *IUPAP encouraging these organisations to take part in the international activities organised by IAPS, as well as hosting PLANCKS preliminaries;*
3. *IUPAP setting aside a small budget to enable one or more student delegates to attend ICPS through paying conference fees and contributing towards their travel costs;*
4. *IUPAP and IAPS collaborating on outreach projects, such as the IAPS School Day;*
5. *IUPAP and IAPS collaborating on the International Year of the Periodic Table and the upcoming SI redefinition in May 2019; and*
6. *Formalisation of the IUPAP-IAPS collaboration, with IAPS becoming an Affiliated Commission.*

IAPS is looking forward to hearing back from IUPAP, and for our collaboration to grow.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of the International Association of Physics Students,



Veli-Jussi Haanpää

IAPS President

tel: +358 (0)40 532 8406

email: velijussi.haanpaa@iaps.info



Sofia Ferreira Teixeira

IAPS Vice President and PR Manager

tel: +351 (0)91 206 3244

email: sofia.ferreira.teixeira@iaps.info