PAP International Union of Pure and Applied Physics

Associate Secretary General: Rudzani Nemutudi Deputy Director iThemba LABS

South Africa

Tel: +27 21 843 1348 Fax: +27 21 843 3525 E Mail: rudzi@tlabs.ac.za

03 November 2017

Professor Remo Ruffini ICRA - c/o Dipartimento di Fisica - Università La Sapienza Piazzale Aldo Moro 5 Roma, RM 00185 Italy

E_Mail: mg15@icra.it Tel: +39 339 475 2566

Dear Professor Remo Ruffini

Re: AC2 IUPAP Conference Application for the 15th Marcel Grossman Meeting on General Relativity (MG-15)

We are pleased to inform you that at the last IUPAP C&CC meeting in Sao Paolo, Brazil, the Council of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics has approved under Affiliated Commission AC2 the sponsorship and funding for the 15th Marcel Grossman Meeting on General Relativity (MG-15) which is scheduled to be held on 01 – 07 July 2018 in Rome, Italy.

Your conference has been approved as a General Type A IUPAP conference, and will receive a total grant of €10 000 (ten thousand €uros). From the allocated total grant of €10 000, the sum of €04 000 (four thousand €uros) **should** be used to assist in the traveling expenses for delegates coming to attend your conference from Developing Countries.

Please note that IUPAP support of your conference is subject to your agreement to abide by IUPAP Policies on Conferences (http://iupap.org/sponsored-conferences/conference-policies/); including those of Free Circulation of Scientists, maximum IUPAP conference registration fee, as well as the IUPAP policy statement on harassment at conferences. As a condition for IUPAP support, you are required to display explicitly on your conference website the two IUPAP policy statements; one on Harrassment at conferences, and the other on the Free Circulation of Scientists. The two policy statements are here reprinted in their abridged versions for ease of reference.

1. Free Circulation of Scientists: The principle of the Universality of Science is fundamental to scientific progress. This principle embodies freedom of movement, association, expression and communication for scientists, as well as equitable access to data, information and research materials. In pursuing its objectives with respect to the rights and responsibilities of scientists, the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) actively upholds this principle, and, in so doing, opposes any discrimination on the basis of such factors as ethnic origin, religion, citizenship, language, political stance, gender, or age. IUPAP should only sponsor conferences and events at institutions and in countries that uphold this principle. If scientists are excluded from attending IUPAP-sponsored international conferences by a host institution or country on the basis of any of these factors, IUPAP should register its concern at the highest level of that institution or country, and should not sponsor any future events in that country until such exclusions have been eliminated. [Section 1. (http://iupap.org/sponsored-conferences/conference-policies/)]

Past President:
Bruce McKellar
School of Physics
University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010
AUSTRALIA
Fax: 61 03 9650 0725
Email: bhjmckellar@mac.com

President
Kennedy Reed
Physics Division
Mail stop L-473
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Livermore, California 94550
USA

Fax: 925 423 0246 Email: reed5@llnl.gov Secretary General:
Kok Khoo Phua
Institute of Advanced Studies
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Executive Center #02-18
60 Nanyang View
SINGAPORE 639673
Fax: 65 6794 4941
Email:.kkphua@wspc.com.sg

Associate Secretary General:
Rudzani Nemutudi
iThemba LABS
Deputy Director
P.O. Box 722
Somerset West 7129
SOUTH AFRICA
Fax: 27 21 843 3525
Email: rudzi@tlabs.ac.za

2. Harrassment at Conferences: It is the policy of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) that all participants in Union, and Union-endorsed activities will enjoy an environment which encourages the free expression and exchange of scientific ideas, and is free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. The conference organisers will name an advisor who will consult with those who have suffered from harassment and who will suggest ways of redressing their problems, and an advisor who will counsel those accused of harassment. The conference organisers may, after due consideration, take such action they deem appropriate, including warning or expulsion from the conference without refund. [Section 4 IUPAP Conference Policies, weblink (http://iupap.org/sponsored-conferences/conference-policies/)]

Please read the attached, **IUPAP Policy and Financial Information Form**, sign it and return it as instructed on the form. This indicates that you will abide by the IUPAP policies, and provides the information needed to pay any funds to you. Kindly note, that once we receive the signed and completed document, we will process the inter-bank transfer of the funds (approximately four months prior to your event).

