

IUPAP Executive Committee Meeting. Vilna, November 2018

Report on Gender related aspects of IUPAP activities Silvina Ponce Dawson, VP and Gender Champion

1. The Gender Gap in Science Project

Work on the project “A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing, and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?” (<https://gender-gap-in-science.org/>) in which the IUPAP is a key participant continued at a steady pace. The Global Survey of Scientists became open for responses on May 1st, 2018 and it was scheduled to remain open until October 31st, 2018. The number of responses received, however, has been lower than expected, particularly in physics. We have sent out reminders, but we are planning to keep the survey open for a longer time. An agreement was made with the German Physical Society to do the analyses of the responses on a representative sample of members of the society. In June 2018 a meeting of the Executive Committee of the project took place in Paris. Reports on the various were presented and the future lines of action were discussed. Igle Gledhill (WG5 Past Chair), Gillian Butcher (WG5 Chair), Silvina Ponce Dawson (IUPAP VP and Gender Champion) and Michel Spiro (IUPAP President Elect) participated of the meeting. S. Ponce Dawson was invited to be part of “The Gender Gap in Mathematical and Natural Sciences from a Historical Perspective” panel that took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the 2018 International Congress of Mathematicians. A description of the presentations and discussions will be included as a contribution by J. Barrow, S. Ponce Dawson and M.-F. Roy in the proceedings of the congress.

2. The Waterloo Charter

We now have a draft of the “Waterloo Charter” for IUPAP Executive Committee members to read and comment on. As described before, the charter is a declaration of principles on inclusiveness in physics that contains a list of recommendations on possible actions to advance in this regard. If possible, we would like the Executive Committee to approve and uphold the Charter at its coming meeting in November, 2018.

3. Diversity session at IUPAP-sponsored conferences.

The 29th IUPAP General Assembly passed a resolution that addressed the “need to encourage IUPAP-sponsored conferences to have a session for all participants on Diversity and Inclusion in Physics. Rudzani Nemetudi and Silvina Ponce Dawson discussed possible ways in which this could be done and what the minimum requirements would be on this aspect for a conference to be eligible for sponsorship.

So far the suggestion is to include among the conditions that conferences should fulfill to be considered for sponsorship the following paragraph:

“IUPAP requires that an activity be organized during IUPAP-sponsored conferences that would stimulated the discussion among ALL conference participants on DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN PHYSICS. Examples of possible activities include: a plenary session or talk, a brief presentation followed by an exhibition that remains open a significant amount of time during the conference, a survey on the issue to be responded by conference participants, etc”

4. Updates to the IUPAP webpage.

It would be good to have a button on the IUPAP homepage entitled “Diversity and Inclusion” (or something along those lines) directing to a page on the subject. The page would start with the Waterloo Charter. It would then contain all IUPAP statements on the subject, links to the WG5 webpage with a brief description of its actions, the various conditions that applicants for IUPAP conference sponsorship or endorsement have to fulfill with respect to diversity and inclusion (with links to the page on conferences), links to statistical information about diversity of IUPAP activities, etc. This would put some order into the amount of recommendations that have been issued and resolutions that have been approved on the subject.

