

May, 2020

In this issue:

<u>Message from the President</u>	1
<u>Report from the Secretary General</u>	2
<u>20th International Congress of IUPAB</u>	3
<u>IUPAB Awards</u>	4
<u>Biophysical Reviews – the IUPAB topical review journal</u>	6
<u>Announcements</u>	10

Message from the President

Marcelo Morales

Science at the service of humanity: The challenge with the novel coronavirus

At this moment, when the world is looking to science to provide solutions to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the speed with which the public authorities invest in research and innovation will be decisive for facing this crisis. The governments of different countries must cooperate strategically in a coordinated manner to provide the best way to deal with the virus. The State must promote and encourage scientific development, research, scientific and technological training, and innovation.

Only with sufficient resources and support for this new scientific challenge will we be able to provide an answer based on knowledge; the enemy is still unknown. Health, science and technology are interconnected, particularly during this health crisis that all countries in the world are going through with the emergence of novel coronavirus diseases (COVID-19).

It is urgent that world scientists are mobilized to cope with actions to support therapeutic research, vaccines and diagnostics, innovation for the development of equipment, and to

strengthen the training of researchers to advance basic research that allows better conditions for discovery and

strategies that can overcome or control the virus. In this context, basic scientific knowledge has a relevant role.

For this reason, the IUPAB is in solidarity with biophysicists and all scientists throughout the world so that together we can provide the answers that everyone expects from science and scientists to defeat

this previously unknown enemy and minimize human suffering.

“If you do not know the enemy you will lose all battles” (Sun Tzu. General Chinese. Author of the book The Art of War).

We need more cooperative science between countries and international educational initiatives to contribute to the training of the new generation of scientists. The world needs them and is counting on them for the challenges of humanity.

I am sure that together we will overcome this challenge through science.



President Marcelo Morales, Brazil

Report from the Secretary General

Juan Carmelo Gómez-Fernández

First in all I wish that you are well.

The Covid-19 pandemia has caused a lot of victims throughout the world and a tremendous economic crisis that will last for an undetermined time.

Humanity must mourn the victims and we, as scientists, should try to help to find a solution for this disease, as we have been doing for many other affections.

As it could be expected this crisis has influenced science and, for example, it has spoiled many of the scientific meetings that were programmed for the next months.

IUPAB Congress to be held in Foz do Iguazú (Brasil) is one of the scientific meetings that has been postponed due to the pandemia. As it is commented by the organizers, in this IUPAB News issue, it will be held on October 2021.

As a consequence of this postponement the call for IUPAB Bursaries has been cancelled and it will be necessary that interested people will apply again for 2021.

We may also announce that the two IUPAB Focused Meetings due for 2021, to be held in India and in Canada, have been postponed to 2022.

Despite the postponement of our Congress, the two new prizes promoted by IUPAB has been awarded and the winners are Prof. Anthony Watts (Avanti Polar Lipids- IUPAB Medal and Prize) and Dr Yoav Shechtman (IUPAB Young Investigator Medal and Prize) and their bibliographic sketches are published within this issue. These prizes will be presented to the winners during the 2021 IUPAB Congress.

Another consequence of the postponement of the Congress is that the General Assembly cannot be held until 2021. According to Article V of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure: "The work of the Union shall be directed by the General Assembly of delegates, which shall normally meet once every three years". I think that we are not in a normal situation. To prevent future similar problems the Executive Committee will propose a change of the Statutes and Rules of Procedures to permit virtual General Assemblies and online votes to elect IUPAB representatives. Another related postponement is the deadline for submitting bids to organize IUPAB 2026 Congress, it Will be May 1st, 2021.

With respect to 2021 funding, IUPAB will fund events to take place during the first semester and not during the second in which our Congress will take place. Applications should be received before June, 30th, 2020. Take notice of [IUPAB sponsorship policy](#).

Finally, I wish all of you to keep fit and continuing with your scientific work.

