

IUPAB News #83

International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics



January 2023

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Important: Sign-Up

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60th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society of Japan

The 60th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society of Japan (BSJ) was held from the 28th-30th of September 2022 in the beautiful city of Hakodate on the island of Hokkaido. The BSJ is one of the oldest biophysics societies in the world. 1,776 people attended this memorable 60th congress, the first face-to-face annual meeting to be held since the advent of the COVID pandemic. All presentations were delivered in English. The success of the meeting augurs well for the IUPAB Congress, to be hosted by the BSJ in Kyoto in 2024.



IUPAB sponsored a prize for the young invited speaker who delivered the best presentation. This went to Dr. Hotake Kobayashi of the University of Tokyo. In addition IUPAB sponsored student prizes, which were won by Haruka Motomura, Jumpei Yamagishi and Sakura Takada for their oral and poster presentations. The certificates were awarded by the BSJ president, Professor Hiroyuki, at a mixer on the 29th of September.

50th Meeting of the Argentinian Society of Biophysics

The 50th annual meeting of The Argentinian Society of Biophysics (SAB for the initials in Spanish) was held successfully in the city of Rosario, on the bank of the Paraná river. After two years of virtual meetings due to the pandemic, the 50th anniversary of the Society had a record of 242 participants, 10 plenary lectures, 5 symposia, and 161 poster presentations (including the oral communications that were presented in both formats). Many Latin American PhD students and postdocs attended.

Notable talks were given by international speakers, including Dr. Emanuele Buratti (ICGEB, Trieste, Italy), Dr. Juan Hermoso (Institute of Physical Chemistry "Rocasolano", CSIC, Madrid, Spain), Dr. Shahriar Mobashery (University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA), Dr. Ariel Kaplan (Faculty of Biology, Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, Israel), Dr. Valeria Levi (Dpt. de Química Biológica-FCEN-UBA/IQUIBICEN-CONICET), Dr. Natalia Wilke (Centro de Investigaciones en Química Biológica de Córdoba CIQUIBIC-CONICET; Universidad Nacional de Córdoba), Dr. Gonzalo Prat Gay (Fundación Instituto Leloir and IIBBA-CONICET), Dr. Luciano Abriata



(École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne EPFL, and Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Lausanne, Switzerland), and the IUPAB sponsored lecture by Dr. Eva Nogales (University of California, Berkeley, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA). Dr. Nogales also participated in an extremely successful CEBEM Speaker Corner with students and young researchers. The symposia were organized to feature state-of-the-art research by well-renowned Argentinean and international investigators, and oral presentations delivered by young researchers, postdocs, and PhD students that were selected from the presented poster abstracts. This resulted in an exciting series of talks that prompted ample debates with the participation of both senior and more junior researchers. The biomembranes symposium was held in memory of Dr. Luis Bagatolli, who left us prematurely earlier in the year. Dr. Gerardo Fidelio, his thesis advisor, shared a few words recalling Luis's academic career and his commitment and dedication to biophysics in Argentina and throughout South America.

Scientific discussions were also highly prolific during the poster sessions: it was extremely pleasing to see young Argentinean and Latin American researchers showing their research to senior scientists, who dedicated ample time to analyzing posters and suggesting new experiments to tackle obstacles or address the unanswered hypothesis. The discussions were so rich that they continued despite the power outage during the poster session. Camila Bruno (pictured above), a PhD student at IQUIFIB-CONICET, was awarded the IUPAB Young Investigator Poster Prize made by students or young biophysicists for her work entitled "Effects of auxiliary subunits and lipid environment on plasma membrane calcium ATPases".

As at previous meetings SAB encouraged the Young Initiative on Biophysics (YIB), a group composed of students and young researchers founded in 2015 with the idea of building a network of undergraduate students, PhD candidates, and postdoctoral researchers working on diverse fields of biophysics to share ideas, inspiration, and practical advice. The 6th YIB Meeting welcomed more than 60 undergraduate and graduate students from different regions of Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. The scientific program included an opening lecture by Dr. Alejandro Vila, four selected oral communications delivered by Agustín Ormazabal, Cecilia Souto Guevara, Agustín González Paz, and Joaquín Ferreyra and Natalia Labadie, one tutorial on the National Microscopy System by Dr. Lia Pietrasanta, three workshops on NMR, computational biophysics and optical tweezers, organized by Dr. Andrés Binolfi, Dr. Rodolfo Rasia, Dr. Vanesa Galassi, and Dr. Natalia Wilke, two round tables on "Gender-based violence in the workplace: a science perspective" and "Linking Science to Technology", and the fourth edition of the "My Project in 2 Minutes" session where ten young attendees took the challenge of talking about their research projects in only two minutes. All the presentations are available on the YIB's YouTube Channel @YoungBiophysics. After a long and fruitful day, all the attendees gathered in a relaxed atmosphere of camaraderie and friendship.

The meeting concluded with the enlightening open-to-the-community lecture by Dr. Capitolina Diaz Martinez (Universidad de Valencia, Spain), where she addressed two dimensions of equality in research and innovation: the analysis of sex/gender in research, and gender equality in the research team and management personnel. Her lecture was the preamble to the round table of Women in Science, which was moderated by Dr. Erica Hynes (Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Province of Santa Fe, Argentina, and former Minister of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation of Santa Fe and the first woman in Argentina in charge of a Science portfolio). The Round table had the participation of Dr. M. Soledad Celej (President of SAB), Dr. Maria Eugenia Francia (PI at Institut Pasteur, Montevideo, Uruguay), Dr. Valeria Levi, Dr. Eva Nogales, and Dr. Capitolina Diaz Martinez. For the first time at a SAB meeting, the Organizing Committee awarded a special grant to support the participation of women with children under 2 years old, facilitating family accompaniment.



