International activities

IOP holds ESOF sessions
The Institute of Physics ran three sessions at ESOF 2014, the sixth pan-European conference dedicated to scientific innovation and research, held in Copenhagen on 21–26 June.

The first, on cancer research, diagnosis and treatment, was organised jointly with CERN and EC-JRC and attended by around 85 people. IOP's speaker at the session was Dimitra Darambara from ICR, who discussed cancer imaging techniques.

The second was on the challenges and impacts of geoengineering. The speakers were IOP chief executive Paul Hardaker, Alan Gadian from Leeds University, and Hauke Scmidt from the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology. It attracted around 50 attendees.

The third session was on a new era of quantum mechanics, and the 70 delegates heard from Barbara Kraus, Innsbruck who gave an overview of quantum information theory, Gregoire Ribordy from ID Quantique who gave a talk on quantum key distribution, and Stefanie Barz from Oxford who spoke about quantum computers.

Chinese science festival set to begin
The first China Science Festival is set to take place in Beijing from 18 July – 3 August.

IOP's presence will include David Richardson's 'Ever Wondered Why?' roadshow, which will be performed daily or twice-daily for a week of the festival.

Potter Foundation agrees grant for teacher training
The David and Elaine Potter foundation has agreed to provide a grant of £10,000 to support IOP's work training teachers in the Soweto area of Johannesburg, South Africa.
The University of Johannesburg’s Science Centre at the Soweto Campus held a teacher-development workshop from 30 June – 2 July, attended by 600 science and maths teachers.

**Entrepreneurship workshop heads to Ghana**

The latest workshop on entrepreneurship for scientists and engineers from developing countries is set to take place in Accra, Ghana on 14–18 July.

The workshop, which is oversubscribed, will focus on taking inventions from the lab to the market. Further information can be found on the website of the African Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

### IOP news

**Institute of Physics announces 2014 award winners**

The Institute of Physics today, Tuesday 1 July 2014, announces this year’s award winners with IOP’s International award, the Isaac Newton Medal, going to Professor Deborah Jin. [Read more]

**Minister launches IOP project to stamp out gender bias**

Women and equalities minister Jenny Willott said gender stereotypes had put girls off of STEM careers for too long as she launched an IOP project aimed at eradicating their influence. [Read more]

**Pioneering female presidents urge women to succeed in science**

Quotas for female participation in science and “token women” are a bad idea, but targets can be useful to measure progress in gender equality, IOP president Frances Saunders said at an event on 13 May to celebrate three major learned societies being led by female presidents. [Read more]

**IOP members are elected to fellowship of the Royal Society**

Seven IOP members were among those made fellows or foreign members of the Royal Society.
UK’s lead in physics healthy but insecure
The quantity and quality of scientific papers produced by UK physicists indicates that the UK remains in an elite band of knowledge-based economies. Read more

Generous donation boosts IOP’s work for girls in physics
A pilot programme designed to counter the factors that turn many schoolgirls away from physics is due to run over the next three years thanks to a generous £201,000 donation from the Drayson Foundation. Read more

Forthcoming events

**Photon14**
1–4 September 2014
Imperial College London, UK
Photon14 is the largest optics conference in the UK and the seventh in the series. Photon is an umbrella conference series embracing a number of important and interconnected constituent conferences with fascinating overlaps and a common social programme. Read more

**Topical Research Meeting on Hybrid Quantum Systems**
16–18 December 2014
National College for Teaching and Leadership, Nottingham
The meeting will cover all aspects of hybrid quantum systems involving atoms, light, and matter. It will link theory to experiment and range from fundamental physics to the development of new quantum device concepts and technologies. Read more

**Microscopy of Semiconducting Materials (MSM-XIX)**
29 March–2 April 2015
Murray Edwards College, Cambridge
The bi-annual conference series ‘Microscopy of Semiconducting Materials’ has a long tradition in focusing on the most recent advances in the study of the structural and electronic properties of semiconducting materials by the application of transmission and scanning electron microscopy. Read more

Further details and more conferences and local events are available on the calendar pages of iop.org.
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