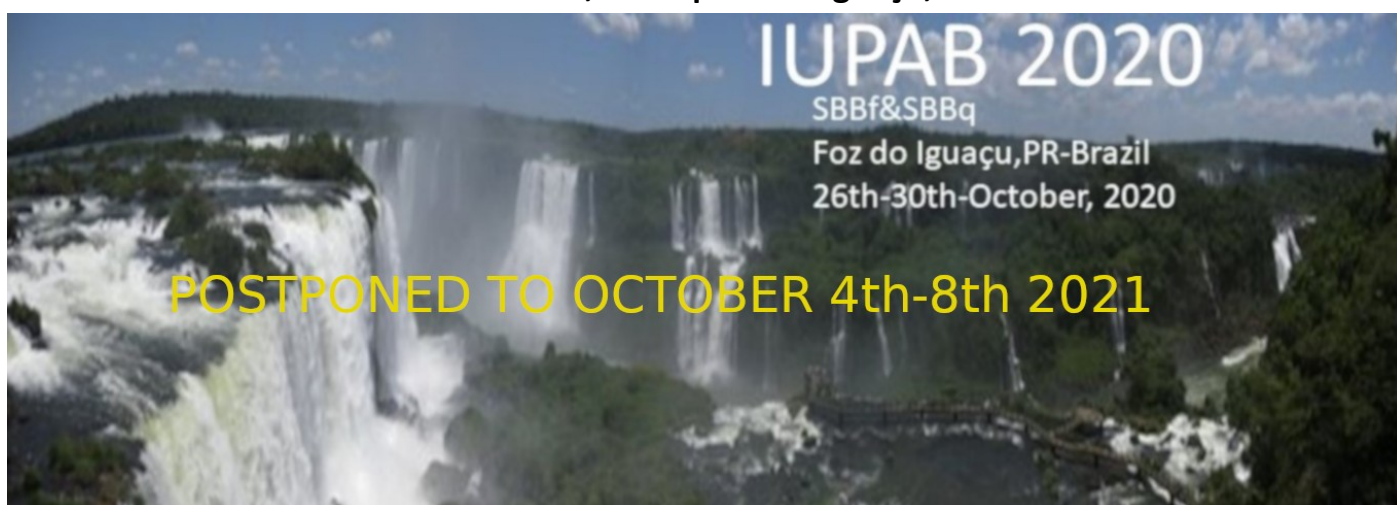
All the best from IUPAB.



Secretary General, Juan Carmelo Gómez-Fernández

20th International Congress of IUPAB a joint event with the 45th Annual Meeting of SBBf and 49th Annual Meeting of SBBq

October 4 - 8, 2021 | Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil



Communication from the Chairs

Rosangela Itri and Mauricio S. Baptista

The 20th International Congress of IUPAB and 45th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Biophysical Society and the 49th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was programmed to be held in Foz do iguaçu, October 26th-30th, 2020. However, due to the pandemia of covid-19 has been postponed to October 4th-8th, 2021. Here is the letter of the organizers explaining the situation.

We are all dealing with difficult times due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The situation has worsened significantly in Europe and USA, as well as elsewhere. Some of you may be in the rush to find new solutions to the pandemic and we wish all the success in

your efforts. Although our event is still many months away, we cannot fight against reality and try to urge people to register or to buy international tickets at this time. Although the program was almost complete and very exciting, we took the hard decision to postpone IUPAB 2020 for 1 year. We thank you for your patience and continued persistence, while we announce that IUPAB 2020 will be held in Foz do Iguaçu from **4th to 8th of October 2021**.

We understand that this might come as a big disappointment to our chairs, speakers, exhibitors and participants looking forward to some wonderful days in Foz do Iguaçu. However, we do hope to be able to confirm your

participation for the next year. We will be sending notifications to each registered participant soon with this information and more details concerning key dates, abstract and reservations.

Through these tough times, we do hope you can continue your teaching and research activities in different ways, to continue with the advances in Biophysics and Biochemistry, and all duties with your family.

We also wish all the luck for all those working in fields relevant to addressing the pandemic.

We look forward to welcoming you to Foz do Iguaçu in happier times in 2021!

Please, visit our [web site](#) for more information

IUPAB Awards

The winner of the Avanti Polar Lipids-IUPAB Medal and Prize, first edition of 2020-21:

Anthony Watts, University of Oxford, UK



Tony Watts graduated from Leeds University, UK with a BSc and PhD in biophysics. After 5 years working at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysics, Göttingen, Germany studying lipid-protein interactions using functional studies combined with EPR and nitroxide spin labels, he was appointed to a tenure track position at Oxford University in 1980. Here he progressed to a full Professorship in 1996 and also secured, in 1983, and held the C. W. Maplethorpe endowed Fellowship at St Hugh's College, Oxford, eventually becoming Vice-Principal.

In Oxford, Tony was a pioneer in the development of solid state NMR for biological systems, predominantly membranes. This work involved not only customization of NMR instrumentation for (lossy) biological systems, high fields (the first commercial wide bore 800MHz) as well as novel isotopic substitution chemistry to include NMR visible nuclei, especially deuterium and ^{13}C into, especially, lipids, drugs and ligands. Some of these nitroxide and NMR labelled compounds are available today from Avanti. Tony holds patents covering new synthetic routes, as well as for lipid use in the food and leather industries, as evidence of translational applications.

More recently, Tony's research has focussed on the development and characterization of polymer stabilized lipid nanoparticle technology to deliver drugs in a clinical context, and for (detergent-free) structural biology. Mass spec of lipids from an in vivo system (*C. elegans*) without compromising viability using polymer extraction, also shows promise for characterizing disease. The polymer technology has also enhanced crystallographic studies of novel photoreceptors, resulting in very high resolution receptor structures.

In all his research, functional characterization of a system has been a pre-requisite, despite the many challenges and difficulties in achieving this aim. Over 120 post-docs, almost 70 graduates and 10s of sabbatical workers, several from Brazil, have been trained and spent time in his lab. He was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Royal Society of Biology, Institute of Physics (London) and the Biophysical Society, being one of the first non-US

Fellows of the Society. Editorial work has included Biophysical Chemistry (9 years, managing editor), the European Biophysical Journal (15 years, managing editor), Biophysical Journal (6 years, associate editor) and he co-edits the Nature-Springer Encyclopaedia of Biophysics. He was chair (2000-2007; 2009-2017) of the British Biophysical Society (BBS) and President (2017-2019) of the European Biophysical Societies Association (EBSA), and is now an Honorary member of BBS and EBSA.



