

Progress report on IUPAP Centenary

MPA, Vilnius, 2/11/2018

Recap of initial ideas

- Already discussed at last meeting in Singapore
- Split work in various subgroups, each with a responsible contact, around the following initiatives:
 - 1. The Centennial Symposium**
 - 2. Written communication on the Centenary**
 - 3. Anniversary book reviewing the history of IUPAP**
 - 4. Satellite events elsewhere in the world**
 - 5. ...?**

Current composition of WG16

1. **Kennedy Read**, president
2. **Michel Spiro**, president elect
3. **MPA**, CERN, Vice-President elected at large with responsibility for the Centenary
4. **Beverly Berger**, Livermore, AC2 Secretary
5. **Igle Gledhill**, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, former chair WG5
6. **Pratibha Jolly**, Principal at Miranda House, University of Delhi, former C14 chair
7. **Robert Kirby Harris**, former Secretary-General
8. **Alinka Lépine-Szily**, University of Sao Paulo, former C12 chair and gender champion
9. **Patricia McBride**, Fermilab, former C11 chair
10. **Mourad Telmini**, Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, former C13 member
11. **Minh Quang Tran**, EPFL, Switzerland, C16 chair
12. **Sukekatsu Ushioda**, former IUPAP President

Very little reaction from some of the WG16 members to the e-mails

Problem 1. Most people are no longer connected to IUPAP (do not receive C&CC minutes...)

Problem 2. Difficult to contribute in isolation, even more so when things are not yet sufficiently well-defined

WG16 composition

Minimum Proposal:

- Enlarge WG16 to include a “responsible” from each commission as all commissions should take an active role in the planning.
 - Ideally the appointed person should still be in IUPAP in 2022-2023. These people should be interested, willing to contribute and take initiative! Activities strongly linked to IYBSD.
 - Commissions should reflect upon the way in which they can contribute to the Centenary and to the IYBSD
- Establish some common communication tools, at least an e-mailing list, maybe a twiki page

The Centennial Symposium (I)

Venue, timing and format

In Geneva (CERN?) in 2022? As one of the initiatives for the IYBSD

- On 31/08 first “brainstorming” meeting at CERN with some of the Lab experts in communication, outreach and organisations of events. They say it’s too soon to make specific plans (I will meet them again after Vilnius)
- A symbolic event at the Palais de Nations (CERN Director of International Relations will investigate). The Geneva's International Conference Center (CICG) can accommodate up to 2200 people! Both venues free for CERN, however every single service must be paid
- **End of Oct.-Nov. 2022** If new, spectacular CERN Science Gateway building were available by then (Renzo Piano Building Workshop!), it would be a fantastic opportunity to inaugurate it. Can this mark the beginning of the IYBSD (2022-2023)? Closing event???
- “Multidimensional event” including IUPAP symposium, but also other activities for younger public, and outreach public talks more in the spirit of the IYBSD.
- Model for IUPAP-specific symposium: 50th anniversary of EPS?
 - At University of Geneva; an afternoon with nice talks with musical interludes: L.Cifarelli (former president) on EPS history , S.Haroche (Nobel 2012), J-P. Buirguignon (EU), E.U.von Weiszäcker (Club of Rome, spectacular!)

The Centennial Symposium (II)

- Possible themes (linking with the IYBSD):
 - Physics as a building block of basic sciences
 - Physics as a motor for innovation, technology&economic development
 - Education (active learning of physics) for boys and girls, e.g. invite the commissions to prepare some small “portable” experiments
 - Physics and multicultural dialog (CERN being a great example)
 - Physics and global challenges
 - Promoting gender equality in science
- There is a nice story to tell, not only on the IUPAP Centenary and on IYBSD and on the centenary of the Nobel Prize award to Niels Bohr, but also, always in 1922, Stern & Gerlach, and Compton scattering
- Reminder: highlighting an organization is dull, what is interesting is to explain what an organization has achieved and to project it towards the future!