If you have not already done so, you are kindly reminded to submit to the IUPAP secretariat a list of women who will be participating in your conference both in the local and international organizing committees and as plenary and invited speakers at conference sessions. The submitted list should also include the total number of plenary and invited conference speakers in order to allow the IUPAP to quantify accurately the level of participation of women.

Please note that the allocated funds may not be released if the requested list of women participants has not been submitted.

As soon as possible following the Conference, **but within 2 months** of the close of conference, the organisers are required to submit the online **Conference Report** (http://iupap.org/sponsored-conferences/conference-report-form/) containing basic information on the Conference and confirming that they complied with IUPAP requirements. Please look at the form to make sure the conference registration process allows you to collect the information required to complete it.

If your conference is a series conference which has received IUPAP funding or endorsement before, you are kindly requested to liaise with the organizers of your previous (IUPAP-supported) conference to ensure that they had submitted to the IUPAP the conference report, as required.

We do hope that you are in communication with the National Liaison Committee of IUPAP for your country. We would very much appreciate your inviting the <u>Chair of the respective National Liaison Committee</u> or a <u>member of the sponsoring Commission</u> or some <u>other representative</u> of either to the Conference, to welcome the delegates on behalf of the IUPAP.

Please advise the delegates that it is important to apply for any needed visas as early as possible. For some countries this can take up to three months. IUPAP would be grateful if you would assist delegates if necessary and report serious difficulties or delays to us.

You are also kindly requested to keep the Chair of your commission informed of the development of this Conference by sending copies of announcements and other documents, as well as, eventually, a copy of the proceedings.

In accordance with the IUPAP Conference rules and guidelines, the endorsement and financial support extended to your conference also grants you permission to use the **IUPAP logo** on your conference website and other conference-related promotional materials. We attach for such usage a high resolution image of the IUPAP logo, which we urge

Past President:
Bruce McKellar
School of Physics
University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010
AUSTRALIA
Fax: 61 03 9650 0725
Email: bhjmckellar@mac.com

President
Kennedy Reed
Physics Division
Mail stop L-473
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Livermore, California 94550
USA
Fax: 925 423 0246

Email: reed5@llnl.gov

Secretary General:
Kok Khoo Phua
Institute of Advanced Studies
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Executive Center #02-18
60 Nanyang View
SINGAPORE 639673
Fax: 65 6794 4941
Email:.kkphua@wspc.com.sg

Associate Secretary General:
Rudzani Nemutudi
iThemba LABS
Deputy Director
P.O. Box 722
Somerset West 7129
SOUTH AFRICA
Fax: 27 21 843 3525
Email: rudzi@tlabs.ac.za

you to use as widely as possible. We also ask you to display the attached **IUPAP poster** at strategic locations at your conference venue as a means to popularize the IUPAP.

Once you receive your conference funding, please do acknowledge the same by emailing the IUPAP Office Secretariat at IUPAP.Admin@ntu.edu.sg

Please accept our best wishes, in advance, for the success of your conference.

Sincerest regards, Rudzani Nemutudi IUPAP Associate Secretary General:

Hudi

Cc: IUPAP Past President: Bruce McKellar (bhjmckellar@mac.com)

IUPAP President:Kennedy Reed (reed5@llnl.gov) IUPAP Secretariat: lUPAP.ADMIN@ntu.edu.sg IUPAP Secretary General: kkphua@wspc.com.sg

IUPAP AC2 President: Gary Horowitz: gary@physics.ucsb.edu IUPAP AC2 Secretary: Beverly Berger: beverlyberger@me.com

Email: reed5@llnl.gov