IUPAB Awards

The winner of the IUPAB Young Investigator Prize and Medal, first edition of 2020-21:

Yoav Shechtman, Technion, Haifa, Israel



Assistant Professor Yoav Shechtman leads the Nano-Bio-Optics lab at the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology. Yoav Finished all degrees at the Technion: BSc in Physics and Electrical Engineering (2007), Phd (2013), and then completed a postdoc at Stanford University (2016), developing super-resolution microscopy methods with W.E. Moerner.

His research interests lie mainly in developing and applying optical and signal processing methods for nanoscale imaging challenges. Specifically, Yoav focuses on aspects of single/multiple particle localization and tracking under challenging conditions, e.g. three-dimensional, multicolor, and high throughput imaging, using advanced signal processing and machine learning techniques. The techniques developed in the lab are applied to challenges ranging

from basic science, i.e. observing chromatin dynamics in 3D, to biomedical applications, i.e. developing ultra-sensitive assays for bacterial growth.

Among Yoav's recent awards and recognitions: 2016 Technion Career Advancement Chair, 2017 Zuckerman

Faculty Scholar, 2018 Early Career Award of the International Association for Medical and Biological Engineering (IAMBE), 2018 European Research Council starting grant, 2019 Uzi and Michal Halevy Award for Innovative Applied Engineering.

[Lab website](#)



Biophysical Reviews – the IUPAB topical review journal

by Damien Hall

Chief Editor of Biophysical Reviews .Nagoya Institute of Technology. Email: hall.damien@nitech.ac.jp

Biophysical Reviews is a Q1 ranked online journal that publishes topical review articles in all areas of biophysics. Existing as a hybrid non-profit / commercial partnership between IUPAB and the Springer-Nature Publishing Corporation, Biophysical Reviews is an effective vehicle for helping to realize many of IUPAB's core philanthropic aims associated with the world-wide promotion of biophysics education and research. This invited piece provides a short primer on the journal and a description of its recent activities. This article finishes by detailing how you, the reader, can reach out and engage with Biophysical Reviews, in order to publish your own short-format review article.

Biophysical Reviews was created by IUPAB in 2009 with the twin goals of raising revenue for IUPAB and facilitating the publication of biophysics related content. Since its inception, Biophysical Reviews has matured into its current position as a top quartile ranked journal in the biophysics category [Scimago 2020]. A detailed history of Biophysical Reviews was recently published in the 2019 IUPAB Newsletter [Hall, 2019a]. The current article has been commissioned by the IUPAB Secretary General (Dr. Juan Carmelo Gomez) with the goal of providing readers of the IUPAB Newsletter with an idea of the journal's core publishing activities and recent



innovations.

Core publishing activities

Like all journals, Biophysical Reviews actively seeks to publish high quality scientific content. To paraphrase Dr. Jean Garnier, the founding Chief Editor

of Biophysical Reviews [Garnier 2019],

‘The principal role of Biophysical Reviews is to publish topical review articles, in all areas of biophysics, written by experts in the field’.

To carry out this role, the journal provides five general publishing

formats.

- i) Short Review (~3,000 words, ~3 figures)
- ii) Long Review (~10,000 words, ~10 figures)
- iii) Letter (~600 words on a scientific topic with more emphasis on the author's opinion)
- iv) Commentary (~300 words on an event, happening or opinion)
- v) Editorial (no set format - typically written by a member of the Editorial Board)

In principle, Biophysical Reviews operates on an invitation-to-publish basis in which Members of the Editorial Board commission articles from expert authors and then coordinate the timing of the submission and handling of these manuscripts for publication within a nominated Issue. However, in practice, about a quarter of the articles published by the journal arise from unsolicited submissions. Whilst such submissions are not discouraged, to prevent unwanted delays in publication, interested authors are encouraged to make contact with the Biophysical Reviews' Chief Editor (or their local journal Editorial Board Member) for prior discussion about their prospective article. The hyperlinks to the journal's main website, the Editorial Board listing, the submission portal and the instructions for authors are shown directly below.

Journal Website:

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12551>

Biophysical Reviews Editorial Board:

<https://www.springer.com/journal/12551/editors>

Submission Portal:

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/brev/default.aspx>

Instructions for Authors:

<https://www.springer.com/life+sciences/biochemistry+26+biophysics/journal/12551>

How Biophysical Reviews assists IUPAB

As a philanthropic organization, IUPAB has a genuine interest in promoting biophysics education and research in all regions of the world. Although this sentiment is undoubtedly a noble one, in practice, inherent wealth inequalities between different countries can present barriers to funding centers of education and maintaining research facilities able to support state of the art scientific investigation. Even in countries with the capabilities to provide such support, ongoing running costs can sap the research and training budget. In what follows, I detail how Biophysical Reviews is able to help to level the playing field and support IUPAB's philanthropic goals.