The Centennial Symposium (III)

- Join forces with the Wright Science Colloquia, held biennially at the University of Geneva, see <https://colloque.ch/en/introduction-2/>
 - Timing would match and they have funding and a well-run organization with public talks (one per evening over a week; 2018's theme is Gravity), an event for the younger public and sound and light show. I will see them on Sunday.
- Link with local community important, however one should emphasize IUPAP's global dimensions – importance of webcasting and connecting with communities elsewhere in the world and other satellite events
- Other ideas: in 2022 TED@CERN could also be integrated in the programme
- Hands on experiments organized by the commissions; already some experience with “La nuit de la science”, see <http://www.ville-ge.ch/lanuitdelascience/>

The Centennial Symposium (IV)

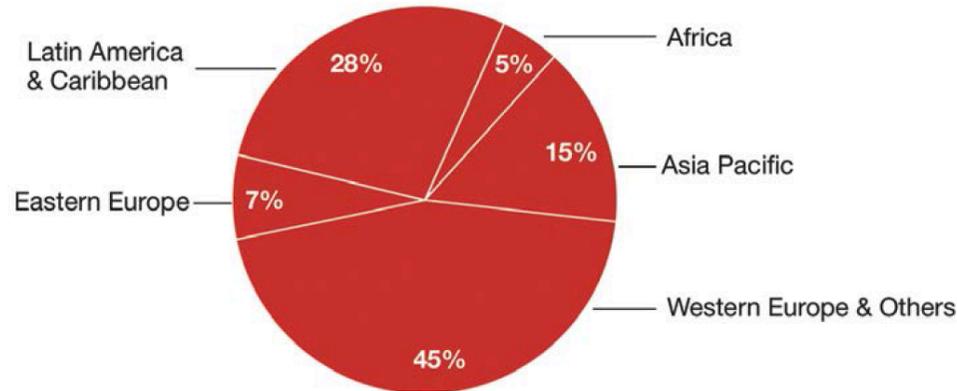
Other interesting connections to explore (contacts possible via CERN):

- Solvay foundation (third Solvay conference in 1921, Ernest Solvay died in 1922) – Solvay have funds
- <https://www.starmus.com/about-starmus/> , biennial festival bringing together leading scientists and iconic musicians and artists who share their passion for knowledge with the public
- World Economic Forum?
- Milner (Breakthrough prizes in life science, fundamental physics and mathematics)?

