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Important: Sign-Up

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



Increase in the Impact Factor of IUPAB's Journal *Biophysical Reviews*

In the 2025 impact factors recently released by Clarivate, *Biophysical Reviews*, which is published by Springer-Nature on behalf of IUPAB, increased its impact factor from 3.7 in 2024 to 5.0. IUPAB extends its thanks to all authors who have published in the journal over the last year, as well as all of the journal's editors, and in particular its current hard-working editor-in-chief Wilma Olson and her predecessor Damien Hall.

Nominations Open for the 2027 Bei Shizhang Lectureship

The Biophysical Society of China and IUPAB award a triennial Bei lectureship to be presented at the triennial 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 2027 IUPAB Biophysics Congress, in Berlin, Germany. 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.



Eligibility:

- The nominee will be expected to have made important and well-recognized contributions to the field of biophysics.
- The nominees must not nominate themselves.
- The nominees may be of any nationality or academic rank, and may be affiliated with non-academic institutions provided that the work for which they are to be acknowledged has been published in recognized scholarly journals.
- The nominator must submit completed nomination forms and the required documents.

Possible nominators: IUPAB Adhering Bodies, Scientific Societies, Universities, Research Institutions or senior biophysicists. A given nominator can propose only one candidate for the lectureship.

Nominations packets must include the following:

1. Completed Award Nomination Form.
2. Letter from the nominator (no more than 2 pages), supporting the candidacy of the nominee, and highlighting scientific contributions/publications deemed representative or especially worthy of recognition.
3. Letter from the nominee accepting the nomination, and a commitment (excepting exceptional extenuating circumstances) to present a Plenary lecture at the IUPAB congress. No contribution will be made towards the travel to, or subsistence at the congress. Additionally, a review article for *Biophysical Reviews Journal* is desired, submitted within 3 months of the award being made known the recipient.
4. Nominee's curriculum vitae.
5. Two letters of support (other than the nominator)

The nomination packet, in PDF format, should be emailed to the IUPAB Secretary General Prof. Ronald Clarke (inbox@iupab.org) before February 28th, 2027.

Nominations Open for the 2027 Michèle Auger Award

Michèle Auger, a long-time member of the *Biophysical Reviews* Editorial Board and former Council Member of IUPAB, succumbed to illness at much too young an age on October 29, 2018. She led a research program in protein biophysics and solid-state NMR and served as an outstanding mentor and academic leader at Université Laval in Quebec City, Canada.



As a sign of the journal's esteem for Michèle and as a lasting memorial of her contributions to *Biophysical Reviews* and to biophysics in general, the journal, together with the support of Springer-Nature, established the "The Michèle Auger Award for Young Scientists' Independent Research," which seeks to espouse some of the ideals held by Michèle in providing opportunities and recognition for junior scientists. The Award consists of a plaque, a free personal subscription to *Biophysical Reviews*, and an invitation to submit a single-author, open-access review article to the journal. First run in 2020, the Award is now in its eighth year. In addition, as of 2025, winners and top

Leaders of Biophysics, where invitees are encouraged to speak about their work and answer questions.

2027 Michèle Auger Award Nomination

Application for the 2027 award entails a letter of nomination (either self-nomination or nomination by a colleague) and submission of a one-page curriculum vitae and five research papers representative of the nominee's best work. Nominees must be under 40 years of age at the closing date of the competition. Age limit exceptions will be considered in exceptional circumstances upon receipt of a detailed written submission from the nominee/nominating institution by October 31, 2026. Exceptional circumstances can include but are not limited to: maternity/paternity leave, prolonged absence due to severe illness, caring responsibilities, etc.

Nominations and document submission should be made to Ms. Sara Bellomo at the following email address sara.bellomo@springernature.com, with all documents compiled in a single pdf file. The deadline, list of required documents, and senior editors available for inquiry are given below.

Nomination deadline — 31 October 2026

Required nomination documents (single pdf file) with information in the following order:

one-page curriculum vitae, which includes the nominee's date of birth

five representative research papers

Inquiries may be directed to:

Wilma K. Olson, Chief Editor: wilma.olson@rutgers.edu

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Professor Ana-Nicoleta Bondar, IUPAB-Lecturer at the Biophysical Society Meeting 2027



The IUPAB-sponsored invited speaker at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Convention Center, February 20-24, 2027)

will be Professor Ana-Nicoleta Bondar of the University of Bucharest, Romania. Professor Bondar will speak at the symposium "Lipid Solvation of Membrane Proteins".