International Conference in Biological Physics 2023

The International Conference on Biological Physics (ICBP) is a conference organized by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) held every three years to promote academic interaction among members of international biological physics. The 11th ICBP is being organized by the Korean Physical Society and the Korea Institute for Advanced Study and is being held from the 14th - 18th of August in Seoul, Korea.

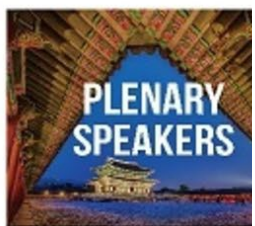
Plenary speakers include Taekjip Ha, USA, Jean Francois Joanny, France, Rohit Pappu, USA, and Viola Vogel, Switzerland.

Seoul, the venue for ICBP 2023, is a fascinating city located along the Han River of Korea, embracing the ancient culture and historical building with modern developments in a surprisingly harmonious manner. This well-balanced mix might be the way we should learn in our field as well, saving the old and braving the new.

IUPAP and IUPAB have a strong working relationship and collaboration. In 1990 IUPAP established The Commission on Biological Physics to promote exchange of information and views among members of the international scientific community in the field of Biological Physics. The IUPAP Commission on Biological Physics incorporates a representative of IUPAB as an associate member. This position is currently held by Prof. Peter Pohl, Councillor of IUPAB and Full Professor of Biophysics, Johannes Kepler University (JKU), Linz, Austria (see IUPAB News #81).

Early bird registration for ICBP2023 is until April 30.

All details on icbp2023.org.



Symposium I	Biological Frontiers of Soft Matter Physics
Symposium II	Application of Machine Learning to Biological Physics
Symposium III	Active Matter in Biology
Symposium IV	Mechanobiology
Symposium V	Origin of Living Matter
Symposium VI	Quantum Mechanical Processes in Biological Systems
Symposium VII	Single Molecule Biophysics
Symposium VIII	Single Cell Biophysics & Super-resolution Microscopy
Symposium IX	Chromosome/Nucleus Dynamics
Symposium X	Biological Network
Symposium XI	Ecology and Evolution of Microbial Communities
Symposium XII	Biophysics of Protein Folding
Symposium XIII	Phase Separation in Biology
Symposium XIV	Molecular Simulations of Biomolecules
Symposium XV	IUPAB Symposium: Rising Stars in Structural Biology



European Biophysical Societies' Association Congress, 2023

The 14th EBSA congress will be held at Stockholm University (July 31st - August 4th 2023), hosted jointly with the Protein Society, and supported by the Swedish National Committee for Molecular Biosciences (of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences), as well as collaboration with the Biophysical Society, IUPAB and SciLifeLab.

Plenary speakers include David Julius, USA, Thorsten Wohland, Singapore (sponsored by IUPAB), Karen Fleming, USA, Lewis Kay, Canada, and Molly Stevens, UK.

The congress will take place in the Stockholm Aula Magna which is the University's largest meeting facility and well known for hosting the lectures for the Nobel Prizes in physics and chemistry, being one of Ralph Erskine's most famous buildings. The rooms are light and airy, consistently decorated with light woods and generous window walls facing the stately oaks outside. A reception will be held at the famous Stockholm City Hall, a major tourist attraction and venue for the annual banquet for the Nobel Prize award ceremony.

In 1986, the first EBSA Workshop was hosted by the Swedish Biophysical Society and Professor Anders Ehrenberg, the first president of EBSA. In 2023, a pre-congress workshop and summer school for up to 60 younger scientists, together with several satellites, will precede the main congress which is comprised over 20 sessions, with invited talks and short oral presentations selected from the submitted abstracts.

Early bird registration is until May 2, and the application deadline up to 50 EBSA Student Bursaries is March 24. IUPAB is offering bursaries for young scientists from less developed countries.

All details on ebsa2023.org



Professor Madan Rao, IUPAB Lecturer at the Biophysical Society Meeting 2023

The IUPAB-sponsored invited speaker at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society (San Diego Convention Center, Sat. 18th Feb. - Wed. 22nd Feb., 2023) will be Professor Madan Rao of the Simons Centre for the Study of Living Machines, National Centre for Biological Sciences in Bangalore, India. Professor Rao will speak at the symposium "50 Years After the Fluid Mosaic Membrane".



Professor Rao's group researches the nonequilibrium physics of active systems and their realisation in a variety of biological contexts, such as chromatin organisation, intracellular trafficking and organelle biogenesis, plasma membrane organisation, dynamical organisation of the cytoskeleton and tissue remodelling and development. His work provides the foundations to understand the underlying nonequilibrium principles of nano and mesoscale organisation at the cell surface. Such actively driven organization enables the efficient processing of information, computation and control - tasks that a self-organized living machine has evolved to perform."

Social Media

IUPAB is now on social media platforms! These include Twitter (@IUPAB1), Instagram (IUPAB1) and Facebook (IUPAB2). Please head over to any of these pages to keep up to date on all IUPAB activities. Additionally, a brand new website is now live at IUPAB.ORG. Please do inform us of any revisions, in particular the contact details of your own society, or newsworthy items for inclusion or announcement of meetings. A IUPAB Wiki page has also been created – [details here](#).

The Council are delighted to be working with a new communications team of Libby (uk), Niraj (India), Catarina (Portugal), Elaine (Australia) and the website developer, Ivan (Serbia).

Future IUPAB Congresses

2024 (June 24-28th) Kyoto, Japan, Chair: Hiroyuki Noji, Tokyo

2027 (October 10 – 14th) Berlin, Germany

Links will be posted on the IUPAB.ORG website when they are available.

See you
in Kyoto 2024



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