IRPA Bulletin

For RP professionals, by RP professionals

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Your IRPA Commission on Publications

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The International Congress Organising Committee (ICOC) is delighted to update you on the preparation and promotion of the IRPA15. In the past 3 months, progress at various fronts have been made, with the following highlights:

- Abstract submission will be open on 01 June 2019. For more details, please visit the congress website (www.irpa2020.org);
- Congress social network channels have been opened. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Youtube for news and updates, and share your own news as well!
- Companies and Associations are invited to become exhibitors and sponsors of IRPA15. Sponsorship and Exhibition Prospectus are already released at the website, and don’t forget to subscribe quarterly e-Newsletter at the website. Stay in the loop with IRPA15 news alerts.
- IRPA15’s programme has been drafted in close collaboration with the International Congress Programme Committee (ICPC). Save the date and join us 11-15 May 2020 in Seoul, Korea!

Program at a glance

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<th>10 May (Sun)</th>
<th>11 May (Mon)</th>
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The Sievert Award is granted to individuals in recognition of outstanding contributions to radiological protection, which honours the memory of a leader and pioneer in radiological protection, Professor Rolf M. Sievert. The recipient must be pre-eminent in the discipline and in accepting the award must agree to present the Sievert Lecture at the following International Congress.

The Sievert Award Committee, chaired by the IRPA Vice-President, is responsible for evaluating nominations submitted by the IRPA Associate Societies. Current members of the IRPA Executive Council and the Sievert Award Committee are not eligible for nomination. In keeping with tradition, the Sievert Lecture, presented by the winner of the 2020 Sievert Award, will open the IRPA15 scientific programme.

Previous recipients of the Sievert Award are:

1973 Prof. Bo Lindell (Sweden)
1977 Prof. W.V. Mayneord (United Kingdom)
1980 Dr. Lauriston. S. Taylor (USA)
1984 Sir Edward Pochin (United Kingdom)
1988 Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Jacobi (Germany)
1992 Dr. Giovanni Silini (Italy)
1996 Dr. Dan J. Beninson (Argentina)
2000 Prof. Dr. Itsuzo Shigematsu (Japan)
2004 Ing. Abel J. Gonzalez (Argentina)
2008 Prof. Christian Streffer (Germany)
2012 Dr. Richard Osborne (Canada)
2016 Dr. John Boice (USA)
The Montreal Fund was created by the Canadian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA-ACRP) with the net proceeds from the 8th IRPA International Congress, held in Montreal in May 1992. The funds were designated by CRPA to support the attendance of young professionals, especially those from developing countries, at future IRPA Congresses. CRPA transferred the funds to the IRPA treasury, and the funds are maintained in an interest-bearing account separate from the IRPA operating funds. Contributions to the Montreal Fund are made by IRPA Associate Societies and are solicited by the Treasurer annually when the notices for dues are provided to the Associate Societies. The Fund is managed by the Montreal Fund Committee, comprised of three members of the IRPA Executive Council and the IRPA Treasurer, as a non-voting member. The year before an IRPA International Congress or Regional Congresses, the Montreal Fund Committee determines how much financial support will be made available to the Congress organizers. The funds may be used only for registration and travel expenses of recipients, and may not be used for receptions, lunches, or other Congress functions. After the conclusion of a Congress that received Montreal Fund support, the Congress organizers must provide the IRPA treasurer with a written list of the recipients of support, the amount received by each, and the total amount expended.

IRPA’s Executive Officer, Bernard le Guen, was awarded the William Morgan Lecture Award at the 52nd Health Physics Society Midyear Meeting held in late February 2019 in San Diego, USA, in recognition of his contribution to the initiative fostering safety and radiation protection culture in hospitals across all continents. This initiative aims to provide professional guide on this subject jointly issued by IRPA, WHO, IAEA and IOMP. More specifically, the guide will highlight positive and negative examples provided in the 6 workshops. The guide will be presented at the IRPA15 in May 2020, Seoul, Korea.
The International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) provides scientific advice and guidance on the effects of non-ionizing radiation (NIR) to protect people and the environment from detrimental NIR exposure. ICNIRP is an independent non-profit organization recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). Among others, it has also established strong relations with the European Union (EU) and its directorates, international and medical organizations, and national radiation protection bodies.

IRPA and ICNIRP are linked by strong historical ties now relayed by an institutional partnership and a close working relationship in particular with the IRPA Executive Council and regional Associations. ICNIRP was chartered as an independent Commission in 1992 during the IRPA 7th International Congress. ICNIRP’s beginning goes back to 1973 when IRPA organized a session on non-ionizing radiation protection during the 3rd IRPA International Congress and to 1977 when the immediate forerunner of ICNIRP, the International Non-Ionizing Radiation Committee (INIRC), was created.

Today major collaboration impacts are achieved through cross consultations of documents, nominations of candidates to elections, and participation in conferences and workshops.

One of the topics given high priority in the last couple of years is the development of a system for radiation protection with a view of reaching common understanding of terms and principles across the organizations and across the spectrum from ionizing to non-ionizing radiation. This is an area where ICNIRP benefits considerably from the longer history of ionizing radiation protection, where such a framework has been developed and refined over many decades. Every four years ICNIRP contributes to the NIR sessions at the IRPA Congress by presenting ICNIRP activity reports and by offering eye openers and lectures on high priority NIR topics. In 2020 the ICNIRP’s International NIR Workshop will be organized in Seoul, Korea, as always in parallel to the IRPA Congress to facilitate attendance to both events. One of the NIR topics currently attracting the most interest is the new ICNIRP RF guidelines (expected for publication in 2019). Protection issues related to laser, UV, short waves and a statement on cosmetic applications will also be prominently presented there, www.icnirp.org/en/workshops/article/workshop-nir2020.html. ICNIRP frequently participates also at regional IRPA meetings.

