



42<sup>nd</sup> National Congress  
of the Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy  
Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia  
26-29 September 2022

Second Announcement

We are happy to announce that the 42<sup>nd</sup> yearly Congress of the *Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy* (SISFA) will be held at the Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia on **26-29 September 2022**.

General Information and Scientific Program

**Organizer:** SISFA (Società Italiana degli Storici della Fisica e dell'Astronomia).

**Organizing and Scientific Committee:** Salvatore Esposito (Università di Napoli Federico II, INFN Naples); Ivana Gambaro (Università di Genova); Mauro Gargano (INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Capodimonte, Napoli); Roberto Lalli (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Politecnico di Torino); Adele La Rana (Università di Verona); Roberto Mantovani (Università di Urbino Carlo Bo), Flavia Marcacci (Università Lateranense, Roma), Giancarlo Truffa (SISFA, Independent scholar), Valeria Zanini (INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova).

**Local Organizing Committee:** Mattia Bassotti (Università di Perugia), Mateusz Bawaj (Università di Perugia), Giovanni Carlotti (Università di Perugia), Sara Cutini (Università di Perugia), Sara Palmerini (Università di Perugia), Daniele Fioretto (Università di Perugia), Flavia Marcacci (Università Lateranense, Roma), Francesco Millucci (Università di Perugia), Alessandra Anna Passeri (Università di Perugia), Daniele Puleio (Università Lateranense, Roma), Alessio Stollo (Università di Perugia), Benedetta Tomassoni (Università di Perugia).

**Congress official web page:** <https://indico.ict.inaf.it/e/perugia-2022>

**Congress official email address:** [congresso@sisfa.org](mailto:congresso@sisfa.org)

The Congress:

The Meeting is one of a well-established series that SISFA has been organizing on a yearly basis since its foundation. It aims at promoting the research activities in the history of physics and astronomy in Italy, carried out not only by academic historians but also by independent scholars and schoolteachers willing to explore the role of the history of physics and astronomy in the present-day teaching of the disciplines. At the same time, the Meeting provides an opportunity to strengthen the collaborations and establish new links among the members of SISFA and the members of other scholarly societies, as well as researchers working in the same and in related fields.

Historians of physics and astronomy are then invited to participate and the invitation is extended to all the scholars and researchers sharing the same kind of interests.

- The Meeting will host both invited talks and oral communications. The official languages will be both Italian and English. More detailed information and updating will soon appear on the Meeting web site <https://indico.ict.inaf.it/e/perugia-2022>
- The *Premio di Laurea SISFA 2022* for the Best Graduate Thesis in History of Physics and/or History of Astronomy will be awarded during the Congress.

#### Topics:

Proposals for oral communications should mainly address the history of physics and astronomy, also in connection with the related areas of mathematics, chemistry and the history of science and culture. Studies focusing on historical instruments and documentary sources regarding the mentioned fields are also relevant to the purposes of the Congress, as well as the applications of the history of physics and astronomy in science education and in museum displays.

#### Special events:

- ***Dalle sfere armillari alle onde gravitazionali. Antichi e nuovi strumenti scientifici nel Gabinetto di Fisica di Perugia.*** // *Armillary spheres to gravitational waves. Ancient and new scientific instruments at the Physics Cabinet of Perugia.*  
The old teaching collection will be on display at the Department of Physics during the time of the Congress.
- A *pièce* is expected to evoke the work and the vicissitudes of life of the physicist Bernard Dessau (Offenbach am Main, 13 August 1863 – Perugia, 17 November 1949).
- **Recommend and planned visits:** [Perugia Underground: The Acropolis throughout the Centuries](#); [Gypsoteca](#); [Botanical Garden](#); [Medieval Garden](#). The modalities of participation will be specified and announced later.
- **Round Table “Quale futuro per la storia delle discipline scientifiche? Prospettive e sinergie tra cultura, scuola e ricerca”.** Speakers: Maria Teresa Borgato (SISM), Elena Canadelli (SISS), Francesca Romana d'Ambrosio (AISI), Salvatore Esposito (SISFA), Vincenzo Fano (SILFS), Marisa Michelini (GEO).

- **Social dinner:** Wednesday 28 September, at the restaurant [Il Cantinone](#) (30 euro per person, with the possibility of requesting changes for dietary needs if communicated in advance).

