



**40th National Congress of the
Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy
Online**

September 7-11, 2020

First Announcement

Given the uncertainty related to the COVID-19 situation, the 40th yearly Congress of the *Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy* (SISFA) will be held **online** on September 7-11, 2020. In this difficult period the executive board SISFA has decided not to discontinue the yearly meeting of the society and explore the new possibilities given by the online format for scholarly communication.

General Information and Scientific Program

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

SISFA 2020 Organizing and Scientific Committee: Salvatore Esposito (INFN Napoli); Lucio Fregonese (Università degli studi di Pavia); Mauro Gargano (INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Capodimonte, Napoli); Roberto Lalli (Max-Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin); Adele La Rana (University of California, Riverside); Roberto Mantovani (Università degli studi di Urbino *Carlo Bo*); Marisa Michelini (Università degli studi di Udine); Angelo Pagano (INFN Catania).

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

Congress official email address: 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 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 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 <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/>
- The *Premio di Laurea SISFA 2020* for the Best Graduate Thesis in History of Physics and/or History of Astronomy will be awarded during the SISFA 2020 Congress.
- A workshop exploring the subject of light from the joint perspectives of the history and the didactics of physics will be held in partial connection with 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.

Topical sessions: The year 2020 marks the bicentenary of Oersted's experience on the relation between electricity and magnetism and Ampère's foundational work on the laws of electrodynamics, as well as the centenary of the death of Italian illustrious physicist Augusto Righi (1850-1920). Special sessions dedicated to the history of electromagnetism will be organized to celebrate these anniversaries. A special thematic session will focus on the connections between science education and 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: 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:

Registration is mandatory for all congress participants, both presenting oral communications or attending only.

A conference fee is mandatory only for congress participants who will present oral communications.

Such a conference fee is necessary to partially cover the cost of the publication of the proceedings of the conference.

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.

Important Dates

a) Registration (deadline July 18, 2020): please fill in the blanks as appropriate in the “Congress registration” area on the Congress web page: <http://www.sisfa.org/convegni/> .

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>. Please, notice that at least one of the contributing authors has to be a SISFA member in good standing for the year 2020.

c) Abstract submission (deadline June 28, 2020): 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/> .

d) 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).

e) Notification of acceptance (July 10, 2020)

f) Payment of conference fee (deadline August 22, 2020) applying to the specific situation (see below).

Amount of conference fees: different conference fees apply to 1) SISFA and 2) non SISFA members.

SISFA member: € 15

Non-member: € 30

SISFA members are intended as those in good standing. Please, ensure that their 2020 membership fee has been paid. If not already done, please do so (payment system and membership fees under ***Iscrizione e Contatti*** on our website).

We look forward to meeting you virtually

The Organizing Committee