ICNIRP extends its advice mainly through guidelines and statements published in Health Physics. All those documents are freely available at www.icnirp.org.

ICNIRP acts as the point of reference and exchange of knowledge when it comes to non-ionizing radiation protection principles and guidance based on science. The return from the IRPA community (colleagues, practitioners, scientists and medical doctors, etc.) on the use of its radiation protection advice is precious and expected to further improve the ICNIRP recommendations and the system of NIR protection as a whole.
In 2018 SRP adopted a new Strategic Plan [https://srp-uk.org/about-us/overview](https://srp-uk.org/about-us/overview) Central to this is the aspirational Vision of where the Society wants to be at the end of its five-year period. We plan to realise this through a number of Core Strategies presented as a series of Commitments, supported by Enabling Strategies centred on resource and organisational issues. The plan has 3 priorities which will strengthen and grow the Society; namely, membership, professional standards and public benefit. SRP is a large Society with over 2100 members, and to enable us to deliver the Plan we needed to change our organisational structure to be more effective and focused. The Society's 24 committees have now been organised into four Directorates; Engagement, Operations, Professional Standards and Science & Technology, which report to Council.

One of our key aims is to raise our profile so that we are highly respected by Government, the UK community and internationally. Our appointment in 2017 of our first Patron, The Lord Carlile of Berriew CBE QC is proving to be beneficial to this. He is an independent member of the House of Lords, the upper tier of the UK Parliament. The last year has been a busy time with the Society providing input to Government on the RP issues, consequences and options associated with positioning the UK for withdrawal from the EU. As part of this process we have published several position papers [https://srp-uk.org/publications/position-papers](https://srp-uk.org/publications/position-papers)

It is fundamental to the Society's interest to attract and retain a large number of members from diverse backgrounds and all career stages. Historically societies such as SRP have focused on a graduate based membership, but there has been a growing demand to better accommodate technical staff, support their career development and recognise their professional status. It is important for our members (and their employers) that at all stages of their careers they can be recognised as professionals, having demonstrated their competence against nationally agreed standards. To this end we have, under our Royal Charter, established an independent body, the Radiation Protection Council (RPC) to oversee and manage the awarding of recognised professional titles [https://srp-uk.org/news/article/214/amendments-to-srp-s-charter](https://srp-uk.org/news/article/214/amendments-to-srp-s-charter)

Our Rising Generations Group (RGG) – supporting members in the first 10 years of their career - is an important element of the Society, both as being its future and undertaking a large part of our Outreach Programme, a key part of our Strategic Plan. The programme covers a wide range; from web-based resources such as information posters, through school packs containing lesson plans and simple demonstration equipment, to attendance with interactive experiments at large scale 4-day long exhibitions targeted at pupils, teachers and the public.

Last, but not least, is ensuring we have a presence in and contribute to international initiatives. This we do in conjunction with our UK Partner Societies [https://srp-uk.org/resources/srp-and-partner-societies](https://srp-uk.org/resources/srp-and-partner-societies), largely through IRPA. We were particularly pleased that our President Elect and our RGG chair were part of the Leadership Committee that enabled the launching of IRPA’s Young Generation Network. Soon they will be contributing to the vision of the future.
The Peruvian Radiation Protection Society (SPR) was created on April 2nd, 1987. Twenty-six enthusiastic founding members launched SPR with the aim of carrying out actions to improve the radiation protection in the country through different activities. SPR was the third Radiation Protection Society launched in Latin America and since 1989 it is an IRPA Associate Society.

Since the beginning SPR has been very active. It has organized 7 National and 2 Regional Latin American Radiation Protection Congresses, an International Symposium on Radiation Protection in Medicine (Arequipa, 2017), 6 Special Days dedicated to discussions on Radiation Protection of the Patient, 2 Peruvian-Chilean Binational Conferences on Radiation Protection and a Peruvian-Ecuadorian Biennial Conference on Radiation Protection in Medicine, and many other conferences on radiation protection subjects in different cities of the country and abroad. SPR has been involved as consultant on various national standards and it is also considered a referent in radiation protection education and training based on the many courses organized and delivered every year.

SPR encourages its members to participate in different regional and international technical events to improve and update their knowledge. SPR has had the initiative to create the Federation of Radiation Protection of Latin America and the Caribbean (FRALC) that was launched in 1993, which nowadays has 11 Radiation Protection Societies as members. SPR was also member of the Ibero-American Group of Scientific Societies for Radiation Protection (GRIAPRA). SPR has promoted the creation of other Radiation Protection Societies in the Latin American and maintains a permanent communication with all of them. SPR in accordance with other Radiation Protection Societies of Latin America promoted the creation of the Radiation Protection Day to celebrate on April 15th each year in the region.

Since 1995, SPR has its own headquarters with all the equipment to carry out many activities and a library specialized in radiation protection publication and open for members and consultations of students.

Currently SPR has 60 active members and since the SPR Young Professional Network was launched young people are permanently incorporated. One of the requirements to become a member of the SPR is to present a work on radiation protection issue which is presented orally to the other members. The Board of Directors of the SPR is renewed every two years and this gives all the members the opportunity to be directly involved and participate in SPR.
1. The Canadian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA) Annual Conference will be held in Ottawa, Ontario, on 27-30 May 2019. The theme of the conference is Connecting with Communities. For more details, please visit http://crpa-acrp.com/home/

2. The Society for Radiological Protection Annual Conference takes place in Scarborough on 21-23 May 2019. Dr. Claire Cousins, Chair of ICRP, will be giving the Dunster Lecture https://srp-uk.org/events/SRP2019AnnualConference