

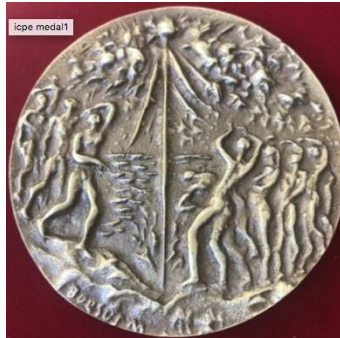
Citation for the Presentation of the 2021 ICPE Medal



to



Dr. Paula Heron



Professor Paula Heron is awarded the ICPE Medal for 2021 in recognition of her sustained efforts in physics education over the past decades, both nationally and internationally. Dr. Heron's dedication to advancing the understanding of physics education has been unparalleled throughout her illustrious career as a physicist educator at the University of Washington. Her rigorous research, published in esteemed journals, conferences, and books, embodies her strong commitment to improving the teaching and learning of physics.

Paula Heron's pioneering work has significantly enhanced our comprehension of students' challenges in learning fundamental physics concepts, spanning: mechanics, waves, electromagnetism, and thermodynamics. She has enriched our understanding by identifying and addressing conceptual difficulties and revolutionizing instructional practices, impacting physics education globally.

Furthermore, Dr. Heron's leadership extends beyond her research endeavors. She has assiduously contributed to the broader physics education community by actively serving on advisory boards and executive committees, including co-chairing the APS/AAPT joint task force that produced the PHYS21 report and as Associate Editor of *Physical Review - Physics Education Research*. Her mentorship of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars has fostered the next generation of physics education researchers, ensuring a lasting legacy of excellence.

Internationally renowned, Dr. Heron's influence transcends borders, as evidenced by her keynote addresses and presentations at prestigious conferences and institutions worldwide. Her collaborative efforts with organizations such as the American Physical

Society, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the International Research Group on Physics Teaching have solidified her position as a leader in the advancement of physics education.

In light of her outstanding achievements, including the 2022 Homer L. Dodge Citation for Distinguished Service from AAPT and the 2008 APS Education Award, Professor Paula R. L. Heron exemplifies the ideals of excellence, dedication, and leadership in the realm of Physics Education. Her contributions have left an indelible mark on the field, inspiring generations of educators and researchers.

With admiration and respect, we bestow upon Professor Paula R. L. Heron the ICPE Medal in recognition of her profound impact and unwavering commitment to advancing the frontiers of physics education.

The award ceremony will take place at the 4th World Conference on Physics Education, 2024, Krakow, Poland.

Tetyana Antimirova

ICPE Chair