

# 38<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy

## Messina(Sicily), October 3-6, 2018

### First Announcement

The 38<sup>th</sup> yearly Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy (SISFA) will take place on October 3-6, 2018. The main venue will be in Messina (Sicily), at the *Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti*. A thematic session on Astronomy will also take place in Reggio Calabria, at the *Planetario Pythagoras* and Società Astronomica Italiana. Shuttle transportation will be on behalf of the local organizing committee.

### General Information and scientific programme

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

SISFA Advisory Committee: Fabrizio Bonoli (Università di Bologna); Paolo Brenni (CNR - Firenze, FST - Firenze); Danilo Capecchi (Sapienza-Università di Roma ); Salvatore Esposito (INFN di Napoli); Lucio Fregonese (Università degli Studi di Pavia); Luca Guzzardi (Università degli Studi di Milano); Roberto Mantovani (Università degli Studi di Urbino Carlo Bo); Angelo Pagano (INFN di Catania); Pasquale Tucci (Università degli Studi di Milano).

**Local partners and organising cooperation:** Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti-Messina; Dipartimento di Scienze Matematiche e Informatiche, Scienze Fisiche e Scienze della Terra - Università degli Studi di Messina; Istituto Nazionale Fisica Nucleare (INFN) Sezione di Catania - Planetario Pythagoras - Provincia di Reggio Calabria e Società Astronomica Italiana (SAIt); Piano nazionale Lauree Scientifiche - Fisica (PLS); INFN - Laboratori Nazionali del Sud (LNS); Centro Siciliano di Fisica Nucleare e Struttura della Materia (CSFNMSM) - Catania.

**Local Organizing committee:** Gaetano Agnello (INFN-LNS); Giacomo Cuttone (INFN-LNS); Fortunato Neri (UniMe and Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti); Giuseppina Immè (UniCT and PLS); Enrico Giannetto (UniBg); Antonio Insolia (UniCT and INFN-CT); Antonio Italiano (INFN-CT); Renato Migliorato (UniMe and SISFA); Angela Misiano (Planetario Pythagoras and SAIT RC); Angelo Pagano (INFN-CT and SISFA); Sara Pirrone (INFN-CT and SIF); Santo Reito (INFN-CT); Alessia Tricomi (UniCT and CSFNMSM); Antonio Trifirò (UniMe and INFN-CT); Marina Trimarchi (UniMe and INFN-CT).

**Congress official web page:** <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/xxxviii/>

**Congress official email address:** [convegno2018@sisfa.org](mailto:convegno2018@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 scholarly study of the history of physics and astronomy in Italy not only by professionals focusing on these areas in research institutions but also by independent scholars and school teachers willing to explore the role of the history of physics and astronomy in present-day teaching of the disciplines. At the same time, the Meeting provides an opportunity to strengthen old 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 <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/xxxviii/>

The 1<sup>st</sup> SISFA Best Paper Prize 2017 – dedicated to young authors – will be awarded during the SISFA 2018 meeting.

**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, as well as the applications of the history of physics and astronomy in science education and museum displays.

Sections of the Congress will be devoted to the history of astronomy, history of physics, history of scientific instruments. The year 2018 is dense of anniversaries, among which the disappearance of Ettore Majorana (1938), the promulgation of the racial laws in Italy (1938), with their negative impact also on national science, and the birth (1818) of Angelo Secchi, one of the founders of modern astrophysics. Specific initiatives and parts of the Congress will consider these important figures and events on the basis of recent scholarly research in the history of physics and astronomy.

**Outline of the Congress:** The Congress will host invited talks and communications. The official languages are Italian and English.

**Video shooting:** Invited talks will be broadcast live streaming; videos of any talk will be put on a dedicated channel of YouTube (unless explicit refusal by the contributor)

**Venue and Places:** The Meeting will be hosted at the Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti-Messina, an institution engaged in promoting cultural events within the local territory (<http://www.accademiapeloritana.it/>), and University of Messina (<http://www.unime.it/>), Messina, is a maritime town (<https://www.italyguides.it/it/sicilia/messina>) at 100 km from Catania, 25 km from Reggio Calabria and 225 km from Palermo airports. Messina is located at 50 km from Taormina, important Town on the Est coast of Sicily, famous for its Historical Heritage and location of the international annual Film Festival.

