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In this issue:

Sign-Up

EBSA 2023 Congress in Stockholm

Michèle Auger Award for Young Scientists' Independent Research (2024)

Latin American Federation of Biophysical Societies (LAFEBS) Update

**International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development 2023
Webinathon**

The World Academy of Science - Support for Science in Developing Countries

Bei Shizhang Lectureship : Nominations Open

Avanti-IUPAB Prize : Nominations Open

IUPAB Young Investigator Prize : Nominations Open

7th Meeting of Young Biophysicists

Social Media

Kyoto and Berlin Congresses

Important: Sign-Up

To receive future newsletters, please sign-up to a subscription using the "Sign up" link at the end of the newsletter.



EBSA Congress in Stockholm

Stockholm was the venue for the 14th EBSA congress (July 31st – August 4th 2023). The congress was hosted by SFBBM (the Swedish Society for Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology), the Swedish National Committee for Molecular Biosciences of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and The Protein Society. There were a record number (1054) of attendees for an EBSA-alone congress, from 45 nations. EBSA student bursaries were awarded to 56 early career scientists from Europe, and 6 IUPAB travel bursaries to those from outside Europe.

The congress was preceded by 5 specialist satellite meetings, including a 3-day EBSA Summer School, limited to 60 students and expertly coordinated by local scientists, Lena Måler and Erik Lindahl. Plenary speakers, David Julius (UCSF, USA), Karen Fleming (Johns Hopkins, USA), Hao Wu (Harvard, USA) and Thorsten Wohland (NUS, Singapore), gave introductory lectures. ~50% of the students were attending their first large conference. A canoeing break on a local lake was memorable because of thunderstorms, ensuring wet participation. The students valued their interactions with senior PIs, the networking opportunities and practising their oral presentations.

After an opening welcome from Anders Ehrenberg, first President of EBSA and now 96 years old, and welcomes by meeting chair Maria Sunnerhagen (Linköping University) with co-chairs from Stockholm, Erik Lindahl, Lena Måler, Jerker Widengren, and Pål Stenmark, Plenary lectures were presented by Molly Stevens (Oxford, UK & Karolinska, Sweden), and David Julius, who was supported by The Protein Society. The 6 plenary and 8 keynote speaker slots were flanked by 27 scientific sessions with 54 invited talks. The sessions covered many aspects of biophysics - for the first time, “Biophysics and the green transition” and “bionanophotonics” - and the implications of AI for biophysical research was a recurring theme. Most sessions included 2 talks from invited speakers, and 3 – 4 short presentations from early career scientists. Over 750 poster abstracts were submitted, enabling the selection of »100 short oral presentations. All the contributions showcased the wonderful diversity of science, gender, age and geography present in biophysics today.

Anthony Watts, IUPAB President-Elect

Maria Sunnerhagen, EBSA Past-President



Michèle Auger Award for Young Scientists' Independent Research (2024)

In 2018, Editorial Board Member of Biophysical Reviews, Professor Michèle Auger, sadly succumbed to illness. In her honour, the Biophysical Reviews' Board, and the Springer-Nature Corporation, created an award, granted each year to a candidate, under 40 at the time of nomination, performing biophysical research. The award consists of a plaque, a free personal subscription to the journal and an invitation to submit a single author review article. Nominations can be made via the candidate's one page CV and their 5 best original manuscripts, and can be submitted by email to any Biophysical Reviews' senior editor, prior to October 31st, 2023. The award will be announced in late December.



Latin American Federation of Biophysical Societies (LAFEBS) Update

New adhering bodies. LAFEBS, a member of IUPAB since 2007, is expanding to new societies. Its goal is to strengthen biophysics and connections between scientists from Latin American Countries with a biophysics tradition, and to seed biophysics in those countries lacking a tradition. The Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Bolivia were recently joined as new observer members.

Current LAFEBS members:

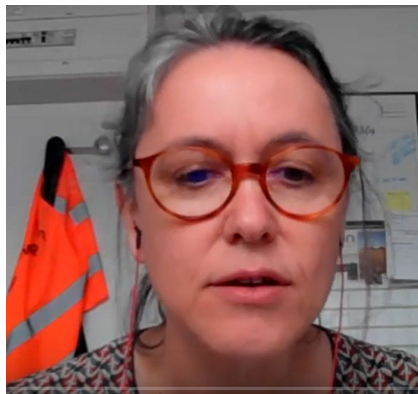
Full members: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Observer members: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, and Mexico.

New webpage. LAFEBBS is launching a new webpage: <https://www.lafebs.org/>

Biophysical Reviews Special Issue. The latest issue of *Biophysical Reviews* focuses on research in Latin America (<https://link.springer.com/journal/12551/volumes-and-issues/15-4>). It contains an editorial, 2 commentaries, 2 letters, and 26 review articles. The special issue, commemorating LAFEBBS 16th anniversary, is the combined effort of Special Editors: Silvia Alonso, Leandro Barbosa, Luis González-Flecha, Rosangela Itri, and Daniel Peluffo; Springer Nature Senior Publishing Editor, Meran Lloyd-Owen and the Editorial Staff, and *Biophysical Reviews* Editor-in-Chief, Damien Hall.

International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development 2023 Webinathon



The International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (IYBSSD) started in 2022 under the aegis of UNESCO (<https://www.iybssd2022.org/en/>). IUPAB joined the initiative as a Founding Union and delegating Prof. Anthony Watts, IUPAB President Elect, to the Steering Committee. The success of IYBSSD2022 extended into 2023, with many local and international events. On 5 June 2023, World Environment Day, IYSSB organized a 24-hour Webinathon. The aim was to show how scientists in different disciplines and different geographical locations tackle sustainable development in teaching and research.

