



ICWIP 2014

Dear colleagues,

We would like to bring to your attention the **International Conference on Women in Physics (ICWIP)**, which is coming to North America for the first time! This major international conference will be held in Waterloo, Canada from August 5-8, 2014. It will be jointly hosted by the **International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)** and the **Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP)**, and locally organized by the Wilfrid Laurier University Centre for Women in Science (WinS). We would like to ask you to widely distribute the information for this conference to make this an exciting and memorable event.

ICWIP 2014 is the fifth in a series of global conferences organized every three years by the IUPAP Working Group on Women in Physics (<http://www.iupap.org/wg/wg5/>) in order to promote international cooperation and increase the participation of women in physics. These conferences are unique in their scope and have a history of success and impact on the physics community around the world. The conference is expected to attract more than 300 delegates, both women and men, from over 50 countries. The goals of ICWIP 2014 are to:

- **Showcase and celebrate scientific work in all areas of physics**
- **Develop resolutions to address gender issues and foster the participation of women in physics**
- **Provide networking opportunities to build a diverse and inclusive worldwide physics community**

The papers presented at the conference will be published in the conference proceedings. Delegates at ICWIP 2014 will draft resolutions on addressing gender issues around the world. In addition we will have outreach activities and panel discussions. Past ICWIP meetings have featured high-profile speakers including Dr. Jocelyn Bell-Burnell who discovered pulsars, and ICWIP 2014 will continue this tradition with plenary talks by distinguished speakers and panellists.

Increased participation by women in physics and related fields is a benefit to all. Academic institutions will benefit by increased enrolment, through greater knowledge of how to attract and retain women in science programs and, in the long term, through engaging more highly qualified female faculty. Diversifying the talent pool leads to increased prosperity in a world where science and technology offer promises of a better future. In the worldwide community, this conference will promote social change, celebrate strong role models, improve education and inspire future leaders.

Information about the conference is available at <http://icwip2014.wlu.ca>. We appreciate your help in forwarding information about this conference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shohini Ghose'.

Shohini Ghose, Chair, Local Organizing Committee, ICWIP 2014  
Associate Professor, Physics and Computer Science, Wilfrid Laurier University  
Director, Laurier Centre for Women in Science