- i) *Review format* - To quote Dr. Donald J. Winzor,

'Your job as a scientist is to perform scientific investigation, then write about it, then publish it'.

In many areas of biophysics (especially experimental science), the generation of primary research results can incur significant cost. In comparison, due to the lack of a requirement for expensive equipment and reagents, the writing of a review article can be much less expensive. Whilst never sacrificing the pursuit of scientific excellence, as a dedicated review format journal, Biophysical Reviews encourages

submissions from as broad an international base as possible. Aside from the review format, readers are encouraged to publish scientific activities of note (such as summaries of meetings or events) using the Commentary or Letter submission option.

- ii) *Equitable costing structure* - With regard to scientific publication, one additional ubiquitous running cost is the manuscript page charge. Typically ranging from 2000 to 4000 Euros, these charges can often discourage authors from publishing their work in top flight journals. Such financial limitations can induce a self-sustaining downward spiral. By limiting those possessing the knowledge and ability from disseminating their work in suitably prestigious academic venues, this situation can, in turn, limit a scientist's future career trajectory and access to research funds.

To combat this problem, Biophysical Reviews operates a two tier costing structure with regards to page charges. The first option is completely free and involves the article being placed behind a payment firewall for a period of 6 to 12 months before becoming freely available within PubMed Central. However, this firewall is not too much of a disadvantage. Due to Springer-Nature's good corporate citizenship, the payment firewall does not operate in many developing countries during the paywall interregnum. Likewise, for many readers accessing journal content from large academic centers, university licensing agreements (based on the institutional IP address) will provide seamless availability from the initial time of publication. The second payment option involves payment, by

the author, of an open access fee. For those with sufficient research funds this makes the author's published content available to anyone anywhere (even from a coffee shop or home internet connection). Such open access charges also help to provide a revenue stream to IUPAB.

iii) *Supporting IUPAB workshops* - Biophysical Reviews offers its assistance to those receiving IUPAB workshop grants, enabling them to create a Special Issue exploring the workshop theme. One recent example of this type of support can be seen from the Special Issue devoted to structural biology in Cape Town, South Africa [Sewell, 2019; Hall, 2019b]. A feature of this Special Issue was that it acted as a focal point for advancing the cause of construction of an African synchrotron [Connell et al. 2019].

Recent innovations

Since 2019, the journal has developed a number of initiatives that are likely to be of interest to readers of the IUPAB Newsletter. I describe each of these three in turn.

i) *Social Media* - Two weeks after the Issue release, the journal provides a follow up program aimed at promoting each of the articles in the realm of social media. Whilst for some, social media may represent one step in the race towards an ever shorter attention span, the journal realizes that a very large fraction of the next generation of scientists, have grown up with this technology. To reach this target audience, Biophysical Reviews uses both TwitterTM and YouTubeTM channels. To steer clear of some of the negative aspects of social media, each channel is

comment-disabled and broadcast only. The two social media channels are shown below.

Biophysical Reviews' YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzG_5MWmnR2UBibtXs2DuA

Biophysical Reviews' Twitter Account:

@BiophysicalRev1

To make these social media platforms more effective in advertising and promoting the activities of the journal, readers of the IUPAB Newsletter are encouraged to visit and become followers/subscribers.

ii) *National Partnership Program* - In 2020, Biophysical Reviews initiated an annual program aimed at promoting the activities of a single country's national biophysical society. The first to engage with the journal in this scheme was the Biophysical Society of Japan (BSJ). This Special Issue was published in April and released as Volume 12 Issue 2 [Komatsuzaki et al. 2020; Harada 2020]. The sixty-nine articles in this Special Issue provide an in-depth description of the history of the BSJ and the activities of its members. Supporting the research review articles are a number of Commentaries describing such things as the financial position of the BSJ [Akiyama, 2020a], the BSJ internet outreach program [Miyata, 2020], the two journals run by the BSJ [Ishiwata 2020; Sako, 2020] and centers of biophysical research in Japan [Aizawa et al. 2020; Akiyama et al. 2020b; Akiyama et al. 2020c; Ando, 2020; Takano et al. 2020]. After looking through the layout of the Special Issue on the BSJ, any officers of a national biophysical society interested in similarly engaging with the Biophysical

Reviews journal to produce a Special Issue on their own society should make contact with the Biophysical Reviews' Chief Editor at the email address shown in the title of this contribution.

iii) *Michèle Auger Award* - In late 2018, Biophysical Reviews' Editorial Board Member, Prof. Michèle Auger, sadly lost her battle with cancer (IUPAB, 2019). As a mark of the journal's fondness for Michèle, we created a perpetual award in honor of her life and service. The 'Michèle Auger Award for Young Scientists' Independent Research' is granted each year to a single candidate performing biophysical research, who is under 40 years of age at the time of application. The award consists of a plaque, a free personal subscription to the journal and an invitation to submit a single author review article to be published in Biophysical Reviews. The published Review will carry a short foreword about the life of Prof. Michèle Auger, along with her work associated with teaching and training the next generation of biophysical scientists. Nominations for the 2021 award can be made in the form of a candidate's one page *curriculum vitae*, along with five original manuscripts, to be submitted by email to either the Chief Editor or any one of the Biophysical Review's Executive Editors, prior to October 31st [Editorial Board, 2020]. Judging will be carried out by a special committee assembled from the Biophysical Reviews Editorial Board, with this assembly taking place after the submission deadline. The winner will be announced in late December, with the winner's single author Review to be published in the following year of 2021.

