

INDIAN PHYSICS ASSOCIATION

Draft Minutes of Annual General Body Meeting

held on Thursday, May 24, 2018

at AG66, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba,
Mumbai 400005.

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Indian Physics Association was scheduled for 1800 hrs. at the Lecture Theatre, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Colaba, Mumbai. The meeting was adjourned for 30 minutes due to lack of quorum and was reconvened at 1815 hrs. The meeting was chaired by Dr. D. Kanjial, President, IPA. He welcomed the members of IPA and requested Dr. S. M. Yusuf, General Secretary, IPA to preside over the meeting. Dr. Yusuf also welcomed the members.

I. General Secretary, IPA, Dr. S. M. Yusuf read the draft minutes of the last Annual General Body Meeting, held at Multipurpose Hall, BARC Training School Hostel, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai on July 13, 2016. Dr. Yusuf requested the members for comments and suggestions to the circulated draft minutes. The minutes were accepted by the General Body - Proposed by Dr. B. S. Acharya and seconded by Dr. K.P. Muthe.

II. Dr. Yusuf, General Secretary, IPA read out the annual report on the activities of IPA.

- It was informed that the Physics News publication has been regularised with the support of BRNS grant under the guidance of Dr. S. Kailas and Prof. Dipan Ghosh. Since last AGBM, five issues were published - Vol. 46-No. 3&4, July-Dec 2016, Vol. 47-No. 1 Jan-March 2017 (Special issue featuring work by women physicists), Vol. 47-No. 2 April-June 2017, Vol. 47-No. 3&4 July-Dec. 2017 and Vol. 48-No. 1&2 Jan-June 2018 (Indus Synchrotron Radiation Source).

- DAE C.V. Raman lectures

IPA has organized five DAE C.V. Raman lectures both in 2017 and 2018.

Speakers-2017: Prof. Sandip Trivedi at Mumbai, Prof. Sriram Ramaswamy at Bangalore, Prof. Sibaji Raha at Kolkata, Prof. Ashok Das at Bhubaneswar and Prof. Bindu Bambah at Hyderabad.

Speakers-2018: Prof. Kailash Rustagi at Indore, Prof. Pankaj S. Joshi at Mumbai, Prof. Sulabha Kulkarni at Pune, Prof. Neelima Gupte at Kalpakkam and Prof. C.S. Narayanamurthy at Thiruvanthapuram.

- P. A. Pandya lectures

2016 - Prof. A. K. Jain at Roorkee

2017 - Prof. R. G. Pillay at Chandigarh.

- IPA – IOP Biennial Exchange of Lecturers

Prof. D. K. Srivastava had visited IOP, U.K. as Homi Bhabha Lecturer in 2016 and Prof. John Ross Stewart visited India as Cockcroft Walton Lecturer in 2017. The Cockcroft Walton lectures were organized at Delhi, Indore and Mumbai.

On behalf of IPA EC, Dr. Yusuf thanked all the lecturers, the organizers (local chapters) and the host institutions for the successful conduct of these lectures. He also expressed sincere thanks to BRNS (DAE) for enhancement in annual grant (from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh) for the DAE – C.V. Raman lectures since 2017.

- IPA awards 2016

All IPA awards for the year 2016, namely, R. D. Birla Memorial Award, M. M. Chugani Memorial Award, P. K. Iyengar Memorial Award and the four young Scientist Awards were given during a function preceding the AGBM on 24th May 2018.

In addition, IPA also presented Rahul Basu Memorial Best thesis award in High Energy (Dec. 2016), Prof. C. V. K Baba best thesis award in Nuclear Physics (Dec. 2016 and Dec. 2017), and Anil K. & Bharati Bhatnagar Best thesis award in Solid State Physics during the symposia.

The IPA C. L. Bhat Memorial Award was given for Astronomy Olympiad (junior group) and (senior group) for the years 2017 and 2018.

Additionally, the IPA gave two awards at the International Physics Olympiad Camp - Best Solution to a Challenging Problem and Best Performance in Experimental programme for year 2017. The award carries a Certificate and Rs. 3,000/- in the form of books and cash.

Dr. Yusuf congratulated all the awardees and thanked all the Selection Committee Members of various IPA Awards.

- Another major activity of the IPA in 2017 was the establishment of a Gender in Physics Working Group in IPA. The aim of the working group is to facilitate forums for physicists to deliberate on the issue of gender parity in the India, to come up with recommendations and to network with corresponding international working groups of IPA's sister organizations such as the IOP and APS, as well as IUPAP. The term of the working group is for three years, with continuation subject to renewal by the IPA executive council. The members of the GPWG of IPA: Prof. Prajval Shastri (Chair), Prof. Suchetana Chatterjee, Prof. Srubabati Goswami, Prof. Resmi Lekshmi, Prof. Tanusri Saha-Dasgupta and Prof. Vandana Nanal, Representative from the IPA Executive Committee (EC).
- Dr. Yusuf also presented a brief report of activities of some IPA Chapters, namely, Mumbai, Indore, Pilani, Roorkee, Gyanpur and Varanasi.
- Dr. Yusuf informed that Mr. Shivkumar Khosla has been maintaining the IPA webpage. He also said that all the originals important documents of IPA are kept in its BARC IPA office, and a soft copy is kept both with the Secretary, IPA and in the Google Drive in the IPA email account.

The report was accepted by the General Body.

Proposed by: Prof. E. V. Sampathkumar and seconded by Shri Suhas Naik Satam

III. Prof. D. Udupa, Treasurer, IPA, presented the accounts of IPA for the financial year 2015-2016 and 2016-17.

It was informed that there was surplus balance in the general income and expenditure head for the period 2015-16 and 2016-17, due to funds generated through the DAE SSP Symposium.

All the endowments are having positive balance, except R. D. Birla Memorial Award which shows negative balance. It was also mentioned that due to falling interest rates, it is becoming essential to enhance the endowment corpus so that sufficient funds will remain available for the award money as well as travel and other expenditure.

After due deliberations the accounts were approved by the General Body.

Proposed by: Shri Suhas Naik Satam and seconded by Dr. V. C. Sahni

IV. Elections for 2018-20

Dr. Yusuf informed that the Election Notice for the period 2018-2020 has been sent to members and two returning officers, Dr. Debasis Sen, BARC, Mumbai and Prof. Sadhana Dash, IIT Bombay, Mumbai have been appointed.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and the Executive Committee.

S.M. Yusuf
General Secretary, IPA (2016-18)