Professor Bondar's group works in the field of Theoretical Molecular Biophysics. She focuses on understanding general physical chemical principles of membrane protein function. She has made significant contributions to a range of biophysical phenomena, including protein folding, water-mediated hydrogen-bonded networks, protonation-coupled protein and water dynamics, and the function of retinal proteins.



International Science Council Initiative - Supporting Scientists facing Conflict, Persecution, and Displacement

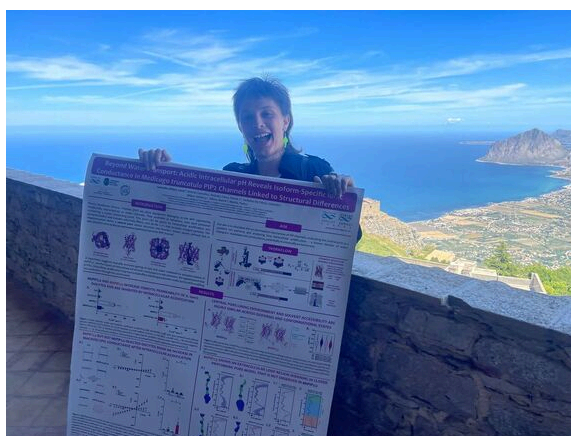
The International Science Council (ISC) and the International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) are launching a new global mentorship scheme to support displaced scientists. This new international initiative will connect displaced scholars with experienced academic mentors through a structured global programme. The scheme aims to strengthen academic integration, professional development, and long-term career continuity for researchers afflicted by conflict, intimidation, and instability. [Read more.](#)

Lucía González Altieri - From Argentina to Italy

I received a IUPAB Travel Bursary to travel from Argentina to Erice, Italy, to attend the EMBO/FEBS Lecture Course *‘‘Ion Channels and Transporters: From Atoms to Cellular Context’’* from 13–19 May 2026.

The course was an incredible opportunity both scientifically and personally. During the week, I had the chance to present results from my PhD research project, ‘‘Beyond Water Transport: Acidic Intracellular pH Reveals Isoform-Specific Ionic Conductance in *Medicago truncatula* PIP2 Channels Linked to Structural Differences’’, both as a Data Blitz talk and as a poster. As my PhD project focuses on the study of PIP aquaporins and their role in ion transport, the opportunity to discuss my results with researchers working on related topics was especially valuable. Their questions, comments, and suggestions gave me new ideas and perspectives that will be very useful for the next stages of my PhD.

Beyond presenting my research, I learned a lot from the lectures and discussions throughout the course. It was inspiring to see how researchers with different experimental and computational backgrounds approach similar biological questions, and I came back



One of the most rewarding aspects of the course was meeting students and researchers from all over the world. Sharing meals, attending lectures together, and discussing science in such a friendly environment made it easy to build meaningful connections. As a PhD student from Argentina, opportunities like this are especially valuable because they allow me to become part of an international scientific community, exchange experiences with colleagues working in different countries, and establish contacts that may lead to future collaborations.

Attending this course was a truly enriching experience. I am very grateful to IUPAB for the financial support that made my participation possible and for helping early-career researchers access opportunities such as this one.

Social Media

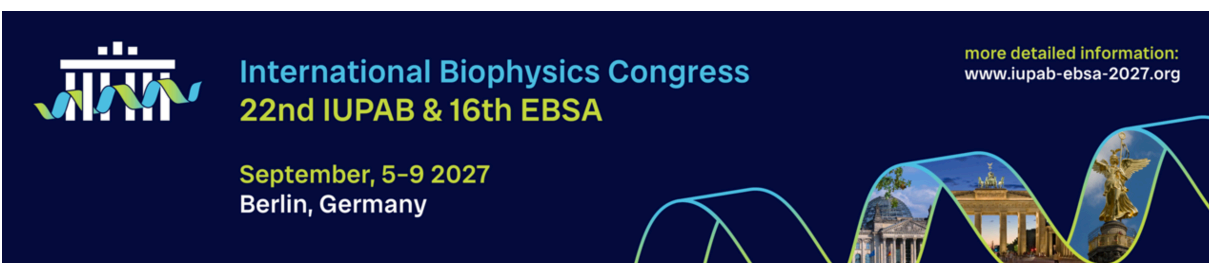
Follow IUPAB on social media platforms! These include Twitter (@IUPAB1), Instagram (IUPAB1) and Facebook (IUPAB2). Please head over to any of these pages to keep up to date on all IUPAB activities. A IUPAB WiKi page has also been created – details [here](#).

Future IUPAB Events

2027 IUPAB Congress (September 5 – 9) Berlin, Germany

Read more on the [congress website](#).

2030 IUPAB Congress (June 17 – 21) Quebec City, Canada





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