The winner of the inaugural 2020

Michèle Auger Award was Dr. Alexandra Zidovska. More about her research can be found at her laboratory home page:

<https://as.nyu.edu/content/nyu-as/as/faculty/alexandra-zidovska.html>

As the 2020 winner, Dr. Zidovska's review article will appear as the lead article of Volume 12 Issue 5 (to be published mid-October 2020).

Concluding remarks

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year has so far presented a number of significant challenges for the journal. Like everyone else, the professional staff and academic editorial board members have had to adjust to the requirements of social distancing and lock down operating in their respective countries. On top of this the Springer-Nature staff handling the journals' production have had to overcome significant technical challenges allowing them to work both securely and safely. With the IUPAB conference in October postponed for one year, the journal has had to alter its publication schedule, canceling the IUPAB Congress Special Issue planned for Issue 6. As a result, the journal has an open Issue available. For those interested in submitting a review article, please make contact with the Chief Editor to discuss the appropriateness and timing of your submission.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the IUPAB Secretary General Dr. Juan Carmelo Gomez-Fernandez for the invitation to write this short piece updating readers of the IUPAB News Letter on the progress of the Biophysical Reviews journal. I would like to thank the

Nagoya Institute of Technology for an appointment to their 'Visiting International Scientist' program carried out within the Department of Life Science and Applied Chemistry. All opinions expressed in this paper are the author's and do not necessarily reflect the policies and views of the Nagoya Institute of Technology.

References

- Aizawa T., Demura M., Gohara K., Haga H., Ishimori K., Kinjo M., Komatsuzaki T., Maenaka T., and Yao M. (2020) Biophysical Research in Hokkaido University, Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00649-w
- Akiyama R., Annaka M., Kohda D., Kubota H., Maeda Y., Matsumori N., Mizuno D. and Yoshida N. (2020) Biophysics at Kyushu University. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2). doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00643-2
- Akiyama S. (2020) Treasurer's Comments on the Financial Position of the Biophysical Society of Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00633-4
- Akiyama S., Aoki K. and Kubo Y. (2020) Biophysical Research in Okazaki, Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00633-4
- Ando T. (2020) Biophysics in Kanazawa University. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00635-2
- Connell S.H., Mtingwa S.K., Dobbins T., Khumbah N., Masara B., Mitchell E.P., Norris L., Ngabonziza P., Ntsoane T. and Winick H. (2019) Towards and African Light Source. **Biophysical Reviews**. 11, 499–507.
- Editorial Board (2020) **Biophysical Reviews** <https://www.springer.com/journal/12551/editors>
- Garnier J. (2009) Editorial. **Biophysical Reviews**. 1 (1) pp. 1-2.
- Hall D. (2017) Innovations in publication: free sharing of all Biophysical Reviews' content. **Biophysical Reviews**. 8 (2) 67-68.
- Hall D. (2019a) New Chief Editor for Biophysical Reviews. **IUPAB News Letter**. 72, 5-11.
- Hall D. (2019b) Biophysical Reviews: promoting the African synchrotron facility, partnering with national biophysical societies, highlighting advances in structural biology. **Biophysical Reviews**. 11, 495–497.
- Harada Y. (2020) Greetings from the President of the Biophysical Society of Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00677-6
- Ishiwata S. (2020) On the on-line journal "Biophysics and Physicobiology (BPPB)" **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00652-1.
- IUPAB (2019) Newsletter, issue 70 (February). <http://iupab.org/2018/11/06/obituary-michele-auger-former-iupab-councilor/>
- Komatsuzaki T., Nakamura H., Tame J., Yanaka S., Nagai T. and Nagayama K. (2020) Editorial for the Special Issue of Biophysical Reviews focused on the Biophysical Society of Japan with select scientific content from the 57th BSJ annual meeting, Miyazaki, Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00691-8
- Kataoka M. (2020) Biophysical Society of Japan, 45years ago. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00650-3
- Miyata M. (2020) Current status of the website of the Biophysical Society of Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00630-7
- Sako Y. (2020) SEIBUTSU BUTSURI, the official Japanese journal of the Biophysical Society of Japan. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00627-2
- Scimago (2019) Elsevier Journal Ranking Site <https://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?category=1304>
- Sewell B.T. (2019) The workshop on "Biophysics and Structural Biology at Synchrotrons" presented at the University of Cape Town from 16–24 January 2019. **Biophysical Reviews**. 11, 491-493.
- Takano M., Yura K., Uyeda T. and Yasuda K. (2020) Biophysics at Waseda University. **Biophysical Reviews**. 12 (2) doi:10.1007/s12551-020-00638-z.