The 24 hours were divided into six 4-hour slots. IUPAB coordinated a session on “Biophysics for Global Health and Sustainability”. After an introduction on “What is Biophysics” by Dr Christina Sizun (pictured), IUPAB Treasurer, 4 speakers each gave a 20-minute lecture addressing the role of biophysics in dealing with infectious diseases and food security. The session videos can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@iybssd/videos>.

IYBSSD will continue as the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development 2024-2033, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in August 2023.

The World Academy of Sciences - Support for Science in Developing Countries

The World Academy for the advancement of science in developing countries (TWAS) was founded in 1983 by an international group of eminent scientists, led by Pakistani 1979 Nobel Prize Winner for Physics, Abdus Salam. Their aim was to improve the state of scientific research in developing countries by supporting excellent research, facilitating contacts, providing research facilities, encouraging cooperations with developed countries and promoting research into major problems of developing countries. From its foundation TWAS has been generously supported by the Italian Government, and its headquarters are located in Trieste, Italy. Since 1991 TWAS has been administered by UNESCO. TWAS runs a variety of schemes for the support of scientists, including biophysicists, in developing countries. Details can be found on their website: <https://twas.org>.

Bei Shizhang Lectureship : Nominations Open

The Biophysical Society of China and IUPAB have established one triennial Bei Shizhang lectureship to be presented at the IUPAB Congresses to honour the memory and contributions to biophysics of Shizhang Bei, founder of the Institute of Biophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

IUPAB encourages the nomination of candidates for the Bei Lectureship to be held at the 2024 IUPAB Biophysics Congress, in Kyoto, Japan. The lectureship will be awarded to an investigator for outstanding contributions to any theme within the field of biophysics without limit of age. The winner receives an honorarium of USD\$ 5,000.



The IUPAB Council and one member of the Biophysical Society of China will constitute a Jury that will award the lectureship. The eligibility criteria and the nomination procedure are describe on IUPAB's website at <https://iupab.org/bei-lectureship/>. IUPAB Adhering Bodies, Scientific Societies, Universities, Research Institutions or senior biophysicists are all eligible to act as nominators. A given nominator can propose only one candidate for this prize. The nomination packet, in pdf format, should be emailed to the IUPAB

Avanti-IUPAB Prize : Nominations Open

Avanti Polar Lipids and IUPAB have established one triennial award to be presented at the IUPAB Congresses. IUPAB encourage the nomination of candidates for the Avanti Polar Lipids/IUPAB Medal and Prize to be awarded at the 2024 IUPAB Biophysics Congress, in Kyoto, Japan. The award will be given to an investigator for outstanding contributions to any theme within the field of biophysics without limit of age. The winner receives an honorarium of USD\$ 3,000, and a medal.

The IUPAB Council will constitute a Jury that will make the award. The eligibility criteria and the nomination procedure are describe on IUPAB's website at <https://iupab.org/avanti-iupab-prize/>. IUPAB Adhering Bodies, Scientific Societies, Universities, Research Institutions or senior biophysicists are all eligible to act as nominators. A given nominator can propose only one candidate for this prize. The nomination packet, in pdf format, should be emailed to the IUPAB Secretary-General Associate Prof. Ronald Clarke (ronald.clarke@sydney.edu.au) before February 29th, 2024.

IUPAB Young Investigator Prize : Nominations Open

IUPAB invites all biophysicists to nominate candidates for the IUPAB Young Investigator Medal and Prize to be awarded at the 2024 IUPAB Biophysics Congress, in Kyoto, Japan. The award will be given to a young investigator for outstanding contributions to the field of biophysics. The winner receives an honorarium of US\$ 2,000 and a medal.

The IUPAB Council will constitute a Jury that will make the award. The eligibility criteria and the nomination procedure are describe on IUPAB's website at <https://iupab.org/iupab-young-investigator-prize/>. IUPAB Adhering Bodies, Scientific Societies, Universities, Research Institutions or senior biophysicists are all eligible to act as nominators. A given nominator can propose only one candidate for this prize. The nomination packet, in pdf format, should be emailed to the IUPAB Secretary-General Associate Prof. Ronald Clarke (ronald.clarke@sydney.edu.au) before February 29th, 2024.

7th Meeting of Young Biophysicists

The [Young Initiative on Biophysics](#) (YIB) is pleased to invite you to the VII Meeting of Young Biophysicists which will be held in Córdoba, Argentina on November 28th 2023,

as a satellite activity of the Argentinian Biophysical Society (SAB) Annual meeting.

The meeting will feature a variety of inspiring activities:

- Oral Presentations and fire talks “My Project in Two Minutes”.
- Share wisdom and learn from others in our Workshops coordinated by experts in the field.
- Round Table on research in an international environment.
- Keynotes! Discover the connection between science and theatre.
- Traditional get together at the end of the day!

Call for Abstracts and Registration is until October, 20th! IUPAB fellowships will be available for selected students. For more information see our social media!

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](#) has been launched! A IUPAB Wiki page has also been created – details [here](#).

Future IUPAB Congresses

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

2027 (October 10 – 14th) Berlin, Germany

Links are posted and updated on the IUPAB.ORG website.





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Phone +61 2 9351 2222 ABN 15 211 513 464 CRICOS Number: 00026A

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