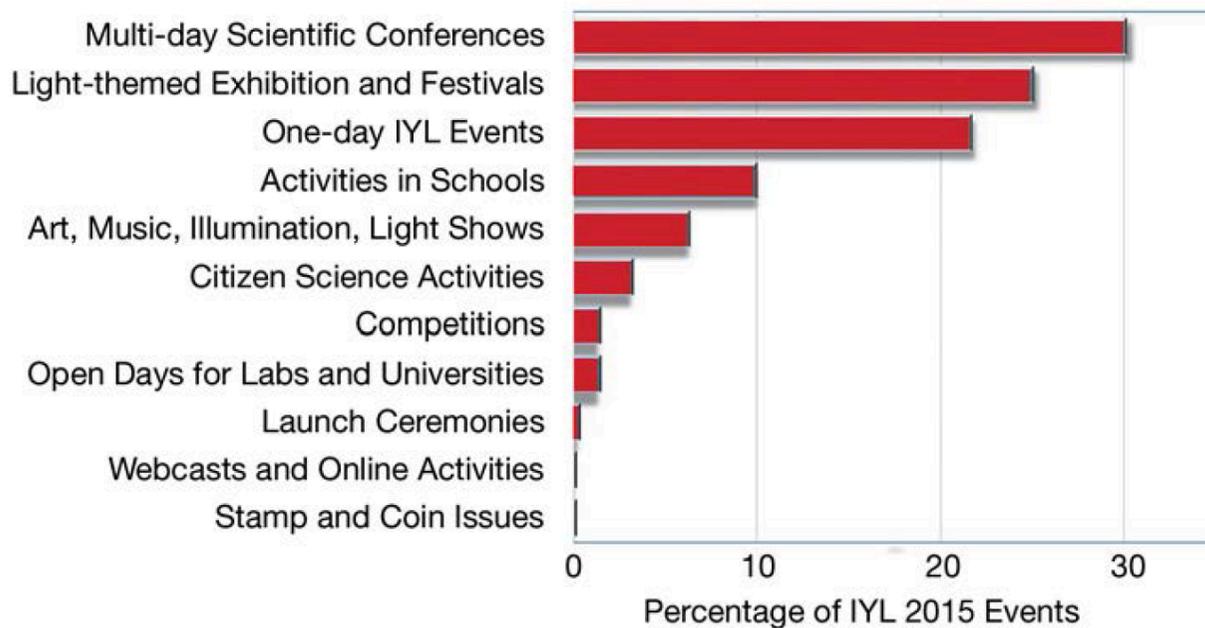
IYBSD

- Meeting on 22 Oct. with J.Dudley (International Year of Light 2015), C. Warakaulle (CERN Director International Relations), M. Spiro, MPA
- Political actions needed now to meet deadlines (formal approval by the General Conference of UNESCO in Nov. 2019, by the UN General Assembly in Dec 2020)
- “Strategy plan” will be proposed by CERN in a couple of weeks
- Search for sponsors can only start after proclamation of the UN resolution (no commitment from CERN on this front)
- Crowdfunding model (contributions from 500€ to 50,000€) - many e-mails sent with ~10% success rate
- 13,168 activities of various types reaching 147 countries !
- National coordinating committees in 94 countries with authorization to endorse local activities: **all citizens around the world were encouraged to participate!**
- 119 sponsors reaching a total of €550,000 (**55% from industry**) - Opening and Closing Ceremonies absorbed 35%) - ICTP acted as a bank and provided global secretariat

IYL 2015



Activities within the different UN Regional Groups



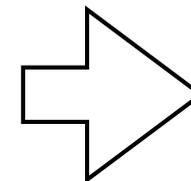
Distribution of activities

Media influence: 2.4 million website visits from 600,000 visitors from 190 countries, 23,000 distinct media mentions (newspapers, online, TV) from 120 different countries

Written communication on Centenary

How can we make the Centenary (and IUPAP!) more visible?

- Publicise IUPAP activities preparing dedicated leaflet (two pages) with mission statement and facts&figures to be distributed to participants of IUPAP-sponsored conferences with conference material (I think this should already be done now), material should not be static but should evolve, synergy with IYSB documents
- Produce logo, leaflets, banners, focus articles, editorials in newsletters and on IUPAP web-site, social media, revamp poster...
- Produce a glossy brochure, reviewing the history of IUPAP and looking forward to its future
- Reflecting upon IUPAP's future beyond the 100th anniversary is essential regardless of the celebrations:
 - Have we accomplished our mission?
 - What more can still be accomplished?
 - How should our mission evolve?



Closely linked to yesterday's discussion on future membership

Anniversary book

- Profit from the occasion to make order in the IUPAP archives and digitize them. Hire a professional historian?
- Invite stories through a website as done for 2014 IUPAP International Conf. on Women in Physics. Intersperse selected personal stories with more serious pieces of history by invited authors. (Some memories already provided by B.Richter, Y.Petroff, R.Kirby-Harris, J.Franz)
- **Warning:** “Physics in South Africa” -“ took YEARS, many more years than planned, and much frustration on the part of the editors. Also, the result was good, but in parts very boring indeed.” (Igle Gledhill)

Other points

- **Satellite events.** Too soon. Encourage local initiatives. Use IUPAP-sponsored conferences as vehicles to celebrate the Centenary and the IYBSD, e.g. having dedicated plenary talks (for free)
- **2023 General Assembly**, in Paris, 100 year after the first General Assembly (1923 – Paris)