A brief guide on IUPAP

IUPAP is governed by its General Assembly which meets every three years. Aims, Statutes and Bylaws can be found under the about us tab on its website.

The Council is its top executive body, supervising the activities of the Commissions, Affiliated Commissions and the Working Groups.

IUPAP is composed of members representing identified physics communities. At present there are 60 members.

Conferences and meetings of the Commissions are mainly supported from funds derived from the members of IUPAP. These funds are also used to meet the administrative expenses of IUPAP. The Associate Secretary General oversees the sponsorship of conferences that includes: seeking proposals; collating a list of request for sponsorship; ensuring that rules are observed; soliciting views from the commissions; submitting proposals to Council and Chairs of which conferences to support; and notifying the organisers of the result and ensuring that the organisers submit report forms after an event.

Commission and Working Group funds

Commissions and Working Groups are allocated a budget to be used for their meetings or other activities. Typically each commission is allocated €6,000 for a three-year cycle from general assembly to general assembly (working groups have a different allocation which differs from one working group to another). The funds are spent at the discretion of the chair/executive of the commission or working group. Some use it to pay for costs related to organising the commission meetings while others use it to support members from developing countries to attend meetings, yet others may use part of their budget to fund a commission specific award. In addition to commission awards, most commissions also award a Young Scientist Prize.

Commissions provide an annual update to the Executive Council. The IUPAP Newsletter can be found on its website. The General report, and reports from commissions, Affiliated Commissions and Working Groups are also available on its website. The SUNAMCO Document is IUPAP’s authoritative guide to correct usage of symbols, units, and nomenclature.

IUPAP collaborates with other Unions to carry out interdisciplinary work. Visit the website for more information on Inter-Union representatives.