#### Thematic and special sessions:

- **Astronomy and Physics in Perugia.** This session evokes and discusses the main events and individuals of the history of physics and astronomy in Perugia. Some of the ancient scientific instruments still located at the Physics Department of Perugia will be exhibited on this occasion, including Girolamo della Volpaia's armillary sphere dated 1575.
- ***Planetary theories and astronomical instruments: mechanizations and visualizations between geocentrism and heliocentrism (1400-1700).*** This session aims at discussing the changing multiple roles of ancient astronomical instruments between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century as well as their broader social, cultural and political contexts.
- **From Herschel to Hubble: A long debate.** This session will celebrate some important anniversaries by discussing cosmological theories before and after Hubble, the role of instruments and observations in our changing understanding of the Cosmos as well as the interrelations between astrophysics and cosmology in the XX century.
- **Physics and diplomacy: a chain reaction.** In view of the current political situation, SISFA will dedicate a session to the role of physics and physicists in international relations after World War II, with special reference to the field of nuclear physics and the activities gone under the rubric of nuclear diplomacy.
- **Special Session: "Women, Sciences, Scenarios"** (co-organized by SISS, the Italian Society for the History of Science). This panel focuses on some figures and groups of women trained as scientists and/or with a career in scientific research. Special attention will be deserved to the different scenarios – places, cities, spaces – where women's lives and their careers took place, as all the speakers assume that places, cities, spaces were powerful agents in all their stories.
- A special thematic session will focus on the **applications of the history of physics and astronomy in science teaching and museum installations.**

#### Confirmed invited speakers:

Lodovica Clavarino (Università Roma Tre)  
 Helge Kragh (Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen University)  
 Pedro Raposo (The Academy of Natural Science, Drexel University, Filadelfia)  
 Giorgio Strano (Museo Galileo, Firenze)

## Video shooting:

The talks will be broadcast live streaming. The presentations will be recorded using the online platform and the related videos will become later available on our dedicated channel of YouTube SISFAMedia (unless explicit refusal by the contributor).

## Registration, abstract submission, conference fees, deadlines:

The conference is open to both members and non-members, but **non-members who have never attended a SISFA conference should also submit their CV** to [congresso@sisfa.org](mailto:congresso@sisfa.org). Registration is mandatory in order to attend the conference. Non-invited speakers have to finalize their registration after paying the conference fee. The conference fee will include three lunches and seven coffee breaks, and will be used to partially cover the cost of the publication of the proceedings of the conference that will be published online and open access with Pisa University Press.

Abstracts of oral communications should be submitted in English. All abstracts will be peer-reviewed on behalf of the SISFA scientific committee. Please see below for more details regarding important dates, abstract submission, conference fees, registration.

## Important Dates

- a) **Abstract submission** (NEW deadline: 19 June 2022): the abstract should be submitted in English using the form that appears clicking the button **Submit new abstract** on the Congress web page:

**Abstracts should have a length between 100 and 250 words and include no bibliography.** Abstracts and the presentation of oral communications should comply with the procedures indicated in: <http://www.sisfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Norme-comunicazione-atti-Congresso-SISFA.pdf>

**Indico account:** The website of the conference is powered by the Indico event management system. To submit an abstract, it is necessary to use your INDICO or IDEM account. If you do not have one yet, request it by writing: for the SISFA Congress. It will be quickly activated.

- b) **Notification of acceptance** (3 July 2022)
- c) **Payment of conference fee** (deadline 31 July 2022) applying to the specific situation (see below)

d) **Registration** ([deadline 31 July 2022](https://indico.ict.inaf.it/e/perugia-2022)): please, register after having paid the conference fee by filling the blanks as appropriate in the “Congress registration” area on the Congress web page:

<https://indico.ict.inaf.it/e/perugia-2022>

Amount of conference fees:

different conference fees apply to 1) SISFA and 2) non SISFA members. Reductions do also apply (see note\*) for special categories of participants.

CONFERENCE FEES	
<b>SISFA members</b>	
Full Conference fee	<b>€ 150</b>
*Reduced Conference fee	<b>€ 50</b>
<b>Non SISFA members</b>	
Full Conference fee	<b>€ 200</b>
*Reduced Conference fee	<b>€ 100</b>
<b>*Reduced Conference fees</b> apply in general to the following categories: 1) Undergraduate students; 2) current MPhil or PhD students; 3) current Secondary-school teachers.	

SISFA members are intended as those in good standing for the year 2022. Please, ensure that your 2022 membership fee has been paid. If not already done, please do so (payment system and membership fees on the SISFA webpage: <http://www.sisfa.org/i-soci/rinnovo>).

**Payment system:** By bank transfer using the IBAN code and bank details below. Please, remember to write 2022+SURNAME in the comments field (Causale) to allow us proper administrative handling:

SISFA (Società Italiana degli Storici della Fisica e della Astronomia)

Via Giulio Cesare 7, 80125 Napoli

IBAN IT34G0306909606100000119180 BIC BCITITMM  
Banca Intesa SanPaolo, filiale accentrata Ter S,  
piazza Paolo Ferrari 10, 20121 Milano