UNESCO Global Consultations on Open Science

UNESCO has launched a global consultation on [Open Science](#) with a view to developing a standard-setting instrument in the form of a Recommendation, to be adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in November 2021.



CODATA has been invited to contribute to this process, to provide inputs from the organisation and to mobilise our global expert community.

H3: Global Consultations on Open Science

To build a global consensus on Open Science, the development of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science relies on an inclusive, transparent and consultative process involving all countries and all stakeholders.

The Recommendation is expected to define shared values and principles for Open Science, and point to concrete measures on Open Access and Open Data with proposals for action to bring citizens closer to science, and commitments for a better distribution and production of science in the world.

The process of drafting the Recommendation is regionally balanced, highly inclusive and collaborative. It involves multiple stakeholders and is expected to lead to the adoption of the Recommendation by UNESCO Member States in 2021.

In developing the Open Science Recommendation, UNESCO is gathering inputs from all the regions and all the interested stakeholders, through online consultations, regional and thematic meetings and numerous debates on implications, benefits and challenges of Open Science across the globe.

H3 Online Consultation

Are you a scientist, a publisher, a science policy maker or someone with experience and interest in Open Science? Your input is important to the UNESCO process.

Please participate in the survey designed to collect inputs for the development of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science. The survey may be completed (in English, French or Spanish) either online or downloading documents to be returned to the UNESCO team at openscience@unesco.org

For all links and further information please see the page on the [UNESCO website](#)

The deadline for submitting inputs is 15 June 2020.

H3 Thematic and regional meetings

UNESCO will hold a series of online and face to face consultations to support an open debate on Open Science awareness, understanding and policy development to feed into the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science. In this context, a series of regional and thematic consultations are being organized. For more information see the page on the UNESCO website or contact the UNESCO team at openscience@unesco.org

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science will complement the 2017 Recommendation on Science and Scientific Research. It will also build upon the UNESCO Strategy on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research and the new UNESCO Recommendation on Open Educational Resources.

For further information and useful links please see the page on the [UNESCO website](#).

NRF South Africa to host the AOSP Project Office



The [National Research Foundation](#) (NRF) of South Africa will host the [African Open Science Platform](#) (AOSP) Project Office for the next 3 to 5 years. Supported by South Africa's [Department of Science and Innovation](#) (DSI), key institutions in Africa, and the [International Science Council](#) (ISC), the AOSP (*Science for the Future, the Future of Science*) makes the case for bold action to mobilise the scientific community in Africa in responding to the challenges of the digital revolution. The new paradigm of *Open Science* is a powerful driver for scientific research and scholarship and its application to social, economic and global environmental priorities.

The AOSP Advisory Council, following a competitive process, awarded the NRF this significant opportunity to further establish and formalise a Continental platform. With a strong emphasis on African unity as a nuanced and dedicated focus, the NRF and the DSI recognise the significant potential of the AOSP as a means to create an inclusive and integrated culture of collaboration on the Continent in the service of democratising information and knowledge across social boundaries for the achievement of common goals and objectives.

The AOSP was initiated through a pilot phase supported by the DSI, and managed by the NRF and the [Academy of Science of South Africa](#) (ASSAf) during 2017-2019, with partners including the International Science Council (ISC), and its [Committee on Data](#) (CODATA). Outputs included the collective development of a draft roadmap for Open Science on the Continent, and four open science frameworks that informed the first consultative stakeholder meeting, held during 2-3 September 2019 in Alexandria, Egypt, to design the implementation phase of the AOSP. Coordinated by the Chairperson of the AOSP Advisory Council, Dr Khotso Mokhele, the [Strategic Plan](#) for the AOSP was launched during South Africa's Science Forum in December 2018. The AOSP aims to build a critical mass of high-calibre open science research on the Continent, and will ensure that its projects are aligned with existing programmes and opportunities within regional and national research systems.

In collaboration with numerous key institutional and national initiatives, including Governments, Science Granting Councils, research infrastructure platforms, universities, and public and private research institutions, workstreams of the formalised platform will include the development of a legislatively compliant governance framework; the co-creation of a sustainable long-term funding model; and formalisation of the AOSP Operating Model.

The CEO of the NRF, Dr Molapo Qhobela, stated that: *"The NRF is delighted to contribute to and support this strategic endeavour with a number of national and international partners. To excel in the new data dispensation, commitment and investment are required for Open Data policies, enabling Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure, and commitment to the necessary human capacity development"*.

The AOSP Project Office, based at the NRF in Pretoria, South Africa, with selected staff appointments, will be launched during 2020. The interim contact person is Dr Sepo Hachigonta, Director Strategic Partnerships (sepo.hachigonta@nrf.ac.za).

