

IUPAP Commission 19 (Astrophysics) - Activity report 2015.10 – 2016.10

1. Commission membership 2014-2017

Chair: Grazina Tautvaisiene [*Lithuania*]
Vice-chair: Gerry Gilmore [*United Kingdom*]
Secretary: Patrick Woudt [*South Africa*]

Members: Petr Hadrava [*Czech Republic*]
Shuang-Nan Zhang [*China*]
Chanda Jog [*India*]
Michel Rieutord [*France*]
Rafael Rebolo [*Spain*]
Marat Mingaliev [*Russian Federation*]
Andreas Burkert [*Germany*]
Sabine Schindler [*Austria*]
Sung Won Kim [*Korea*]
Chryssa Kouveliotou [*United States*]
Pietro Ubertini [*Italy*]

Associate members (2015-2018):

Hans Kjeldsen [*Denmark*]
Wieping Liu [*China*]
Keiichi Maed [*Japan*]
Virginia Trimble [*United States*]

2. IUPAP support of international conferences

The IUPAP supported 28th Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics was held in Geneva on 13–18 December, 2015: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/336103/>
Three members of C19 worked at the Scientific Organising Committee (Grazina Tautvaisiene, Shuang-Nan Zhang, and assoc. member Virginia Trimble).
During the special session of the symposium, the IUPAP Young Scientist Medals of 2014 and 2015 in the field of Astrophysics were awarded to dr. Nanda Rea and dr. Sylvain Guiriec. The winners presented talks on their scientific research, C19 members prof. Pietro Ubertini and prof. Virginia Trimble gave presentations about the IUPAP and C19 activities.



The 29th Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics will be held in Cape Town on 3–8 December 2017(www.texas2017.org). The 29th Symposium will be the first ever to be held on the African continent, emphasizing Southern Africa's role as the host of world-leading astrophysical facilities, such as the Southern African Large Telescope, the High Energy Stereoscopic System (HESS), and the future Square Kilometre Array. It is organized by North-West University, Potchefstroom, in cooperation with the University of Cape Town and several other South African institutions. Four members of C19 are working at the Scientific Organising Committee (Grazina Tautvaišienė, Patric Woudt, Shuang-Nan Zhang, and assoc. member Virginia Trimble).

In 2016, Commission 19 was intensively working in organising of the 3rd PANDA Symposium on Multi-wavelength Time Domain Astronomy, which had to be held from 30 May to 3 June 2016 in Nanjing, China, but was postponed to 12–16 June 2017.

Commission 19 members Chryssa Kouveliotou, Weiping Liu, Michel Rieutord, Grazina Tautvaišienė, Virginia Trimble, Pietro Ubertini, Patrick Woudt and Shuang-Nan Zhang are part of the SOC of the 3rd PANDA Symposium.

This symposium was selected for the IUPAP endorsement. The 3rd PANDA Symposium will focus on Time-Domain Astronomy: High Energy Transients and Explosions in the Universe. Multi-wavelength Time Domain Astronomy (TDA), in particular, is the future of high-energy astrophysics, as it provides a rich variety of means to study the extreme astrophysical environments and the physical processes in the transient Universe, encompassing a large variety of objects, such as Active Galactic Nuclei, X-ray binaries, Gamma-Ray Bursts, Magnetars, and even Gravitational Waves. TDA has been mostly flourished in the last decade thanks to the development of several X- and gamma-ray satellites, and the support of multiple ground-based observatories (<http://indico.ihep.ac.cn/event/5320/overview>). Internationally, several conferences and workshops have been organized in this subject – the third PANDA Symposium aims at introducing the TDA field to the younger Pacific/Asiatic community.

3. IUPAP Young Scientist Medals in the field of Astrophysics

A call for nominations for the IUPAP Young Scientist Medals in the field of Astrophysics of 2016 and 2017 will be announced in January of 2017. The medals will be awarded during the 29th Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics on December 3–8, 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa.

Grazina Tautvaišienė
Chair Commission 19