

# Affiliated Commissions

EC&CC meeting, October 8-10, 2024



Photo by Richard Germain

Silvina Ponce Dawson

DF, FCEN-UBA & IFIBA, UBA-CONICET

President Designate, IUPAP





## From the Articles and Regulations:

According to IUPAP's Articles (<https://iupap.org/documents/statutes-bylaws/articles/>):

- An Affiliated Commission (AC) is an international group of scientists, constituted as an independent body, whose field does not coincide with that of an IUPAP Commission.
- AC chairs are Personal Members, Ex-Officio, of IUPAP. As such, they have voting rights and are exempted from paying membership dues.

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If its own administrative structure is well developed, it may become instead an Affiliated Commission. Such Commissions may have their own members and dues structures, statutes and assemblies. They endorse and assist in implementing IUPAP principles concerning, for example, the free circulation of scientists and participate in joint activities.



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IUPAP delegates members to the governing board or council, and approves the constitution or statutes. Affiliated Commissions report their activities to the IUPAP General Assemblies, and **their financial statements to the Executive Council.**



## From the Articles and Regulations:





**TITLE I GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Article 2. Agenda (Current, IUPAP's regulations)**

2.1. All Commissions, Affiliated Commissions, Working Groups and Liaisons Committees with other organizations shall make a written report to the General Assembly. The Executive Council shall provide opportunities for participants at the General Assembly to ask question on these reports and shall designate any that are to make an oral presentation.

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Right now there are 6 ACs:

**AC1: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR OPTICS (*Cat 1 member of ISC*)**

**AC2: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON GENERAL RELATIVITY AND GRAVITATION**

**AC3: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ACOUSTICS (*Cat 1 member of ISC*)**

**AC4: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON MEDICAL PHYSICS**

**AC5: AFFILIATED COMMISSION OF PHYSICS STUDENTS (*iaps, Cat 3 member of ISC*)**

**AC6: AFFILIATED COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS (*IUCHPP, created by an MOU between IUPAP and IUHPST/DHST; IUHPST is Cat 1 member of ISC*)**

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On October 5th only 3 reports from ACs were available on the Indico website for this meeting.



There is no rule in IUPAP's Internal Regulations (<https://iupap.org/documents/statutes-bylaws/regulations/>) about the involvement of IUPAP on the structure of ACs, while the IUPAP GA approves the composition of all IUPAP Commissions and that composition is selected based on the number of units with which each IUPAP member contributes to IUPAP. ACs act pretty much independently from IUPAP. Some ACs are Category 1 members of the International Science Council on equal footing as IUPAP. Some ACs don't mention IUPAP on their websites.



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Despite that, ACs have been treated as regular IUPAP Commissions for many purposes:

1. The same amount of funds is allocated on the budget for Commissions and ACs.
2. All Commissions and ACs can give one Early Career Scientist Award (sponsored by IUPAP) per year (most ACs do it).
3. The Chairs of ACs participate of EC&CC meetings on equal terms as the chairs of Commissions.
4. ACs analyze the submission for conference support in their fields of expertise as done by Commissions.
5. The flagship conferences of some ACs receive the same level of financial support as those of "regular" Commissions.
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**This is inconsistent.**



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To make decisions on these issues it's very important that everybody gets involved in the discussions that we expect will take place along 2025 to come with a proposal for the 2025 GA.