[The Future of Science and Science of the Future: Vision and Strategy for the African Open Science Platform](#)



12th Annual European DDI User Conference (EDDI20), DDI – The Basis of Managing the Data Life Cycle

December 1 - 2, 2020 | Paris, France



EDDI20 : 12th Annual European DDI User Conference

1-2 Dec 2020 Paris - Aubervilliers (France)

- **Submission Deadline:** July 12, 2020, 23:59 CEST
- **Hosts:** Sciences Po, Center for Socio-Political Data (CDSP), CNRS, Paris
- **Conference** [web page](#)

We are currently working on the assumption that the Conference will proceed as planned. However, with the current uncertainty, it is possible that we may not be able to proceed with the physical conference, under those circumstances we will explore whether a virtual conference is possible or may defer to a later date.

Updates will be posted on the [EDDI conferences website](#) through the DDI Users list (sign up [here](#) and on Twitter @DDIAlliance).

EDDI20 is organized jointly by the [Center for Socio-Political Data \(CDSP\)](#), GESIS – [Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences](#) and [IDSC of IZA](#) – International Data Service Center of the Institute for the Study of Labor.

[The Data Documentation Initiative](#) (DDI) is an international standard for describing the data produced by surveys and other observational methods in the social, behavioural, economic, and health sciences.

The meeting will bring together DDI users and professionals from all over Europe and the world. Anyone interested in developing, applying, or using DDI is invited to attend and present.

Call for Papers

We are seeking presentations, talks, papers, posters on all things DDI:

- Case Studies
- Mature implementations
- Early Implementations
- Interplay of DDI with other standards or technologies
- Projects in early phases in which DDI is under consideration
- Critiques of DDI

The topics of the conference include, but are not limited to:

- User Needs, Efficient Infrastructures and Improved Quality

- Official Statistics
- Reusing and Sharing Metadata
- Data Harmonization
- Incentives to Document Data
- Open Data and Linked Open Data
- Privacy and Access Control
- Metadata versus Data and Related Ethics
- Software / Tools

Submission

Proposals are welcome for the following presentation forms.

- Full Paper
- Regular Presentation
- Short Presentation
- Complete Session
- Poster/Software Demonstration
- Tutorial or Workshop
- Side Meeting

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please have a look at the [Call for Papers](#) and use the [on-line submission system](#) of the conference (opens on April 28, 2020).

- The deadline for submissions is July 12, 2019, 23:59 CEST.
- Please consider indicating your availability as a reviewer as well.

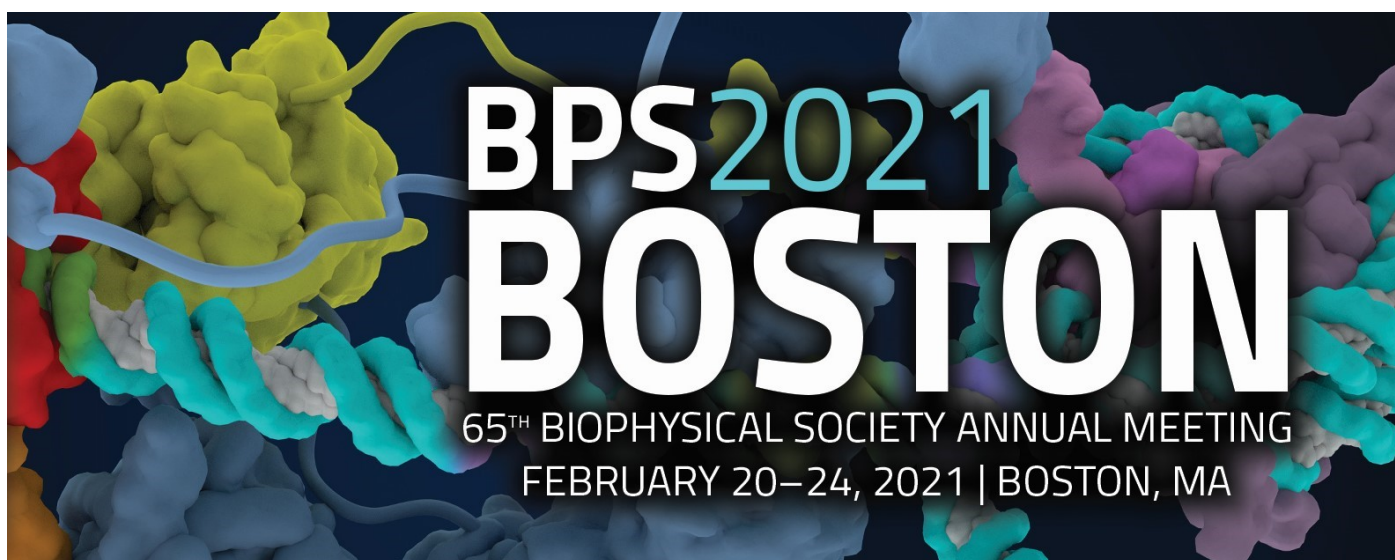
General Information

- For more information about the conference, see the [conference web site](#).
- [The Program Committee strategically develops, creates and organizes the program](#).
- [The Organization Committee coordinates the onsite work](#).
- For questions or any other correspondence regarding the Call for Papers of EDDI20, please send an email to eddi20-prog@googlegroups.com.
- Last year's program is available at the [EDDI19 website](#).
- For more information about the EDDI conference series and details on the previous EDDI conferences, look at [here](#).

