

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

INTER-UNION COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS

Preamble

In May 2021, the Division of History of Science and Technology of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST/DHST) and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) decided to join forces to promote research in the history and philosophy of physics. The present memorandum sets out the terms on which they jointly set up the Inter-Union Commission on the History and Philosophy of Physics (IUCHPP) to achieve this aim.

IUCHPP shall become an Affiliated Commission of IUPAP while taking up the role and activity of the present Commission on the History of Physics within IUHPST/DHST. The terms of this double affiliation are defined below.

A. Aims

The Inter-Union Commission on the History and Philosophy of Physics (IUCHPP) promotes the study of the history and philosophy of physics and related sciences across cultures and chronological periods. It facilitates communication among researchers and supports early career scholars in these fields. It supports cross-disciplinary interactions, as well as supporting the teaching of the history and philosophy of physics. IUCHPP also acts as an advisory body to IUPAP on issues related to ethics.

B. Governance

The Board of IUCHPP shall consist of 6 officers, 3 appointed by IUPAP and 3 elected during the IUHPST/DHST quadrennial Congresses. After this election, the Board shall appoint from among its members at least the 3 following officers:

- a President
- a Secretary

- a Treasurer

The composition of the Board shall take into account gender balance and cultural diversity, which both IUHPST/DHST and IUPAP strive to promote.

The Board shall make its decisions by vote. In the event that the number of votes for and against should be equal the Board's President shall have the casting vote.

The appointment of the President shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly of IUHPST/DHST. The President shall have one vote at the IUHPST/DHST General Assembly, and one vote at the IUPAP General Assembly that is held every three years and shall also participate in the joint meetings of the IUPAP Executive Council and Commission chairs that are held at least once per year.

C. Activity

1. In accordance with its aims of contributing to research in, teaching, communication and promotion of the history and philosophy of physics, IUCHPP shall maintain a website.
2. IUCHPP shall organize at least one symposium at each of the quadrennial congresses of IUHPST/DHST.
3. As an affiliated commission of IUPAP, IUCHPP will be in charge of recommending the sponsorship of conferences on the themes of the commission that will seek the financial support of IUPAP each year.
4. In all its activities, IUCHPP shall strive to ensure gender balance and cultural diversity among the participants involved in these activities.

D. Reporting requirements

IUCHPP shall submit an annual written report to IUHPST/DHST, including details of the use of IUHPST/DHST funds.

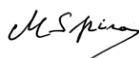
It shall also submit a written report at IUPAP Executive Council meetings and General Assemblies.

E. Finances

When submitting its annual report to IUHPST/DHST, IUCHPP may request an annual grant from IUHPST/DHST. This grant shall be spent in accordance with the guidelines issued by IUHPST/DHST Council. On the side of IUPAP, the budgetary allocation will be decided with the frequency of its General Assembly on a three-year basis.

21 July 2021

Michel Spiro, President of IUPAP



Michael A. Osborne, President of IUHPST/DHST