Messina can be easily reached by train or by bus from Catania, Palermo and Reggio Calabria.

Details about transportation and accommodation will be provided on the Second Announcement and on the Meeting web site. Several parallel events in conjunction with the Meeting will give the participants the opportunity to get acquainted with the scientific and historical heritage of Sicily.

**Travel information and hotel reservation:** Special reservations can be made for the participants in selected hotels in Messina within about 500 meters from the Meeting venue. Shuttle transportation will be provided to all participants on behalf of the organizers to Reggio Calabria, where special sessions and cultural excursions will take place. For more travel information and hotel reservation, please contact the Meeting's officially appointed travel agency: Agenzia Shougun Travel, San Gregorio di Catania, emails: [a.romeo@shougun.it](mailto:a.romeo@shougun.it) and [info@shougun.it](mailto:info@shougun.it)

See also “Useful information” to appear on the Congress web page: <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/xxxviii/>

**Special event:** Excursion to Taormina and dinner will take place during the meeting. Also scientific visit to Pythagoras Planetarium and Reggio Calabria Archaeological Museum will be organized by

the local organisers. More details (Fee amount and payment-hotel reservation, etc.) will appear on the Second Announcement and on the meeting web site.

**Registration, abstract submission, conference fees, deadlines:** Registration and payment of the conference fee are mandatory for all congress participants, both presenting oral communications or attending only.

Abstracts of oral communications should be submitted preferably in English). All abstracts will be peer-reviewed on behalf of the SISFA advisory committee.

Please see below for more details regarding registration, abstract submission, conference fees, deadlines.

**a) Registration** (deadline June 15, 2018): please fill in the blanks as appropriate in the “Congress registration” area on the Congress web page: <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/xxxviii/>

**b) Presentation of oral communications** should comply with the procedures indicated in <http://www.sisfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Norme-comunicazioni-e-pubblicazione-Congressi-SISFA.pdf>

**c) Abstract format:** Abstracts must provide 1) Title of the contribution, 2) Name(s) of the contributor(s), 3) a brief Summary with essential bibliography of the proposed contribution (MAX. 2000 characters, including bibliography and spaces).

The abstract should be produced as a digital file Word 97-2003 (**\*.doc file**), named after the surname(s) of the contributor(s).

**d) Abstract submission** (deadline June 15, 2018): the Word file containing the abstract and bibliography should be uploaded using the upload button in the area “Abstract submission” on the Congress web page: <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/xxxviii/>

**e) Payment of conference fee** (deadline July 10, 2018) applying to the specific situation (see below).

**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:

SISFA members should also ensure that their 2018 membership fee has been paid. If not already done, please do (payment system and membership fees under “Iscrizione e Contatti” on our website).

CONFERENCE FEES	
1) SISFA members	
Full Conference fee	€ 100
*Reduced Conference fee	€ 50
2) Non SISFA members	
Full Conference fee	€ 150

*Reduced Conference fee	€ 75
* <b>Reduced Conference fees</b> apply in general to the following categories: 1) Undergraduate students; 2) current MPhil or PhD students without scholarship or salary; 3) MPhil or PhD students, degree obtained 2014-2018; 4) current Secondary-school teachers.	

**Payment system:** By bank transfer using the IBAN code and bank details below. Please, remember to write 2018+SURNAME in the comments field (“causale”) to allow us proper administrative handling:

SISFA (Società Italiana degli Storici della Fisica e della Astronomia)  
Via Corti, 5  
27100 – Pavia

IBAN IT78 K033 5901 6001 0000 0119 180  
BIC/SWIFT: BCITITMXXXX  
Banca Prossima S.P.A. - Filiale Di Milano - Piazza Paolo Ferrari 10

The Conference fee includes: conference kit, conference booklet, coffee breaks. The Conference proceedings will be published online.

We look forward to meeting you in Messina.  
*The local organizing committee*