65th Biophysical Society Annual Meeting

BPS 2021

February 20 - 24, 2021 | Boston, MA, USA



The 65th Annual meeting will be held February 20-24, 2021.

With over 7,000 attendees, the meeting is the largest gathering of biophysicists around the world.

Over 4,000 Abstract are submitted each year, which are programmed into posters and platform sessions.

The meeting includes symposia, workshops, platform sessions, subgroup programs, and the BPS lecture, as well as educational exhibits, exhibitor presentations, career-related programs, and committee events.

[Visit Website](#)

IUPAB News Number 74, May, 2020

Executive Committee of IUPAB

President: Dr. Marcelo MORALES, Brasil, mmorales@biof.ufrj.br

Past President: Prof. Dr. Zihé RAO, China, raozh@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn

President Elect: Prof. Dr. Manuel PRIETO, Portugal, manuel.prieto@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

Secretary General, Prof. Dr. Juan C. GÓMEZ-FERNÁNDEZ, Spain, jcgomez@um.es

Treasurer: Prof. Dr. John BAENZIGER, Canada, John.Baenziger@uottawa.ca

Council of IUPAB

Silvia del Valle ALONSO, Argentina, silviadelvalle@gmail.com

David CROSSMAN, New Zealand, d.crossman@auckland.ac.nz

Erick J. DUFOURC, France, e.dufourc@iecb.u-bordeaux.fr

Hans-Joachim GALLA, Germany, gallah@uni-muenster.de

HiroYuki NOJI, Japan, hnoji@appchem.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp

R. Daniel PELUFFO, Uruguay, malueli164@gmail.com

Peter POHL, Austria, Peter.Pohl@jku.at

Ksenija RADOTIC, Serbia, xenia@imsi.rs

Ch. Mohan RAO, India, mohan@ccmb.res.in

Bryan Trevor SEWELL, South Africa, trevor.sewell@uct.ac.za

Frances SEPÁROVIC, Australia, fs@unimelb.edu.au

Giuseppe ZUCCHELLI, Italy, giuseppe.zucchelli@unimi.it

The Executive Committee and the Council are depicted at the end of the General Assembly in Edinburgh, 18th July, 2017



IUPAB News Number 74, May, 2020

Activities of the INTERNATIONAL UNION for PURE and APPLIED BIOPHYSICS

From the Secretary-General:
Professor Dr. Juan C. Gomez-
Fernandez

Courier address:

Departamento de Bioquímica
y Biología Molecular A,
Facultad de Veterinaria,
Universidad de Murcia,
Edificio 17, 30100.Murcia,
Spain.

Telephone: +34-868884766.

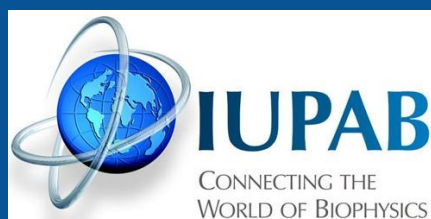
Email: jcgomez@um.es

IUPAB is registered in France
according Loi du 1er Juillet

1901-Art. 5, n°

ordre 03/000309, n° dossier
00158190

The International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB) was formed in Stockholm in 1961 as the International Organisation for Pure and Applied Biophysics. It was established as the International Union in 1966, when it became a member of the ICSU (International Council for Science) family. Affiliated to it are the national adhering bodies of 61 countries. Its function is to support research and teaching in biophysics. Its principal regular activity is the triennial International Congresses and General Assemblies.



Important Announ- cement Sponsorship Policy of IUPAB

As from now on there will be a change in the sponsorship policy with respect to that posted in:

<http://iupab.org/about/sponsorship/>

So that point 8, will read:

Applications for financial support
of Conferences, Schools and other

should be returned to the Secretary General at least before June 30th of the year prior to the event if it is scheduled for the first semester of the following year or before the 31st of December if it will take place during the second semester.

If organizers of meetings are seeking only the approval of IUPAB, including the use of the IUPAB logo, but not requesting financial support, applications may be submitted to the Secretary General at any time and will be considered by the Executive Committee by correspondence.

Note from the Editor:

IUPAB News will be happy to reproduce articles previously published by bulletins or other publications of any of our Adhering Bodies. We will be also happy to consider articles written by biophysicists on scientific or other subjects of broad interest for the biophysical community. You may contact the Secretary General with respect to this matter.

IUPAB is not responsible for the opinions expressed in the articles here included, nor necessarily share these opinions.

The Editor of IUPAB News is the IUPAB Secretary General Juan Carmelo Gómez-Fernández. This publication is produced and published at the University of Murcia, Departamento de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular A, Campus de Espinardo, Murcia, Spain.

Assistant Editor: Alessio Ausili

It can be found online at: <http://iupab.org/category/newsletters/>

ISSN: 2616-5589