

Notes on “Join the Heart of the Physics Community”

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The IOP - We’re a charitable membership organisation.

- We increase awareness of physics through our community. We bring together people who work in physics, study physics, or who have a general interest in physics
- We work closely with the education sector, business and industry to ensure a flourishing future for physics
- We work with policy makers to ensure that physics is on the political agenda
- Our subsidiary company, IOP Publishing, is a world leader in scientific communications, publishing journals, ebooks, magazines and websites globally and notably, Physics World – our member magazine.

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Our membership is inclusive and equal for all physicists - that includes undergraduates

- Membership makes you part of a wider community of physicists and gives you a respected sign of professionalism and commitment to physics

[FYI James Bernardi is an IOP Campus Ambassador at the University of Cambridge. This is a photo of him on a summer placement]

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IOP membership will support you through your career from student to fellow.

Undergraduates join us at the Associate Member category and will be able to progress to Member upon graduation.

Our membership categories are tailored to members’ needs at each stage of their career:

- Associate Member (Development – helping you to develop essential skills and knowledge for your future in physics)
- Member (Discovery – discovering your skills and interests, and finding your feet in your career)
- Fellow (Distinction – recognition for your achievements in physics)

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As a member of the IOP, you will benefit from a host of opportunities and resources that support your interests and your future, and connect you to a wider community of physicists

Among many other things, membership enables you to:

- Share your passion for physics with others
- Stay ahead of all physics related news
- Support and explore your career aspirations

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Membership of the IOP enables you to explore your interests and improve your subject knowledge by keeping you up to date with physics news from around the world.

- **Physics World** - Associate Members receive print copies of Physics World, the world's leading physics magazine, delivered to their door every month. Physics World is also available to read on the go via a mobile app
- **Member news** - is sent via email to keep undergraduates up to date with physics news and news from around the membership community. Branch newsletters keep undergraduates up to date with news and events from their local area
- **IOP Journals** – access to journals published by IOP Publishing. Example topics of journals include Astrophysics, physics education, Quantum Electronics, Journal of Optics, Nuclear Fusion, Physics in Biology
- **Special-interest groups** – we have 48 special interest groups covering many areas of physics such as photonics, magnetism, particles, and mathematical physics. Groups run conferences and events and send e-newsletters with news from the subject area. There is no cap on the number of groups that members can join, and there is no fee to join a group

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Membership of the IOP puts you at the heart of the physics community.

You will have many opportunities to connect with students, future employers, and leading physicists, as well as to collaborate with others who are working or studying outside of physics.

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As a member of the IOP, you can get involved with our community through:

- **Events and Conferences** – conferences mostly support our special-interest groups and focus on many specific areas of physics, such as plasma physics, magnetism, and nuclear physics
- **Careers Events** – take place at the IOP, at universities and at employers' premises around the UK and Ireland. Previous events have been hosted by employers such as AWE, DSTL, Government Operational Research Service, and M Squared Lasers.
- **Affiliated Societies** – university physics and astronomy societies can affiliate with us in return for funding. £100 upon registration and an additional £500 up for grabs during the academic year to support society activities. Money could be spent on a trip, an activity or be put towards a new piece of kit.
- **IOP Branches** – representing physics in your local area. Organise events and activities for the local community. We actively want to encourage undergraduates to get involved with their local branch by sitting on the committee to represent the student voice.
- **CAPS** - Conference of Astronomy and Physics Students. Annual conference for undergraduates organised by undergraduates. The conference is a mix of social and academic activities across 3 or 4 days. Next conference to be held 26–29 June 2018 in Northumbria.

- **Social media** – connect with us and other members, and keep up to date with our activities through Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube

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University Student Network

A network of students who work with the IOP to organise trips and activities for undergraduates. Previous trips organised by USN include visits to CERN, Bletchley Park and Mullard Space Science Lab. Undergraduates should find them on Facebook to keep up to date with their activities.

Find out what happened on this year's trip to CERN on the IOP Blog (iopblog.org)!

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Through membership of the IOP, you have access to tools and opportunities that will help you to develop essential skills for life. The skills and experience gained can be added to your CV to help you stand out in a competitive job market.

- **Volunteering** - Getting involved in volunteering can help undergraduates to discover which areas of physics spark the most interest for them. Opportunities might include demonstrating physics experiments to non-science individuals at public events; running outreach stands at festivals and community events; supporting students in secondary schools. *I will be running a workshop to provide you with all the skills, confidence and resources you need to do this – looks great on your CV as develops science communication to non-specialists and presentation delivery skills!* We also run a school experience programme for anyone thinking about a career in teaching.
- **Brightrecruits.com** - An online jobs board purely for jobs physics and engineering. There is a dedicated graduate careers board on the site.
- **IOP Career and Professional Development Hub** - Our brand new careers and personal development hub launching October 2017. Only available to IOP members. Entirely free to access. It contains:
 - Information on career options for physics graduates
 - Tips on preparing for interview, writing your CV, submitting an application form. Great for helping you to apply for a job or placement
 - Online courses and webinars to help you develop essential workplace skills (negotiation, presentation skills, management skills)

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Membership of the IOP enables you to develop personally, professionally and academically.

We provide the opportunities but it's up to you to tailor your experience. You can get involved with anything that sparks an interest or supports your personal and professional development.

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IOP Member Plus is our brand new lifestyle benefits website exclusively for IOP members.

- It's launching in October 2017.
- Example discounts include:
 - NUS Extra card 15 months for the price of 12
 - Car hire
 - Cinema tickets
 - Apple products

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Just to give you an idea of the type of activities you can get involved with, there's a national photography competition you can take part in – can you capture dark matter? Shoot string theory? Snap Schrodinger's cat? That's being organised by the Manchester and District branch, as well as an event being filmed by the BBC called Electrifying the Voice – you might have heard about it on BBC radio this morning. There's the evening event free to IOP members to explore careers outside of academia that'll give you the chance to network with both with physics and non-physics employers based in the north west. Further ahead, I will be running Outreach Toolkit workshops so you can undertake science outreach and public engagement, and the Undergraduate Physics Challenge for you to flex your lab muscles against other universities across the north – all of which will look amazing on your CVs! Keep your eyes peeled too for the local lecture programme organised by your Manchester and District branch.

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Join today online at iop.org/associate.

- It's an instant application – simply fill in the form, make payment of £15 through Paypal and click submit
- Form is mobile-friendly so you can do it right now on your mobile!
- Keep in touch with us through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram:
 - Twitter - @PhysicsNews
 - Search for Institute of Physics on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram.

You can also keep in touch with the IOP regionally by searching for your regional officer @hannahrenshall on Twitter and Institute of Physics North West on Instagram.

[FYI, £15 is for an annual subscription]