

Report on the Activities of IUPAP Commission 14 - The International Commission on Physics Education 2011-2012

The Commission was a major partner in the first World Conference on Physics Education (WCPE) which took place in Istanbul, Turkey, 1-6 July 2012. The Conference took the place of the annual ICPE conference, so many of the standard features of ICPE Conferences, such as the award ceremony for the ICPE Medal, were incorporated into WCPE. In fact both the 2011 and 2012 ICPE Medals were presented in separate ceremonies.

The 2011 ICPE Medal was presented to the *Lady Cats*, a ‘hands on’ physics group from Japan, well known for devising and presenting ingenious and entertaining physics demonstrations.

The 2012 ICPE Medal was presented to Professor Edward F. Redish of the University of Maryland, USA, in recognition of his international leadership in Physics Education Research.

WCPE2012 was a great success, thanks in no small part to the efforts of the Local Organizing Committee, led by Professor Fatih Tssar.

ICPE held its annual face-to-face meeting immediately after the end of the conference. Apart from discussing the ICPE mandate and past activities (mainly for the benefit of new members) the main topics of discussion were

- 1 The need for a renewed attempt to establish a regional physics education body for Africa, similar to those already operating in other parts of the world.
- 2 Recent Physics Education Conferences and other relevant events, including responses to WCPE and the agreement to participate in WCPE-2 in 2016.
- 3 Future plans for ICPE Conferences, including the organization of ICPE 2013 in Prague, August 6-9; the expectation that ICPE 2014 would be in Argentina. (specific site still being decided); the intention to organize ICPE 2015 in China, probably in Beijing.
- 4 Plans for future meetings in the hands on PHYSWARE series and the mode of ICPE support.
- 5 Communications, particularly the ICPE Website and the ICPE Newsletter.
- 6 Candidates for Associate Membership of the Commission.
- 7 The need to discuss and decide a number of other items by e-mail.

Robert Lambourne
C14 Chair